

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:608
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
NATIONAL POLICY ON RUBBER
Ganeshamurthi Shri A.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost rubber production and rubber industry in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is considering formulation of a National Rubber Policy on the lines of national policies of petroleum, textiles and information technology;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has solicited the opinion/suggestions and held consultations with the various stakeholders for providing inputs for the said policy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said policy is likely to be introduced and implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)

- (a): Several programmes covering research, extension and provision of financial assistance were implemented during 11th Five Year Plan to increase rubber production through new planting, replanting of uneconomic plantations and productivity enhancement. During 11th plan, Rubber Board extended financial assistance for planting rubber in 90,132 ha. These programmes have been continued during 2012-13 and 2013-14, pending the approval of 12th plan proposals. During 2012-13, financial assistance was extended to 19,826 ha for planting rubber. Rubber Board also provides technical consultancy and training for rubber products manufacturing.
- (b) to (e): Government is considering formulation of a rubber policy after taking the views of all stakeholders.