

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3128
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2015
Re-Constitution/Revival of Rubber Board
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- a) whether the Government proposes to re-constitute/revive the Rubber Board;
- b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- c) whether the Government proposes to restrict the import of rubber and rubber products; and
- d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)&(b): The tenure of the previous Board expired on 28 February 2014. As per Rules, the functions of the Board until reconstitution are discharged by the Chairman within his delegated powers. Steps have been taken for reconstitution of the Board. Chairman of Spices Board currently has additional charge of the Chairman of the Rubber Board. All statutory and administrative functions of the Board are currently undertaken by the Chairman.

(c)&(d): There is presently no proposal under consideration of the Government to restrict import of rubber and rubber products. However, with the objective of augmenting demand for locally produced rubber, the Government has increased the duty on import of dry rubber from "20% or Rs 30 per kg whichever is lower" to "25% or Rs. 30 per kg. whichever is lower" w.e.f 30.4.2015. The Government has also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme from 18 months to 6 months.
