

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:11.07.2014
STRENGTHENING OF RUBBER SECTOR
Karandlaje Km. Shobha

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

- (a) whether the Rubber Board proposes to provide financial assistance to the rubber producers and self-help groups to develop primary infrastructure facilities for strengthening the small holding sector;
- (b) if so, whether the Rubber Board will assist for productivity enhancement and quality upgradation of produce in the small holding sector; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the financial allocation made by the Government for this purpose?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Rubber Board provides financial assistance to Rubber Producers Societies (RPS) and Self Help Groups (SHGs) of rubber producers in non- traditional regions (regions other than Kerala and Tamil Nadu) for procurement of rubber rollers for processing of rubber, construction of smokehouses and effluent treatment plants. Besides, the Rubber Board undertakes plantation development and extension programmes which are aimed at productivity enhancement and quality upgradation of the produce in smallholding sector.

(c): During the Twelfth Five Year Plan period (2012-17), the total outlay for financial assistance for planting rubber and providing related infrastructure facilities in traditional regions (Kerala and Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu) and non-traditional region other than North East is Rs. 28.48 crores while the allocation for North Eastern region is Rs. 44.55 crores.