

and 1989-90 were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores) (Provisional)</i>
1988-89	1589
1989-90	2350

(b) and (c). The Government have taken several steps to promote export of engineering goods. Some of the important steps taken are: grant of cash compensatory support, provision of inputs for exports at international prices, supply of export finance at concessional rates and other incentive schemes such as replenishment licence scheme and import of capital goods at concessional rate for export production under the Import and Export Policy.

[English]

Procurement of Rubber by STC

66. SHRI P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI SURESH
KODIKKUNNIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has started the procurement of rubber;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of rubber proposed to be procured; and

(d) the rates at which it is proposed to be procured?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). S.T.C. has been advised to procure RMA V Grade of rubber at the best price at which the rubber is available in the market. S.T.C. will purchase such quantities as to bring the price of rubber within the prescribed range.

Commerce Minister's Visit to China

67. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited China recently to attend the second meeting of India-China joint group of trade and economic relations;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed in the said meeting;

(c) whether any trade protocol was also signed;

(d) whether he also met the Chinese Prime Minister and other leaders; and

(e) if so, the salient features of the talks held?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL):

(a) to (c). Commerce Minister led the Indian delegation to Beijing for second meeting of the India-China Ministerial Joint Group on Economic Cooperation and Trade, Science & Technology (February 6-8, 1991). The two sides reviewed developments in the fields of economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation in the two countries and discussed specific measures needed to be adopted in this regard. The meeting concluded with the signing of Agreed Minutes and Trade Protocol covering the period February, 1991 to February, 1992.

(d) and (e). Commerce Minister made calls on H.E. Mr. Song Jian, State Councillor & Minister-in-Charge of the State Science &