

the manufacturers by STC between 1.1.1988 and 25.11.1988 at rates ranging between Rs. 17000 to Rs 20,000 PMT. (Ex-godown Madras).

The level of import duty for this rubber was at the rate of 25%.

(c) and (d). The prices of natural rubber are not only dependent on the cost of production of rubber, the total demand and supply position but also on other factors such as total availability of indigenous rubber at specific periods vis a vis demand/lifting by the industry during the period. The prices of natural rubber (RMA -IV grade) has ranged between Rs. 1440 to Rs 1813 per quintal during 1982-83 to 1988-89 (upto February, 1989).

(e) The Government's endeavour is to import only as much quantities of rubber as would just suffice to meet the demand supply gap. Further with the buffer stocking scheme which the Government is operating since June, 1986 the interests of the small growers are adequately protected.

(f) For encouraging natural rubber cultivation/production/ productivity the measures implemented by the Rubber Board already include:-

- (i) Rubber plantation development scheme;
- (ii) scheme for acceleration of development in non-traditional areas;
- (iii) establishment of nurseries and distribution of planting materials;
- (iv) supply of estate inputs to small holders on subsidised rates;
- (v) Advisory and training services;

(vi) scheme for promoting irrigation in rubber plantations ; and

(vii) community marketing and processing.

Promotions in Class I Cadres of Banks

*444. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the nationalised banks have been advised by Government to follow the policy of promotion based on selection method for promotings within class I cadres of banks;

(b) if so, whether all the nationalised banks have accordingly formulated their promotion policies);

(c) whether reservations for SC/ST in banks is not applicable in the above method of promotions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d)., Guidelines issued by the Government in terms of Officers' Service Regulations provide, inter-alia, that promotions from one scale or grade to another shall be made on the basis of merit with weightages, if any for seniority, educational/Professional qualifications etc., as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors of the bank concerned from time to time. In making promotion by merit, most banks have adopted the "selection" method. As per the general directions of Government on reservation in services for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, no reservations are to be provide if the promotions are made by the selection method.