328. DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has taken note that synthetic rubber, a crude oil derivative, has been impacted by increasing oil prices, the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the depreciation of the rupee;
(b) If so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to keep its prices in check;
(c) Whether it is true that some grades of synthetic rubber which are not manufactured in India are fully imported;
(d) If so, the details thereof;
(e) Whether the Government has plan to promote domestic production of other grades of synthetic rubber like Nitrile rubber (NBR), Ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) and Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (EVA) which are mostly imported; and
(f) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

a & b) The prices of crude oil and the downstream products including various grades of Synthetic rubber are decided by market driven forces internationally, and the department does not control the prices.

c & d) Yes, there are grades of Synthetic Rubber such as Ethyl Vinyl Acetate (EVA) and Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer (EPDM), which are currently not produced in India;

e & f) Indian companies are investing in this sector as they are capable and also benefiting from investment friendly policies of the Government. During the past six years, Indian companies have invested over Rs 4000 Cr in establishing production facilities of Synthetic Rubber. The new capacities which have come up are:

a. SBR – 270 KTA
b. PBR - 120 KTA

Further the production of the Butyl rubber has also started in India.

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