

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1091  
ANSWERED ON 26/07/2023

**IMPORT OF NATURAL RUBBER**

**1091. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to restrict import of natural rubber;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State of Kerala has requested for financial assistance to support the rubber farmers in Kerala;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the price of natural rubber to Rs.300 per kg and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b) To regulate the import of Natural Rubber, the Government had 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 30.04.2015. The Government had also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme from 18 months to 6 months in January 2015. Port entry for import of Natural Rubber has been restricted to ports at Chennai and Nhava Sheva (Jawaharlal Nehru Port) (since January 2016). Further, in the Union Budget 2023-24, the rate of custom duty on compound rubber has been increased from 10% to 25%. There are no other proposals under consideration.

(c) & (d) The State of Kerala had requested for financial assistance for rubber farmers. The Rubber Board under Department of Commerce provides subsidy for new planting and replanting (of senile plantations) under its various schemes. Rubber Board also provides training for tapping of rubber trees and processing of field latex to sheet rubber. Rubber Board has also taken several measures to improve productivity such as providing assistance for rain guarding to increase the number of tapping days, prevention of diseases and adoption of plantations lying untapped to revive tapping operations.

(e) Presently, no such proposal is under consideration.