

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 560
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05th FEBRUARY, 2020

BUDGETARY EXPENDITURE BY THE RUBBER BOARDS

560. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) whether most of the budgetary allocation to the Rubber Board is spent as establishment expenditure on the wages and allowances of staff, leaving only a small portion of the total allocation for the welfare and education of rubber farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to optimize the establishment expenditure of the Rubber Board and/or extend financial assistance to the Board to ensure sufficient spending on the stakeholders; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b) Budgetary allocation for Rubber Board for the year 2019-20 is Rs.170 crore against which Rs.105 crore is being spent towards pay and allowances. Apart from expenditure towards Pay & Allowances, substantial expenditure is also being incurred towards education, skill-development of farmers & extension/ advisory services.

Besides, Rubber Board is also carrying out developmental activities to support growers through convergence of schemes with Central and State Ministries/ agencies such as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana(PMKVY), Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) etc.

(c) & (d) Several steps have been taken by the Rubber Board to optimize its establishment expenditure which inter-alia includes reorganization/ restructuring of offices and establishment, reduction of sanctioned staff strength, centralization of salary and wage payments and merger of different departments in Head office. Efforts have also been made for more budgetary allocation to the Rubber Board and increase of Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources(IEBR) of the Rubber Board.

A restructuring plan has also been finalized in November, 2019 for Rubber Board.