

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2577
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04th AUGUST, 2021

REVAMPING OF RUBBER CULTIVATION

2577. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to push fresh plans to revamp rubber cultivation within Assam as an important component of the Atmanirbhar scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds targets estimated for revamping of rubber cultivation; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be initiated?

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): Rubber Board is implementing the scheme “Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector” for development of the natural rubber sector in the country including Assam. The main focus of the scheme is to increase domestic rubber production by bringing more area under rubber cultivation. The scheme also aims at bridging the prevalent gap between production & consumption of Natural Rubber, reducing the import of Natural Rubber and make India self-sufficient (Atmanirbhar) to meet the demand of Natural Rubber in the country.

(b): The main components of the scheme include providing financial and technical assistance to small growers for both new planting and replanting of rubber trees, improving productivity & quality of natural rubber produced, distribution of quality planting materials, support to good agricultural practices, measures for disease prevention, promoting grower’s forum such as Rubber Producers Societies (RPS); setting up Group processing Centres (GPCs), assistance for processing, training of tappers, creation of self-help groups and other welfare measures for plantation workers etc.

(c) & (d): During the Medium Term Framework (2017-18 to 2019-20) the fund released to the Board for implementing the scheme was Rs.568.44 crore. Subsequently the scheme has been extended for the benefit of the sector. Rs.187.69 crore was released for the financial year 2020-21. In the financial year 2021-22, Rs.190 crore has been allocated for implementation of the scheme. During the Medium Term Framework period (2017-18 onwards) total area of 35,700 hectare has been brought under rubber plantation. The planting target for 2021-22 is 13,500 hectare.
