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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 597 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01st DECEMBER, 2021

RUBBER PRODUCTION

597. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

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

- (a) whether the rubber producers in Kerala are getting adequate price for their produce visa-vis expenditure and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any significant steps are being taken to redress the situation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the area of land under agricultural occupation has decreased in the last five years 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) and (b) The natural rubber producers in Kerala are getting adequate price for their product vis-a vis expenditure. Domestic Natural Rubber prices have increased in the country in the recent past and the monthly average price for the RSS4 grade natural rubber in Kerala during October 2021 was Rs. 171.14 per kg, against the tentative cost of production i.e. Rs 99.46 per kg, including all paid out costs, interest on working capital and depreciation of fixed assets .

As domestic NR price is highly sensitive and is linked to prevailing international prices of natural rubber, the Government has been taking steps from time to time to ensure that domestic farmers get remunerative prices for their produce.

(c) Total area under rubber cultivation has not decreased during the last five years. In the state of Kerala, it has almost been static as given in the following table :

	Area under rubber in India	Area under rubber in Kerala (ha)
	(ha)	
2016-17	818,000	551,050
2017-18	820,900	551,115
2018-19	822,000	551,200
2019-20	822,300	551,030
2020-21	823,000	550,650

Source: Rubber Board
