

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1241
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2024

NATURAL RUBBER

1241. ADV K. FRANCIS GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Foreign Trade has recommended the extension of the export obligation period of Duty Entitlement Pass Book licence holders under the advance authorisation scheme from Six months to Twelve months, if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to reject the recommendation to avoid largescale duty-free import of Natural Rubber thereby causing a glut in the market and the consequent steep fall in the price of Natural Rubber;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that financial crisis faced in Natural Rubber production sector in the country, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to tide over the crisis;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to step up production of Natural Rubber in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether import of Natural Rubber is higher than domestic production and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of domestic production and import figures of Natural Rubber for financial year 2015 to 2023?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) For export facilitation and ease of doing business, the Government reviews its policy from time to time. Accordingly, the views of all the stakeholders have been invited on the subject matter of extension of the export obligation period under Advance Authorisation Scheme for certain items under Appendix-4J of Hand Book of Procedures, 2023.

(d) to (e) The Natural Rubber(NR) production sector has not reported any information of financial crisis in the sector to the Govt. The production of Natural Rubber in the country showed an upward trend during the last three years, as indicated in the Table below.

Table – NR production 2021-22 to 2023-24

Year	Production (Tonnes)
2021-22	7,75,000
2022-23	8,39,000
2023-24	8,57,000

(source- Rubber Board)

The Government has taken following steps to enhance domestic Natural Rubber production:-

- (i) Rubber Board has released 5 high-yielding clones for traditional regions and two for North East India. Research is continuing to evolve clones with higher yield and climate resilience through classical breeding and genetic modification.
 - (ii) Implemented measures for rain guarding of the rubber plant for tapping during rainy season.
 - (iii) Measures taken timely to control spread of diseases through spraying, as diseases could adversely affect NR production
 - (iv) Implemented Rubber Plantation Development Scheme for extending area under rubber cultivation.
 - (v) Conducted farmer awareness programmes throughout rubber growing areas to popularize various good agricultural practices.
 - (vi) Conducted training programmes on scientific rubber cultivation, harvesting and processing.
 - (vii) Implemented a collaborative project in association with Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA) for expanding rubber cultivation in North Eastern states.
- (f) No Sir.
- (g) The details of domestic production and import figures of Natural Rubber (NR) for financial year 2015 to 2023 is tabled below.

Year	NR Production (tonnes)	NR Import (tonnes)
2015-16	5,62,000	4,58,374
2016-17	6,91,000	4,26,188
2017-18	6,94,000	4,69,760
2018-19	6,51,000	5,82,351
2019-20	7,12,000	4,57,223
2020-21	7,15,000	4,10,478
2021-22	7,75,000	5,46,369
2022-23	8,39,000	5,28,677
2023-24	8,57,000	4,92,682

(source- Rubber Board)
