

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2910
ANSWERED ON 18/03/2025

GM RUBBER PLANTS

2910. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rubber farmers under the aegis of the National Consortium of Regional Federations of Rubber Producers Societies (NCRFRPS) have demanded for the use of genetically modified rubber plants, especially in traditional areas;
- (b) whether it is also true that the National Consortium of Regional Federations of Rubber Producers Societies have submitted a representation to the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also true that in Kerala where many farmers look ready to give up planting new rubber trees;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the need to introduce GM rubber plants is urgent despite the consideration that States such as Kerala have refused to provide permission to use them; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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) & (b) Yes.

(c) No specific information is available in this regard.

(d) & (e) The introduction of GM rubber plants in a State is possible only after the concerned State gives permission to initiate confined field trials. The confined field trials of GM rubber plants have been initiated in the State of Assam during 2021 and the State of Tripura during 2024. However, Government of Kerala has not given permission for the same.
