

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to ban duty free import of Natural rubber to improve the price of Natural Rubber in domestic market.

**SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA):** Sir, the Government is allowing import of natural rubber on zero per cent import duty. It is an act against the interests of the natural rubber growers in the country.

As per the records of the Rubber Board, duty-free import of natural rubber was 1,40,258 tonnes in the year 2019-20 and 1,58,478 tonnes in the year 2020-21. This shows that duty-free import is increasing ever year, which leads to fall in price of natural rubber in domestic market. Therefore, duty-free import of natural rubber may be banned immediately so that the price of natural rubber in domestic market may improve. Thank you.