

[Translation]

[English]

Farmers Demand for Increase in Price of Cotton

2842. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether farmers organisations have demanded increased prices for cotton;

(b) whether Government have accepted those demands;

(c) if so, price increase per quintal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government have increased the minimum support prices of short and medium varieties of kapas by about Rs. 15 per quintal during the current cotton season.

Production of Rubber

2843. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of rubber in India, details for the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the likely general rate of production in the Seventh Five Year Plan, year-wise details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) State-wise production of natural rubber during the last three years was as under

(Qty. in tonnes)

State	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
Kerala	152662	162212	172092
Tamil Nadu	9700	9736	10603
Karnataka	3070	2785	3095
Others	418	547	660
Total :	165850	175280	186450

(b) Estimates of natural rubber production during the currency of the Seventh Plan period is as under :

(Qty. in tonnes)

1985-86	201,000
1986-87	215,000
1987-88	231,000
1988-89	248,000
1989-90	265,000

(c) Rubber Board is implementing a number of schemes viz. Project for accelerated development of rubber plantation in North Eastern Region, Rubber Plantation Development Scheme, Development of technical infrastructure for promotion of rubber cultivation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands etc. Besides, the Rubber Board is providing subsidies, extension advisory support, rain-guarding materials, high yielding plantation materials etc. for growers and is also undertaking research on various aspects of rubber cultivation, with a view to increasing rubber production in the country.