

- (v) Free technical assistance at all stages of planting, maintenance and production.
- (2) Producing and distributing high yielding planting material/cultivators.
- (3) Rendering advisory, extension and training services.
- (4) Encouraging community processing and marketing among small holders.
- (5) Undertaking research on cultivation, production and processing of rubber.
- (6) Transfer proven technology to rubber growers extensive scale through Rubber Board's extension service machinery.
- (7) Expansion of area under rubber in non-traditional regions through special plantation development projects.

Projects Under DRDO

* 831. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the Defence Research and Development Organisation for various projects during the last three financial years and the actual expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the time over-run and cost over-run of the projects undertaken by DRDO during the above period indicating the earmarked outlay and time originally anticipated for completion of the projects;

(c) whether a major portion of the total outlay is spent on administrative overhead of the organisation; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to reduce such expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) The financial allocation and actual expenditure during the last three financial years, is as under:-

(in Rs. Crore)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Allocation (RE)</i>	<i>Actuals (Gross)</i>
1988-89	622	587
1989-90	635	617
1990-91	701	700

(b) DRDO has undertaken about 320 projects during last three financial years. Out of these, 13 projects costing over rupees one crore and 34 other small projects have

estimated time over-run to the extent of 6 months to 24 months. The details are as under:-

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Cost -category</i>			
	Less than 1 Cr.	1-10 Cr.	10-20 Cr.	20-100 Cr.
1988-89	22	9	—	—
1989-90	7	1	—	1
1990-91	5	2	—	—

There have been only 4 cases of cost over-run. The earmarked outlay of these projects was Rs.5.06 crores as against the revised estimated outlay of Rs.7.40 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Gold

* 832. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India continues to be the largest consumer market for gold in the world;

(b) if so, the quantity of gold imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the countries from which gold is being imported;

(d) whether the government propose to stop the import of gold; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):(a) No reliable data are available in this regard.

(b) Total quantity of gold imported by the institutions (SBI, MMTC, HHEC) during the last 3 years to service the exporters of jewellery is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (Kg.)</i>
1988-89	6446
1989-90	9050
1990-91	7061

(c) Switzerland and through the bullion Market in London, U.K.

(d) Import of gold is regulated under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 which bans imports of gold except by special permission. Imports of gold are permitted by specified institutions or units under the Schemes formulated by the Ministry of Commerce for export of gold jewellery. No proposal for further restricting the import of gold is under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Grants-in-Aid to Institutions.

* 833. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to