

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2150  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000  
IMPORT OF RUBBER  
P.C. THOMAS

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of artificial rubber polymers or polymethane imported during each of the last three years, item-wise, country-wise and quantity-wise;
- (b) the extent to which the use of a natural rubber has been replaced after the import of these items;
- (c) whether these imports have also affected the domestic price of natural rubber;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps envisaged to save the farmers of natural rubber in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) It is presumed that the term artificial rubber polymers or polymethane appearing in the question is used to mean polyurethane. This material is imported under two different Exim Codes. Details of imports are given in the annexure.

(b),(c)&(d) It is not possible to say whether and to what extent natural rubber is being substituted by polyurethane. However, the consumption ratio of Natural Rubber and Synthetic Rubber seems to have remained more or less unchanged during the last three years.

(e) To enable the rubber growers to get a remunerative price for their produce, the Government through State Trading Corporation of India has so far procured 38,390 MT of natural rubber. Import of natural rubber under duty exemption scheme has been restricted since February `99.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED OF Q.NO.2150 TO BE ANSWERED  
4.8.2000 REGARDING IMPORT OF RUBBER

Import of Polyurethane (Exim Code 390950 00) during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 (upto June `99)

Qty. in Tons  
Value in Rs. lakhs

Countries 1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000 (till June `99)  
Qty Value Qty Value Qty Value

Australia	21	50.10	38	104.26	5	15.89
German F. REP.	542	798.15	481	933.25	107	200.39
Italy	199	296.23	283	379.60	90	110.57
Japan	48	122.80	34	115.80	4	16.05
Korea RP	06	7.70	28	20.69	25	18.47
Spain	47	74.08	73	125.25	20	30.73
Singapore	20	34.30	22	34.15	2	3.52
U.K.	83	148.35	105	214.86	30	56.29
USA	205	330.66	174	483.33	45	155.09
Others	133	178.42	138	225.92	11	18.42

Import of Polyurethane (Exim Code 391690 05) during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (till June 99).

Qty. in Tons  
Value in Rs. lakhs

Countries	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	(till June` 99)
	Qty Value	Qty Value	Qty Value	
German F.REP.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
UK	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Japan	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Chinese Taipei	- - 0.48	1.20 - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Singapore	0.271 0.58	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
USA	- - - - 2	5.02	- - - - -	- - - - -
Others	- - - - 2	5.47	- - - - -	- - - - -

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta