

Title: Need to ban import of rubber and rubber products and fix remunerative price for procurement of rubber.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (IDUKKI): The prices of natural rubber has fallen to an all-time low. Nearly a lakh of farmers, most of them small and marginal, are producing six lakh tonnes of natural rubber which is barely sufficient for meeting the requirements of Indian industry. Due to the recessionary trends in the industry, the off-take is further reduced and there is surplus of natural rubber in the country. Government, under different guise, is allowing the import of rubber and rubber products. This has messed up the problem of farmers. A minimum remunerative price should be fixed at the earliest and procurement at this new fixed price by Government agencies should be undertaken immediately. The Government may forthwith ban import of rubber and rubber products including polyurethane. The Government is urged to take an early decision in this matter.