

(c) The domestic price of Natural Rubber interalia is influenced by the price in the international market.

(d) The cost of production of 100 kg. of Natural

Rubber in the small holding sector in India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as published by the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC), for the years 1995 & 96 is given below :

	India		Indonesia		Malaysia		Thailand	
	US Cents	Rs.	US Cents	Rs.	US Cents	Rs.	US Cents	Rs.
1995	97.84	3185	86.71	2822	112.35	3657	96.58	3144
1996	96.70	3402	82.88	2916	NA	NA	94.00	3307

Month-wise details of the same are not available.

(a) With a view to improve the prices of Natural Rubber, the Govt. of India has authorised STC to procure an additional quantity of 20,000 MT of Natural Rubber on Govt. account. The earlier quantity procured was 9596 M.T. The STC has also been directed not to off-load the procured quantity of Natural Rubber into the domestic market. The corporation has been further directed to export and/or sell the entire quantity of procured rubber to the Advance Licence Holders. In order to provide a remunerative price to the rubber growers, the process of revising the Bench Mark Price for Natural Rubber is underway.

#### Tourism in A.P.

3562. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to share the cost of preparing the tourism master plans for Hyderabad, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam and Nagarjuna Sagar; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be finalised and the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In view of paucity of funds to carry out surveys and studies, the Ministry of Tourism is not in a position to provide assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.00 crore as requested by the State Government for the purpose. The World Tourism Organisation has included the preparation of Tourism Master Plan for Andhra Pradesh in their work programme for the year 1998-99.

#### Export Intensive Areas

3563. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any detailed feasibility report from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and other States on Identified Centres to be developed as Export Intensive Area for necessary clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (c) A scheme under this nomenclature had been proposed during 1995-96. However, this was incorporated within the Critical infrastructure Balance (CIB) scheme which was introduced in the same year. The CIB Scheme, covers any investments required for quicker and strategic removal of bottlenecks for general export facilitation. Financial assistance have been approved/given to State Governments as well as to other agencies for strengthening of infrastructure for exports at different places including those identified by States. Following is the list of approved projects under the CIB Scheme :

State	Approved Projects		
1	2		
Andhra Pradesh	1.	Appareal Export Park, Gundiapochampally.	
	2.	Road Overbridge at Duvada Rail Crossing, Visakhapatnam.	
	3.	Installation of High Speed Data Communication System at Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone (EPZ).	
Goa	1.	Construction of By-Pass between NH 17 and Murmugao Port	
Kerala	1.	Infrastructure Development for marine exports at Aroor.	
	2.	Teaknet Industrial Complex, Palaghat.	
	3.	Construction of a Fire Station, Thirakkakara	