

the State Trading Corporation was directed in October, 1970 to enter in the rubber purchase operations. The Corporation has got 4 centres at Cochin, Kottayam, Calicut and Parakode and rubber purchase operations are continuing. In December 1971, Government of Kerala were given a loan of Rs 2.5 crores for rubber purchase operations and two instalments of Rs. 50 lakhs each have since been released for the purchase of rubber from small growers.

Upto 22nd March, 1972, the State Trading Corporation purchased 18477.468 tonnes of natural rubber and the stock of rubber with the Corporation is 2,625.148 tonnes. Upto 4th March, 1972 Kerala State Government purchased 670 tonnes of rubber and nothing has been released.

(b) Stock lying with State Trading Corporation and Kerala State Government will not adversely affect market as growers are paid notified prices through cooperatives and it will have a beneficial effect of a buffer stock for the period it remains with them.

(c) The following schemes are in operation for implementation of increased production of rubber:—

(1) Granting subsidy at rate of Rs. 2471 per hectare for replaiing old and low yielding rubber areas with high yielding planting materials.

(2) Granting new planting loans at rate of Rs. 3459 per hectare to small growers to increase their area so as to turn their holdings into economic units.

(3) Granting loans subject to maximum of Rs. 2224 per hectares to small growers for maintaining properly their holdings in good condition.

(4) Distributing high yielding planting materials to small growers at concessional rates.

(5) Distributing fertilisers and fungicides at subsidised rates to small growers through cooperatives.

(6) Free technical advice is given to growers by Board, it also gives training to tappers on scientific methods of tapping.

(7) Board has started pilot project in Andamans to establish technical feasibility of rubber cultivation. Project completed target of planting in about 200 hectares.

(8) Government of Kerala have set up public sector undertaking plantation corporation Ltd. This centrally sponsored project planted 6818 hectares with rubber till the end of 1971.

#### INCREASE IN EXPORT DUTY ON JUTE

507. SHRI DAHYABHA1 V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the total increase in export duty on jute goods during the current year and its effect on exports from the country; and

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Economic Times of December 20, 1971, in this regard; if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Export duty on carpet backing and hessian were increased by Rs. 400 per tonne w.e.f. 13-12-1971. This has not adversely affected exports of jute goods.

(b) Yes, Sir. The views expressed in the news item have been noted by the Government.

#### CONVERSION OF RAILWAY LINE FROM GONDIA TO BALAOHAT INTO BROAD GAUGE

508. SHRI RAM SAHAI: SHRI BALRAM DAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to convert the narrow gauge line from Gondia to Balaghat District of Madhya Pradesh into broad gauge for removing the transport difficulties being experienced by the owners of manganese mines situated in Balaghat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFIQURESHI): Based on the recommendations of the uneconomic branch lines committee, 1969, a traffic survey for the conversion of the northern sections of the Satpura N. G. system (comprising the Gondia-Balaghat and other N. G. lines), has been undertaken and the

survey is in progress. A decision regarding the conversion of these sections will be taken after the results of the survey become known.

### 1971 में चाय का निर्यात

509. श्री राम सहाय : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जनवरी, 1971 से 31 दिसम्बर, 1971 तक की अवधि के दौरान कितनी चाय का निर्यात किया गया;

(ख) इस अवधि के दौरान चाय के निर्यात की स्थिति चाय का उत्पादन करने वाले अन्य बड़े देशों के मुकाबले में कैसी रही; और

(ग) संसद् भवन में संसद् सदस्यों को टी बोर्ड के स्टाल पर बन्द डिब्बों में मिलने वाली 'पार्लियामेंट टी' की बिक्री बन्द कर देने के क्या कारण हैं ?

[TEA EXPORTS DURING 1971

509. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of tea exported during the period from January, 1971 to the 31st December, 1971;

(b) how the exports of Indian tea during this period compares with that of the other major tea producing countries; and

(c) the reasons for discontinuance of the sale of tinned tea labelled as 'Parliament Tea' which was previously available at the Tea Board Stall for the Members of Parliament in the Parliament House?!

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) 2126.00 लाख किलोग्राम ।

(ख) चाय का उत्पादन करने वाले विश्व के सभी बड़े देशों द्वारा 1971 के दौरान किये गये चाय के कुल निर्यातों के आंकड़े अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं हुए हैं। चाय का उत्पादन करने

वाले बड़े देशों द्वारा निर्यात की गई चाय के आंकड़े, जहाँ तक प्राप्त हो सके हैं, उसका एक विवरण संलग्न है।

(ग) 'पार्लियामेंट टी' के लेबल वाली टीन के डिब्बों में चाय की बिक्री नवम्बर 1970 से बन्द कर दी गयी है और उसके स्थान पर चाय की क्वालिटी में कोई परिवर्तन किये बिना 'प्योर दार्जिलिंग टी' के लेबल वाली गत्ते के डिब्बों में बन्द चाय बेची जाने लगी है।

### विवरण

चाय का उत्पादन करने वाले विश्व के विभिन्न देशों से चाय के निर्यात

		(लाख किलोग्राम में)	
देश	जनवरी से महीने तक	1971	1970
भारत	दिसम्बर	2126.30	2084.30
श्रीलंका	दिसम्बर	2013.22	2082.77
कीनिया	अक्तूबर	235.16	289.69
युगांडा	जुलाई	78.00	90.30
तन्जानिया	सितम्बर	58.65	58.85
मलावी	जुलाई	144.20	134.10
मांजम्बीक	दिसम्बर	175.02	166.53

[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) 212.6 m. Kgs.

(b) Total exports of tea during 1971 from all the major tea producing countries of the world are not yet available. A statement giving exports of tea from major tea producing countries as far as available is enclosed.

(c) The sale of tinned tea labelled as 'Parliament Tea' was discontinued since November, 1970 and was replaced by Cartons labelled as "Pure Darjeeling Tea" without any change in the quality of the tea.