

2016 Rank	State	Score (%)	2015 Rank
15.	West Bengal	84.23	11
16.	Bihar	75.82	21
17.	Himachal Pradesh	65.48	17
18.	Tamil Nadu	62.80	12
19.	Delhi	47.62	15
20.	Kerala	26.97	18
21.	Goa	18.15	19
22.	Tripura	16.67	26
23.	Daman and Diu	14.58	-
24.	Assam	14.29	22
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.79	-
26.	Puducherry	1.49	20
27.	Nagaland	1.49	31
28.	Manipur	1.19	-
29.	Mizoram	0.89	28
30.	Sikkim	0.60	27
31.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.30	32
31.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.30	29
31.	Chandigarh	0.30	24
31.	Meghalaya	0.30	30
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.30	25
31.	Lakshadweep	0.30	-

Objectives of Rubber Board

1604. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the primary objectives of the Rubber Board;
- (b) the names of the schemes/projects/ programmes under implementation by the Rubber Board for promotion of rubber plantation and marketing; and
- (c) the Budgetary allocation under Plan Head of the Rubber Board during 2014-15 and 2015-16?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The primary objectives of the Rubber Board, as envisaged in the Rubber Act, 1947, are to provide for the development of the rubber industry through activities which *inter-alia* includes support for production, extension, scientific research and marketing besides regulatory functions.

(b) Rubber Board is currently implementing the scheme "Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector" wherein support is provided for plantation development and extension, strengthening research, technology upgradation and market development, human resource development etc.

(c) The budgetary allocations under Plan Head of Rubber Board during 2014-15 and 2015-16 were ₹ 150.00 Crore and ₹ 153.99 crore respectively.

Impact of decreasing exports on jobs

1605. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade body ASSOCHAM has estimated that decreasing exports have cost seventy thousand jobs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government proposes to take to reverse the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) A joint study undertaken by 'The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India' (ASSOCHAM) and Thought Arbitrage on 'Employment Generation and Rebooting India' have reported *inter-alia* sharp drop in merchandise exports in eight sectors (textile, leather, metals, automobiles, gems and jewellery, transport, IT/BPO, and handloom/powerloom) leading to a loss of 70,000 jobs of contractual workers during the second quarter of 2015-16 due to slowdown in global demand. However, the said report further states that there was increased employment in direct category workers (regular workers) in these eight sectors during the second and third quarter of 2015-16, which is a positive development and compensated that loss. Textile sector is reported to be most affected.

(c) The Government has taken various measures to boost exports from India including Textile sector, which includes;

(i) Implementing the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) under