OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Constitution of an Expert Committee to formulate National Rubber Policy - reg.

Rubber consuming industries have expressed concern over decline in rubber productivity and availability of various forms of rubber for use of the Industry in the country. Rubber growers have also agitated on the issue of increased risk to production due to climatic factors and adverse price movements caused by imports.

2. With a view to address the concerns expressed by various stakeholders in the Rubber Sector and to formulate a 'National Policy on Rubber', the government has decided to constitute an Expert Committee that will examine issues relating to production, development and exports of rubber and related products and make recommendations for a broad based policy relating to all types of rubber i.e. Natural Rubber (NR), Synthetic Rubber (SR) and Reclaimed Rubber (RR).

3. The Expert Committee will consist of the following members:

   i. Additional Secretary (Plantations) Department of Commerce : Chairman
   ii. Joint Secretary, DIPP (to be nominated by DIPP) : Member
   iii. Chairperson, Rubber Board: Member
   iv. DGFT (representative)/ Additional DGFT Sh. D.K.Singh: Member
   v. Representative of State Government of Kerala: Member
   vi. Representative of State Government of Tripura: Member
   vii. Representative of Development Commissioner for Small Scale Industry: Member
   viii. Representative of Ministry of Road Transport & Highway: Member
   ix. Representative of Ministry of DONER: Member
   x. Representative of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation: Member
   xi. Director (Plantations), DoC: Member Secretary
   xii. Rubber Board Official (Besides Chairperson) : Member
   xiii. Shri Pulapre Balakrishnan, Ex Director, CDS: Member
   xiv. Representative of All India Rubber Industries Association: Member
   xv. Representative of Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association: Member
   xvi. 2 Representative of NR growers – nominated by Rubber Board: Member
   xvii. Representative of Association of Latex Producers: Member
   xviii. Representative of India Block Rubber Association: Member
   xix. Representative of FICCI: Member
   xx. Representative of ICC: Member
   xxi. Representative of CDS, Trivandrum: Member
   xxii. Representative of IIPM, Bangalore: Member
   xxiii. Director, Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association (IRMRA) : Member
4. Having regard to the broad objectives set out in Para 2, the ‘Terms of Reference’ for the Committee would be as under:-

(i). Review growth and current status of Indian Rubber Industry covering Natural Rubber (NR), Synthetic Rubber (SR) and Reclaimed Rubber (RR) and rubber products;

(ii). Review and assess the demand and supply of all types of rubbers in the country, taking into account the projected demand and export potential of rubber products for the next ten (10) years;

(iii). Identify key opportunities and critical challenges in the production and marketing of Natural Rubber (NR), Synthetic Rubber (SR) and Reclaimed Rubber (RR) sectors and tyre and non-tyre sectors.

(iv). Review rubber growers’ concerns over the stated import of large quantities of natural rubber and resultant impact on domestic prices of rubber.

(v). Review the current methods of procurement, sale and import of rubber (NR) and suggest appropriate policies and instruments for insulating rubber growers from unforeseen risks in production and adverse price movements.

(vi). Examine policy and programmes for Government support to rubber plantations and suggest ways of expanding areas under production particularly in NER and LWE affected areas, and improving productivity.

(vii). Suggest development and promotion measures necessary for promoting rubber plantation, through integration of rubber production policies & programmes at the State and Central level.

(viii). Suggest policies with respect to incentives, taxation, foreign trade licensing and other regulatory measures, with a view to enhance production of NR and competitiveness of rubber industry;

(ix). Review and suggest appropriate welfare measures for the rubber growers/rubber industry workers.

5. The Expert Committee may co-opt and invite other Experts and Stakeholders to the meeting as and when required.

6. The committee would be serviced by the Rubber Board.

7. The Expert Committee will submit its report including the draft of the National Rubber Policy as early as possible, say, within six months.

8. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Pradeep Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel No.23062510

To
All concerned as in Para (1) above.

Copy to:
1. PPS to Commerce Secretary
2. PPS to AS (JSD)
3. Director (VY)
4. Guard file