

# Rubber consumption increases 9% in Oct

**New Delhi, Oct 7:** Natural rubber consumption in the country rose by 9% to 83,000 tonne in October this year.

However, its production declined by 3% to 86,300 tonne in the same period, Rubber Board data said.

India consumed 76,495 tonne of natural rubber and produced 89,300 tonne in the same month of 2011. Import of natural rubber more than doubled to 18,326 tonne in October 2012 from 8,574 tonne in the year-ago period, while the exports declined by 63% to 1,107 tonne from 2,981 tonne during the same period.

In the first seven months of

the current financial year, the consumption of rubber rose to 5,84,580 tonne compared with 5,51,980 tonne in April-October of 2011-12 fiscal, whereas, the output rose to 4,82,000 tonne from 4,80,700 tonne in the same period.

The country's rubber imports rose to 1,30,966 tonnes in April-October of 2012-13 fiscal from 99,760 tonnes in the year-ago period.

Rubber exports fell to a mere 8,573 tonnes from 21,064 tonne during the reviewed period. The stock of natural rubber in the country at the end of October stood at 2,45,000 tonne.

*PTI*