

Global rubber body lowers output forecast

Singapore, Apr 28: Global natural rubber production for 2011 may come in at 10.025 million tonne, lower than an earlier forecast of 10.060 million tonne due to output revisions in member countries, the ANRPC said on Thursday.

Despite the revision, the global output for the commodity mainly used in tyre was still higher than 9.473 million tonne in 2010, according to the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC).



The ANRPC's total supply would rise this year by 5.8%, slightly slower than the previously-expected 6.2% rate, the group said in a report.

The revision results from down-scaling of Thailand's figure and China; and slightly improved outlook expected for Indonesia and India.

Output in Thailand, the world's main rubber producer, was revised down to 3.375 million tonne in 2011 from an earlier forecast of 3.430 million tonne, still higher than 3.252 million tonne in 2010.

Second-largest producer Indonesia's output forecast was raised to 2.972 million tonne from a prior estimate of 2.955 million tonne. Last year, Indonesia produced 2.736 million tonne. *Reuters*