

THE NEW  THE NEW

INDIAN EXPRESS

Call to Allow Import of NR

ENS Economic Bureau

Kochi: Rubber consuming industries in the country have stated that imports of natural rubber (NR) are critical to bridge the widening gap between domestic production and consumption.

“With falling domestic rubber production, industry has no other option but to import rubber even though there is a stiff import duty of 25 per cent,” said Rajiv Budhraj, Director General, Automotive Tyre Manufacturers’ Association.

“How can industry be penalised for rubber imports when domestic rubber production is so short of consumption. Rubber imports are a must but Government levies 25 per cent duty on imports,” said Mohinder Gupta, President, All India Rubber Industries Association.

According to Rubber Board data, the NR production consumption gap during the Apr-Feb’16 period has been substantial at 3.67 lakh tonnes and imports are to the tune of 3.93 lakh tonnes.



NATURAL RUBBER STATISTICS

(April 2015 – Feb 2016)

Production 5,33,000 tons	Gap 3,67,290 tons
Consumption 9,00,290 tons	Import 3,93,330 tons

Source: Rubber Board