



The Rubber Board NEWS BULLETIN

MAY 2023

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE RUBBER ACT 1947



Sri. Thomas Chazhikadan, MP inaugurates the Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Rubber Act 1947. Sri. M Vasanthagesan IRS (Executive Director, Rubber Board), Sri. Amardeep Singh Bhatia IAS, (Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industry), Sri. Vinay Dinu Tendulkar (Member of Parliament), Dr. Sawar Dhanania (Chairman, Rubber Board), Sri. N.K. Premachandran (Member of Parliament), Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan (MLA), Smt. Sheela Thomas (Chairperson and Managing Director of Kerala Rubber Limited), Sri. N. Hari, (Executive Committee Member, Rubber Board) and Sri. K.A. Unnikrishnan (Vice Chairman, Rubber Board) are present (from left).

Sri. Piyush Goyal, the honourable Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, lauded the remarkable role played by the Board in the growth of the rubber industry in the country and also in making the country self-reliant in the sector. He delivered the speech through a video message at the inaugural function of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the enactment of the Rubber Act 1947, held at Mamman Mappillai Hall, Kottayam. The Board has played an



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Rubber Act 1947**
- **Rubber Board exhibition**
- **Grower's Corner**
 - Abnormal leaf fall (ALF) disease
 - Silt pits
 - Cover crop
- **Training Programmes**
 - Spraying and maintenance of sprayers
 - Marketing and Export Management of Natural Rubber
 - Rubber Cultivation for Small Growers
 - Latex Harvest Technology
 - RSS Processing and Grading
 - Planting & Upkeep
- **Rubber Price**

important role in improving the quality of the produce, which helped in the increase in the export of rubber products from the country, and the Board has a definite role ahead in making the country a developed nation by 2047, he added. He also said that the government is sensitive to the issues of the rubber value chain and will support the initiatives taken by the Board in this regard.

Sri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP inaugurated the meeting. Dr. Sawar Dhanania, Chairman of the Rubber Board,



The sculpture in front of Rubber Board Head Office to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Rubber Act 1947.

presided over the meeting. Sri. Pnarayi Vijayan (Chief Minister, Kerala), Dr. Manik Saha (Chief Minister, Tripura) and Sri. Himanta Biswa Sarma (Chief Minister, Assam) greeted through video messages. Sri. N.K. Premachandran, MP, Sri. Vinay Dinu Tendulkar, MP and Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan felicitated in the meeting. Sri. Amardeep Singh Bhatia IAS, Additional Secretary to the Department of Commerce under the Central Ministry of Commerce & Industry, delivered the keynote address and unveiled the sculpture installed in front of the Rubber Board Head Office to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Rubber Act 1947. Sri. M. Vasanthagesan IRS (Executive Director, Rubber Board) welcomed the gathering. Smt. Sheela Thomas IAS (Retd.), Chairperson and Managing Director of Kerala Rubber Limited, Sri. N. Hari, Executive Committee Member of the Rubber Board, Sri. T.C. Chacko, a rubber grower from Kerala and Sri. Ashok Nath, a rubber grower from Assam, spoke in the meeting. Sri. K.A. Unnikrishnan, Vice Chairman of the Rubber Board, proposed a vote of thanks.

'mRube Accolades 2023' and 'Early Adopter' Awards declared by the Board for the participants of the e-market platform 'mRube' were also distributed in the function.

RUBBER BOARD EXHIBITION



Mr. M. Vasanthagesan IRS, Executive Director of the Rubber Board, inaugurates the three-day exhibition organized by the Rubber Board

A three-day exhibition organized by the Rubber Board was held in connection with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Rubber Act 1947 at Mamman Mappillai Hall, Kottayam. Mr. M. Vasanthagesan IRS, Executive Director of the Rubber Board, inaugurated the exhibition. Dr. Sawar Dhanania, Chairman of the Rubber Board, released 'Rubber Charithram' a book on rubber history written by Dr. Vinoth Thomas, a scientist of the Rubber Research Institute of India, by handing over a copy to Mr. Sathish Abraham, President of the Association of Latex Producers of India. Smt. P. Sudha, Secretary (in-charge), Dr. Siby Varghese, Joint Director, Rubber Technology and Dr. Vinoth Thomas, Scientist, Rubber Research Institute of India, also spoke in the meeting.



Dr. Sawar Dhanania, Chairman of the Rubber Board, releases 'Rubber Charithram' a book on rubber history written by Dr. Vinoth Thomas, a scientist of the Rubber Research Institute of India, by handing over a copy to Mr. Sathish Abraham, President of the Association of Latex Producers of India

The Exhibition showcases the rubber history and the achievements of rubber over the years in around forty stalls. Various types of rubber products and their manufacturing methods are displayed in the stalls. The main objective of the Exhibition is to reveal the areas in which natural Rubber can be used and show the endless possibilities it has. A full-body statue of an elephant made entirely of natural rubber is also exhibited at the centre. Various rubber products, including exercise bands, foams made of natural rubber, medical gloves and household gloves, rubber wood articles etc., were also exhibited for sale.



The disease recurs annually during south-west monsoon period. Continuous rain resulting in prolonged wet conditions (>90% RH) and low temperature (< 30°C) favours the disease. Infection commences with fruit rot. Later infected leaves fall in large numbers prematurely, either green or after turning copper red. The black lesion developing on the petiole with a drop of latex coagulated in the centre is the characteristic symptom of ALF. Lesions develop on the midrib and leaf blades also. Heavy defoliation leads to considerable crop loss and die-back of terminal twigs. Profuse weed growth is another effect of defoliation. Prophylactic spraying with copper fungicides prior to the onset of south-west monsoon is recommended to contain the disease. Spraying 1% Bordeaux mixture using high volume sprayers or oil-based copper oxychloride (COC) dispersed in diluent spray oil (1: 5 proportion) using low volume sprayers is effective. Instead of 1% Bordeaux mixture, 0.5% Bordeaux mixture (1/2 kg copper sulphate + 1/2 kg quick lime in 100 L of water) mixed with 0.5% zinc sulphate can be used to reduce cost. For micron spraying, 30- 40 L/ha of COC-oil mixture may be required depending on canopy. Based on height of trees, single man or four men-carrying or tractor- mounted micron sprayers can be used. For high disease- prone areas

and highly susceptible clones, two rounds of spray in 1:6 proportion with sufficient gap gives better control. For micron spraying, rubber seed oil mixed with spray oil at 1:2 ratio can also be used as carrier. In such cases, the quantity of copper oxychloride can be reduced to 6 kg/ha. Bordeaux mixture: For preparing 1% Bordeaux mixture, 1 kg copper sulphate, 1 kg quick lime and 100 L water are required. Dissolve copper sulphate in 50 L, and slake lime and prepare lime solution in rest 50 L. Pour copper sulphate solution to lime solution with thorough stirring. Alternatively, both solutions can be poured into a third vessel under constant stirring. Use non-corrosive vessels like copper, plastic, wooden, etc. while preparing the mixture. Mixture should be used on the same day of preparation for maximum efficacy.

Silt pits

In order to reduce soil erosion and to facilitate rain water infiltration, trenches of about 120 cm length, 45 cm width and 60 cm depth are taken along the contour between the planting rows in such a way that the pits in adjacent inter- rows are in a staggered manner. Depending on the slope of the land, about 150- 250 pits are taken in a hectare of plantation. Opening of pits is not desirable in shallow soils and soils of steep terrain (slope >20%).

Cover crop



Cover crops should be established in rubber plantations for conserving soil and improving soil structure and fertility. Fast growing leguminous creepers, having the ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen are widely used as cover crops in rubber. In addition, they have other attributes common to all cover plants like ability to suppress weed growth and reducing soil temperature. The common cover crops established in rubber plantations are *Pueraria phaseoloides* and *Mucuna bracteata*

TRAINING PROGRAMMES OF THE RUBBER BOARD

1. Training on spraying and maintenance of sprayers on 2 May 2023

This one day training is to impart knowledge on spraying and maintenance of sprayers. Rubber growers, RPS/SHG members can apply for this course. Fees: Rs.500 + (18% GST extra)

2. Training in Marketing and Export Management of Natural Rubber on 3 and 4 May 2023

The course content includes NR market, futures trading, opportunities for export, price factors, licensing, exim policies of the government, market development and export promotion measures. Members of Rubber marketing co-operative societies, industrialists and rubber dealers can participate in this course. Fees: Rs. 2000 + 18% GST Extra

3. Training in Rubber Cultivation for Small Growers(in Malayalam) from 8-12 May 2023

The course content includes modern planting materials, planting techniques, manuring, pest and disease control, tapping and latex processing. The medium of instruction is in Malayalam. The training fee is Rs.2000 + 18% GST. Medium of instruction is Malayalam.

4. Training on Latex Harvest Technology from 15-16 May 2023

Topics include latex harvesting, different types of tapping knives, modern tapping methods, application of stimulating agents, LHT and CUT. Rubber growers and interested persons from plantation sector can apply. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs.1000 + 18% GST

5. Training on RSS Processing and Grading from 17-18 May 2023 (Technology)

Rubber dealers, rubber growers, processors and consumers in non-tyre sector can apply for this course. The course content includes latex collection, processing into sheet rubber, smoke houses, grading as per Green Book standards etc. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs.1000/- (Non-residential) + GST 18%.

6. Training on Planting & upkeep on 19 May 2023

Farmers and interested persons from plantation sector can apply for this course. The course content includes methods of planting, up keeping, maintenance, intercropping, weeding etc. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs.500/- + 18% GST.

7. Online training on Entrepreneur Development in Rubber Industry on 23 May 2023

The training programme focuses on investment scope in RSS Processing, Latex and Dry Rubber Products Manufacture. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs. 100 + 18% GST.

8. Online training on Production of planting materials and clones on 24 May 2023

This training is to impart training on Modern clones and good quality planting materials. Farmers and interested persons from plantation sector can apply for this course. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs. 100 + 18% GST

8. Training on Testing of DRC for Skill Development: from 24-26 May 2023

This 3 day training is on testing of DRC of field latex/concentrated latex as per standards. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs.3000 + GST 18%. Medium of instruction is English. Those who are interested may register in the link <https://bit.ly/3feCcVj>

9. Online training on manuring in rubber on 29 May 2023

This one day course content imparts knowledge on fertilizer recommendation, discriminatory fertilizer application and manuring in rubber. Farmers, Estate managers, nursery owners, interested persons from plantation sector can apply for this course. Fees prescribed for this course is Rs.100 + GST 18%.

10. Training on Pest and Disease Control on 31 May 2022

Training is on diseases and pests affecting rubber and methods to control them. Farmers, interested persons from plantation sector can apply for this course. The fee prescribed for this course is Rs.500 + 18% GST

DAILY NATURAL RUBBER PRICE - APRIL 2023 [Price/Rs/Qtl]

DATE	DOMESTIC			INTERNATIONAL			
	Kottayam			Kochi		Bangkok	
	RSS-4	RSS-5	60% LATEX	RSS-4	RSS-5	RSS-3	RSS-4
01/4/2023	14950	14650	Holiday	14950	14650	Holiday	Holiday
02/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
03/4/2023	15000	14750	10885	15000	14750	14406	14333
04-04-2023	15000	14800	11095	15000	14800	14308	14236
05/4/2023	15000	14800	11305	15000	14800	14454	14382
06/4/2023	15000	14800	11305	15000	14800	Holiday	Holiday
07/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	14457	14384
08/4/2023	15000	14800	Holiday	15000	14800	Holiday	Holiday
09/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
10/4/2023	15000	14800	11410	15000	14800	14216	14144
11/4/2023	15000	14800	11410	15000	14800	14165	14093
12/4/2023	15000	14800	11410	15000	14800	14202	14130
13/4/2023	15000	14800	11410	15000	14800	Holiday	Holiday
14/4/2023	15000	14800	11410	15000	14800	Holiday	Holiday
15/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
16/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
17/4/2023	15050	14850	11520	15050	14850	Holiday	Holiday
18/4/2023	15050	14850	11520	15050	14850	14260	14188
19/4/2023	15100	14900	11730	15100	14900	14279	14208
20/4/2023	15150	14950	11835	15150	14950	14324	14253
21/4/2023	15200	15000	11940	15200	15000	14328	14257
22/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
23/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
24/4/2023	15250	15000	12150	15250	15000	14345	14273
25/4/2023	15250	15000	12150	15250	15000	14311	14239
26/4/2023	15300	15000	12150	15300	15000	14344	14273
27/4/2023	15300	15000	12150	15300	15000	14372	14300
28/4/2023	15300	15000	12150	15300	15000	14375	14303
29/4/2023	15300	15050	Holiday	15300	15050	Holiday	Holiday
30/4/2023	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
Average	15100	14873	11628	15100	14873	14322	14250