

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:944
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
PEPPER PRODUCTION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Vietnam has overtaken India as World's largest pepper producer and exporter;
- (b) if so, whether Vietnam is not even a member of the International Pepper Community; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to regain India's status in pepper production and its export?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): As per estimates of International Pepper Community for the year 2001-02, India is the largest producer of pepper, with production of 80,000 Metric Tonnes. Indonesia was the largest exporter with export of 60,453 Metric Tonnes during 2001. Vietnam, however, exported 56,606 Metric Tonnes of pepper as compared to 22,741 Metric Tonnes exported by India during 2001.

(b): Vietnam is not a member of the International pepper Community.

(c): In order to protect India's position in the global trade, Integrated programme for development of pepper with 100% central assistance have been implemented in the country in intensified manner during VIII and IX Plan periods. The major components of the programme for development of pepper are:

- (a) Production of quality planting materials of high yielding varieties of black pepper and their distribution on subsidized rates to the farmers.
- (b) Establishment and management of field demonstration plots for popularizing high yielding varieties and also improved cultivation practices.
- (c) Adoption of integrated pests and disease management practices.
- (d) Encouraging rejuvenation of old and unproductive gardens.
- (e) Effective transfer of technology.

These programme are continued in major pepper growing States as part of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Macro Management in Agriculture- Supplementing/Complementing the State Efforts through Work Plan' which provides flexibility to State Government to prioritize the crops and interventions as per the need.

Similarly for promoting export of pepper, the Spices Board is undertaking following activities:

- (i) Assistance for establishing improved cleaning and processing facilities;
- (ii) Support for setting up of high tech processing like steam sterilization, cryo-grinding, super critical fluid extraction.
- (iii) Assistance for establishing and strengthening in-house quality laboratories for testing various quality parameters

(iv) Assistance for new product/end use development

(v) Assistance for improved packaging.

(vi) Assistance for undertaking sales promotion tours and participation in international fairs.

(vii) Support for promoting branded consumer packed spices in identified markets abroad.