

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4918
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
CARDAMOM TRADE
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding import and export of Cardamom during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of price of Cardamom in Domestic and International markets during the last three years;
- (c) whether there has been a decline in production of cardamom during the last few years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether any study has been conducted/proposed to be conducted in this regard and if so, the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

a) The export and import of cardamom for the last four years is given below.

Quantity in tons and value in Rs.Crores					
Year	Export		Import		
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	
2006-07	650	22.36	623	5.69	
2007-08	500	24.75	875	8.68	
2008-09	750	47.27	180	3.09	
2009-10	1750	140.96	95	3.36	
(upto Feb 2010)					

b) Yearly average domestic and international price of cardamom for last four years is given below:

Year	Domestic price		International price (US\$/Kg)		
	(Rs./Kg)	(ungraded)	Indian (Bold 6-7mm)	Guatemalan	(Fancy green)
2006-07	315.41	9.62	8.87		
2007-08	503.48	15.45	10.99		
2008-09	538.16	15.65	14.52		
2009-10	801.32	20.89	21.59		

c) & (d) There is no significant decline in the production of cardamom during the last few years. The production of cardamom has increased to 10075 tons in 2009-10 from 9450 tons in 2007-08. The decline in production in 2007-08 was due to the irregular distribution of rainfall and dry spell prevailed in the main cardamom tracts. The production of cardamom during the last five years is given below.

Year	Production (in tons)
2005-06	12540
2006-07	11235
2007-08	9450
2008-09	11000
2009-10	10075

e) A detailed study was made by Spices Board on the production and marketing of cardamom in Guatemala. The major advantage of Guatemala is the high productivity and low cost of production. Based on this, one of the recommendations of the study was to increase the production and productivity to reduce the cost of production in India to compete with Guatemala in international market. The replantation and rejuvenation programme of cardamom has been started for the Spices sector based on the recommendations of the Study.