

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1260  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010  
PRODUCTION OF CARDAMOM  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether Cardamom farmers are using drugs alongwith pesticides for growing Cardamom;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its effect on the quality of Cardamom;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted/sponsored any study in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) Spices Board has received information that a few cardamom farmers have used allopathic drugs alongwith pesticides for cardamom growth. No scientific study of this practice has been conducted. Spices Board has directed all its field units and farmers' associations to be vigilant over the use of such avoidable and scientifically unproven usage of chemicals in cardamom growing. Spices Board has also approached the State Governments to take immediate action to prevent the sale of these drugs without proper prescriptions. Agriculture Officers and the concerned officials of the State Departments have also been alerted about such misuse of agri-inputs in cardamom cultivation.