

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3593  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010  
PEPPER PRODUCTION AND EXPORT  
Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) the quantity of production and export of pepper during the last three years;
- (b) whether export of pepper has reduced significantly in the last few years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any steps have been taken to boost the production and export of the same;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) The details of production and export of pepper during the last three years and during April-June 2010 are given as under:

Year	Estimated	Exports	
	Production	Quantity	Value
	(tons)	(MT)	(Rs. Crores)
2007-08	50000	35000	519.500
2008-09	50000	25250	413.735
2009-10	55000	19750	313.925
2010-11 (Apr-June)	-	4650	77.885

(b) & (c) : The export of pepper has declined to 19750 tons during 2009-10 from 35000 tons 2007-08. The predominance of senile and uneconomic plantations, low yielding pepper vines, the changed climatic conditions, incidence of quick wilt, the attack of mealy bugs, virus attack etc. are the reasons responsible for low production of pepper. The low cost economies such as Vietnam which produce over 100000 tons of pepper annually having negligible domestic consumption are affecting our exports.

(d) & (e) : Two schemes with Government assistance of Rs.120 crores for Idukki and Rs.53.28 crores for Wayanad and North East Region have recently been sanctioned to enhance pepper productivity and production in the country through replantation and rejuvenation of pepper. Spices Board is implementing export development/promotion programmes during the XI plan period for boosting the export of spices including pepper from the country.

(f): Does not arise.