

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:230

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011

CARDAMOM TRADE

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

- (a) the details regarding production and prices of cardamom during the last three years;
- (b) the details regarding import and export of cardamom during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether there has been a fall in price and export of cardamom and cartelisation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to have a support price for the cardamom produce or introduce any financial help for the cardamom producing farmers;
- (f) whether there has been reports of cartelisation in the export of cardamom; and
- (g) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government in this matter?

Answer

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

(a) The details are given below:

Year	Production (tons)	Annual Avg. price (Rs./Kg)	annual auction
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2008-09	11000	538.16	
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2009-10	10075	876.62	
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2010-11	10370	1043.21	
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(b) Statement showing import and export of cardamom during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise is enclosed as Annexure I & II.

(c) & (d) The annual average price has gone up from Rs.538.16 during 2008-09 to Rs. 1043.21 during 2010-11, however, from February, 2011 onwards a decline in prices has been noticed (Annexure- III). Guatemala is the largest producer and exporter of cardamom in the world. Higher production of cardamom in Guatemala has resulted in the recent price fall. Moreover, high arrival of cardamom in the domestic auction centers has also contributed to the fall in price. The export of cardamom has decreased from 1975 tons valued at Rs.165.70 crores during 2009-10 to 1175 tons valued at Rs.132.16 crores during 2010-11.

(e) There is no such proposal under consideration. For production and productivity improvement of cardamom (small & large), Government is implementing an exclusive scheme, namely, Special Purpose Fund for Replantation & Rejuvenation of Cardamom Plantations. Under another scheme for Export Oriented Production & Post Harvest Improvement of Spices, there are activity components facilitating improvement of production, productivity and quality of cardamom. These schemes are being implemented during XI Plan by the Spices Board.

(f)&(g) An e-auction system has been introduced for cardamom for the benefit of growers/exporters which is more transparent and is being run successfully. It is reported that there is no cartelization in the cardamom trade.