

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:799
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012
EXPORT OF PEPPER
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) the details of average price of Black Pepper in domestic and international markets during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise;
- (b) the total export and import of Black Pepper during the last one year, Country-wise;
- (c) the details of production of Black Pepper in the country during the last three years, year-wise and quantity-wise;
- (d) whether there has been a shortfall in the production of pepper during the last three years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to boost the production and export of pepper?

Answer

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

(a) The average domestic price of pepper at Kochi, which is the major market Centre and the International price at New York market for the last three years are given below:

Year	Domestic Price at Kochi (Rs/Kg)	International Price at New York (US\$/Kg)
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2008-09	129.30	3.48
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2009-10	136.42	3.13
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2010-11	197.05	4.76
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(b) Major Country wise export and import of pepper from/into India are given in the annexure.

(c) The year wise estimated production of pepper in the country for the last three years is given below.

Year	Production (Tons)
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2008-09	50000
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2009-10 50000

2010-11 48000

(d) The production of pepper in the country is almost stagnant for the last few years and is in the range of 50,000 tons per annum. The production during 2010-11 has declined marginally to 48,000 tons from 50,000 tons in the previous years.

(e) 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 for decline in production of pepper during last year.

(f) Two schemes with Government assistance of Rs.120 crores for Idukki and Rs.53.28 crores for Wayanad and North East Region have been sanctioned to enhance the pepper productivity and production in the country through replantation and rejuvenations 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.