

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4444  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013  
PRICE OF BLACK 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 each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise and country-wise;
- (b) whether there has been a fall in the price of black pepper in the domestic market during the last one year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the future trading of black pepper has adversely affected its price in the domestic market; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) : The details of average price of Black pepper in the domestic and international markets during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise are as follows;

Annual average domestic price of black pepper  
YEAR    PRICE (RS/KG)  
2009-10    136.42  
2010-11    197.05  
2011-12    318.77  
2012-13    398.18  
Source : IPSTA, Cochin

Annual average international FOB price of pepper in producing countries (PRICE: US\$/MT)

YEAR	INDIA	BRAZIL	INDONESIA	MALAYSIA	VIETNAM
2009-10	2885	NA	NA	3675	2517
2010-11	4419	4654	4170	4845	3879
2011-12	6609	6905	6845	7284	6503
2012-13					
(Apr-Feb)	7271	6549	6501	7438	6513

Source : IPC, Jakarta

(b)& (c) : No, Madam. As per the available data, there is no fall in the domestic price of pepper during the last three years and current year.

d) The Commodity Futures Market does not contribute to rise/fall in prices of commodities including black pepper in the country. The futures market merely discovers the likely prices of a given commodity at future points of time depending on the likely supply-demand scenario. Prices are bound to fluctuate depending on the additional information/data available or expectations of market participants relating to demand and supply factors. When such information is received price expectations change almost on a continuous basis. Hence, the futures market only facilitates price discovery and price risk management.

e) Does not arise.