

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4449
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
CARDAMOM TRADE
Thomas Shri P. T.

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

- (a) the details of the total cardamom produced, exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether there has been a fall in the prices of cardamom in the domestic market;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the impact of the fall in prices on the cardamom cultivators and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the interests of the cardamom cultivators;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to allow one year moratorium on loans taken by the cardamom cultivators and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the auction process for the purchase of cardamom has been discontinued by the Government and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken in this regard; and
- (f) whether there have been requests from the cardamom farmers and traders to allow free trade of cardamom and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) The details of production, exports and imports of cardamom during each of the last three years and the current year is given as under:

Spices	Year	Production		Export		Import	
		Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs.Crs.)	Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs.Crs.)	Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs.Crs.)
	2009-10	10,075	1,975	165.70	95	3.36	
CARDAMOM(SMALL)	2010-11	10,380	1,175	132.16	75	6.56	
	2011-12	15,000	4650	363.22	51	3.62	
	2012-13 (#)	12,420	1600	136.77	-	-	-

(Apr-Jan)

(b) & (c) : The domestic price of cardamom (small) for the last 6 years is as follows :

Year	Cardamom (small)
	(Aug- Jul)
	(Rs. kg)
2007-08	503.48
2008-09	538.16
2009-10	876.62
2010-11	968.22
2011-12	645.62
2012-13	(Aug - Mar) 751.28

With a view to protect the interests of cardamom growers, the Govt. of Kerala has reduced VAT on all cardamom purchased through e-auction from 5% to 2% and the Spices Board has taken up the matter with the Kerala Government to extend the benefit of reduced rate of 2% to all cardamom transactions in the State.

(d) to (f) : At present there is no such proposal.