

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3955  
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005  
PRODUCTION OF SPICES  
Nayak Shri Ananta;Oram Shri Jual

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

- (a) the details with regard to spices produced during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise and spice-wise;
- (b) whether there is a vast scope for increasing the production of spices in the country;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to give subsidy to the spice growers for promoting the export of spices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): The details of latest available data on production of major spices in various states for the last three years, is available in the publication of the Spices Board called `Spices Statistics`. A copy is available in the library of the Parliament.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Horticulture Mission (NHM) under which promotion of production of spices is undertaken. In order to meet the growing demand, several development programmes on spices, besides existing activities, have been included in the NHM, which, inter-alia, include production, multiplication and distribution of nucleus planting material of high yielding and export oriented varieties of spices specific to different agro climatic conditions. Spices Board has also been implementing a number of plan schemes for promoting cultivation of a number of spices.

(d) & (e): With a view to boost exports, Government of India has recently announced a scheme for grant of a WTO-compatible subsidy on export of 20,000 metric tonnes of pepper from India at the rate of Rs. 5.00 per kg (or the actual cost incurred, whichever is less) for international freight and Rs. 2.00 per kg for internal transport, subject to certain conditions. This scheme is implemented as a one time measure and will end on 31 March 2006.