

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:265  
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005  
SPICES TRADE  
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

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

- (a) details of export and import of spices like cardamom and pepper in India for the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to give subsidy to the growers of pepper and cardamom in the country;
- (c) if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan or has taken any steps to modernise the industry by introducing new technology;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NUMBER 265 FOR ANSWER ON 22.3.2005 REGARDING SPICES TRADE.

(a): The estimated export and import of cardamom and pepper for the last three years is given below:-

Cardamom

Quantity in tonnes  
Value in Rupees crores

Year    Export        Import

Quantity Value    Quantity Value

2001-02	1,031	61.68	321	8.26
2002-03	682	47.07	323	8.58
2003-04	690	33.01	60	1.37

Source: Spices Board

Pepper

Quantity in tonnes  
Value in Rupees crores

Year Export Import

Quantity Value Quantity Value

2001-02	22,877	203.69	6,328	56.36
2002-03	21,609	178.88	15,392	123.37
2003-04	16,700	143.51	14,334	99.23

Source: Spices Board

(b) & (c): The Government of India has received a proposal from the Government of Kerala for extending exports subsidy of Rs. 15 crores at the rate of Rs. 10/- per k.g. for the 15,000 metric tonne of pepper to be exported by the procurement agency of the Government of Kerala. Recently, Government of Kerala has also requested for a WTO compatible subsidy of Rs. 10 crores.

(d) & (e): The Government, through the Spices Board, encourages introduction of modern technology in the process of value addition as well as in meeting international food safety standards. In this regard, financial assistance is extended to the exporters of adoption of processes like Super Critical Extraction, Steam Sterilization, Cryogrinding.

(f): Does not arise.