

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 577**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023**

**CARDAMOM BOARD**

**577. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government will interfere immediately to arrest the drop in prices of Cardamom;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including steps taken in the last ten years to stop drop in prices;
- (c) whether the Government will institute a new Cardamom Board after separating it from the Spices Board and accord it with necessary resources to function;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes setting up of a National Cardamom Board along the lines of National Turmeric Board;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether the Government will ensure minimum support price for Cardamom; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) The weighted average auction prices of cardamom(small) for the last two crop seasons and the current crop season are given below:

Crop Season (Aug-July)	Weighted average auction price of cardamom(small) (Rs/kg)
2021-22	934.94
2022-23	1088.51
2023-24(Aug-Oct)*	1828.52

Source: Spices Board (\* Provisional)

The prices of cardamom (small) have shown an increasing trend from 2021-22 onwards.

**(b)** The price of Cardamom is determined in the open market based on supply and demand. However, Spices Board has taken the following steps to improve price realization for Cardamom growers:

- i. Spices Board supports the growers through development programmes including quality planting material production, replanting, irrigation development, improved cardamom curing devices, quality improvement and capacity building programmes.
- ii. Spices Board has introduced cloud based e-auction for cardamom by linking two e-auction centres i.e. Puttady in Idukki District of Kerala and Bodinayaknur in Tamil Nadu.
- iii. Spices Board regularly conducts Buyer Seller Meets and Market Linkage programmes to encourage the cardamom farmers/ farmers groups / FPOs to establish direct market linkage with exporters, processors and Institutional buyers.
- iv. The Board supports the exporters under Board's export promotion schemes viz. Participation in International Trade fairs, brand promotion, etc. for enhancing the exports leading to increase in domestic price of cardamom.
- v. Minimum Import Price for Cardamom at Rs.500/- per kg was issued vide notification No 109/2009-2014 to reduce the possible import of low quality cardamom from other origins aimed at strengthening the demand for domestic produce.
- vi. The Board facilitates the growers and their producer societies in getting Authorized User (AU) certificate for GI tagged cardamoms viz. Alleppey Green Cardamom and Coorg Green Cardamom. The AU Certificate helps the growers and their societies to get better price for the GI tagged cardamom.
- vii. The Board has introduced Special Auction for Lab tested cardamom from October 2022 onwards to facilitate a separate marketing channel for cardamom tested in lab for pesticides and artificial colours. The special e-auction facilitates sourcing of good quality cardamom for export markets and thereby helps the growers in better price realization.
- viii. The Board facilitates the growers and their producer societies in showcasing their products in the major national exhibitions through participation in Board's stall.
- ix. A weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme for Small Cardamom in Idukki district of Kerala was launched as a pilot project to protect Small Cardamom growers against the adverse weather incidences.

**(c) to (f)** Presently, no such proposal is under consideration. Spices Board was constituted under the Spices Board Act, 1986, by merging the erstwhile Cardamom Board & Spices Export Promotion Council. The mandate for Spices Board includes research, production, development, domestic marketing, consumption and export promotion of Cardamom (Small & Large) along with export promotion of 51 other spices.

**(g) & (h)** The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare recommends Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the notified commodities. These commodities are mostly items of mass consumption of all India nature with fairly long shelf life and/or necessary for food/nutrition security. At present, cardamom is not covered under the notified commodities coming under the purview of CACP.

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