

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3988**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2017**

**DECLINE IN COFFEE PRODUCTION**

**3988. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:**

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

- (a) whether the coffee board has predicted an 8 per cent decline in coffee production for the 2016-17 season, due to erratic/ deficit rains in western ghat states and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the emergence of pests such as the white stem borer (wsb) is hurting coffee production and has been a major cause of concern for growers in india;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the government in this regard;
- (d) the estimated output of robusta and arabica variety of coffee for 2016-17 and whether crop size is likely to shrink as compared to 2015-16 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the government expects dip in coffee exports with the lower output in 2016-17 and if so, details thereof and the quantum of coffee exported during the last three years ?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Yes, Madam. The Coffee Board predicted a decline of about 9% in coffee production for the 2016-17 season in comparison with the previous year i.e., 2015-16. This decline is primarily attributed to erratic rains during February and March in Western Ghats.
- (b) & (c) Yes, Madam. White Stem Borer is one of the major pests affecting Arabica coffee in India. The changing climatic conditions especially erratic rainfall and high temperature have aggravated the problem.

The Coffee Board has developed an integrated pest management package and has intensified research efforts through multi-institutional collaborative projects with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) etc. A special action plan was implemented for 2 years (2014-16) for rehabilitation of stem borer affected holdings by providing support for various components like group nurseries for raising seedlings, gap filling, consolidation, and replantation.

A National Level Steering Committee for White Stem Borer has identified priority areas for research, sanctioned short term and medium term collaborative R&D projects and is monitoring these projects periodically.

- (d) The estimated output of Robusta and Arabica variety of coffee for 2016-17 and 2015-2016 and decline is detailed as under:

	Arabica (Production in MT)	Robusta (Production in MT)	Total
2015-16	1,03,500	2,44,500	3,48,000 MT
2016-17 (Post monsoon crop forecast)	96,200	2,20,500	3,16,700 MT
Decline in MT	7,300	24,000	31,300 MT
Decline in %	7%	10%	9%

- (e) Coffee exports in a particular year are generally contributed by the current year coffee production as well as the stock of previous year. Accordingly, the likely dip in production during 2016-17 may effect export during next year. Due to bumper crop in 2015-16, the coffee exports have increased during the current year 2016-17 when compared to last three years. The quantum and value of coffee exported during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Quantum** (Tonne)	Value (Rs.Crore)
2013-14	2,99,561	4,648.76
2014-15	2,72,224	4,805.77
2015-16*	3,18,059	5,175.91
2016-17* (01.04.2016 to 15.03.2017 )	3,40,259	5,366.19

\* Based on permits issued; \*\* including re-exports to the tune of 21%

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