

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2987**  
**ANSWERED ON 10/03/2026**

PEPPER PRODUCTION IN KODAGU

2987. SHRI YADUVEER WADIYAR:

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

- (a) whether the Spices Board of India has conducted any assessment of the decline in pepper production in Kodagu district of Karnataka during the year 2025-26 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the extent to which this shortfall in domestic production has affected/will affect India's pepper export volumes, export targets and international market share during the said period;
- (c) the details of Export Development and Promotion schemes being implemented to support small and marginal pepper growers in Kodagu, particularly for upgrading post-harvest processing, quality improvement and value addition infrastructure; and
- (d) whether the Government has examined the need to revise the Minimum Import Price (MIP) for pepper to safeguard domestic growers from the influx of cheaper or sub-standard imports during periods of domestic crop stress and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b) The mandate for production, development, research and domestic marketing of spices other than cardamom is vested with Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare. Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare has informed that it has conducted a quick pre-harvest survey in Kodagu district which indicates that black pepper production in Kodagu may increase by about 16% in 2025-26 compared to 2024-25.

Further, the export of pepper and pepper products from India during the period FY 2025-26 (Apr-Dec) stood at USD 101.45 Mn as against an export of USD 88.43 Mn in the corresponding period of FY 2024-25 growing by 14.72 percent.

(c) Spices Board under the "Sustainability in Spice Sector through Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative Interventions for Export Development (SPICED)" scheme provides assistance to the growers of spices, including pepper growers of Kodagu district

of Karnataka, for post-harvest improvement by providing pepper thresher, graders / cleaners etc, conducting capacity building programmes and undertaking market linkage initiatives organizes Buyer Seller Meets. The Board has established two offices in Kodagu district of Karnataka to coordinate the implementation of its programs.

(d) Proposals for imposition/revisions in Minimum Import Price (MIP) are taken up by the Government from time to time. Presently, the import policy for pepper is 'Prohibited', with a provision permitting import only if the Cost Insurance & Freight (CIF) value is Rs. 500 per kg or above. The said MIP of Rs. 500/kg continues to remain in force and is not applicable to imports under Advance Authorization Scheme for export production, imports by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU) and units in Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and imports for extraction of oleoresin for re-export by manufacturer-exporters, subject to applicable policy conditions

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