

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1152
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

SCHEMES TO HELP TRADITIONAL COFFEE/TEA GROWERS AND FARMERS

1152. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

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

- (a) whether Government intends to bring any scheme to help the traditional coffee/tea growers and farmers to create additional revenue streams to make the growing process more sustainable and profitable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of financial and technical assistance proposed to be extended to coffee growers for inter-cropping of pepper and cardamom, besides options such as planting exotic fruit bearing trees, dairy farming, beekeeping, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details of States and districts where the focus is being paid and the amount spent so far?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Government has taken various initiatives through the individual Commodity Boards to extend support by way of providing financial and technical assistance for various developmental activities viz. Replantation, expansion, water augmentation, quality upgradation, formation of Farmer Producer Organization etc. to help the traditional growers towards sustainable coffee cultivation.

Coffee is grown as a silvi-horticulture crop in the eco sensitive Western and Eastern ghats under two tier shade canopy such as top canopy of permanent tree cover and lower canopy of fast-growing temporary shade trees. This condition provides suitable micro climate that exist in natural habitats of coffee (Ethiopian tropical rain forest). This unique way of traditional coffee cultivation provides additional advantage of growing intercrops / associate crops like pepper and cardamom in Coffee plantation.

In case of tea, the functioning of the tea gardens is mostly on leased land allotted by the respective State Government only for the purpose of tea and its allied activities.

(c) & (d): The details of states and districts where provision of financial and technical assistance has been made in the current financial year 2021-22, for the growers in the areas, where pepper and cardamom are grown as inter crops in coffee plantations is at Annexure.

Further, the Government through Spices Board has established 5 numbers of departmental nurseries in Karnataka (Belagola, Bettidamane, Yeslur, Aigoor & Beligeri) and 9 development officers to provide assistance to various stakeholders for production of small cardamom and post-harvest improvement of spices, including black pepper. The departmental nurseries, in addition to its primary mandate for production of small cardamom seedlings, are producing and distributing Black pepper rooted cuttings and black pepper nucleus planting materials to spice farmers, stake holders and coffee growers directly and also through the Coffee Board. Details of Black pepper rooted cuttings distributed from departmental nurseries in Karnataka since 2017-18 are given below:

Year	Pepper rooted cuttings supplied directly to growers	Pepper nucleus plants supplied directly to growers	Pepper rooted cuttings supplied through Coffee Board
	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.
2017-18	122473	19070	-
2018-19	174676	25779	-
2019-20	61295	6196	58200
2020-21	77803	5259	63800
2021-22*	78933	10302	74246
Total	515180	66606	196246

*The supply of planting materials to growers, Coffee Board and Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu during 2021-22 is continuing.

Annexure

State	District	Name of intercrop	Scheme/Program	Provision of financial assistance made in FY 2021-22 (Lakhs)
Karnataka	Kodagu	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-1 st installment	3.75
Karnataka	Hassan	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-1 st installment	1.15
Karnataka	Chikkamagaluru	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-1 st installment	1.50
Karnataka	Kodagu	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-2 nd installment	11.05
Karnataka	Hassan	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-2 nd installment	9.42
Karnataka	Chikkamagaluru	cardamom	Cardamom Replanting Scheme-2 nd installment	5.19
			Sub Total (A)	32.06
Karnataka	Kodagu	Pepper	Pepper thresher	11.78
Karnataka	Hassan	Pepper	Pepper thresher	4.75
Karnataka	Chikkamagaluru	Pepper	Pepper thresher	2.85
Kerala	Kalpetta	Pepper	Pepper thresher	0.63
			Sub Total(B)	20.01
Karnataka	Kodagu	Pepper	Cleaning machine	0.88
			Sub Total(C)	0.88
Andra Pradesh	Vishakapattanam	Pepper	Pepper thresher	15.9
			Sub Total(D)	15.9
			TOTAL (A+B+C+D)	68.85
