

# INDIAN SPICE NEWS

A Spices Board India Publication

## Hon'ble Additional Secretary's Visit and Interaction at Spices Board, Kochi

Shri Amardeep S. Bhatia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India visited Spices Board Headquarters in Kochi on 19 April 2023. Shri D. Sathiyam IFS, Secretary and Directors of Spices Board, welcomed the Additional Secretary to Spices Board.

Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research & Finance), Spices Board India presented the welcome address during the interactive session. She also gave a brief overview of Spices Board, its inception and activities.

A video on Spices Board's journey so far was presented along with a video titled "G20 – The Spice Connect" which detailed India's spice trade with G20 member countries and the EU.

Shri Nithin Joe, Deputy Director (Planning & Coordination), Spices Board India made a presentation on the activities and functions of Spices Board.

Smt. Antara Roy from YES Bank made a presentation on 'Trade analysis of India's position in global spice trade.' Dr Joji Mathew, Director (Development), Spices Board India, presented the vote of thanks.

Apart from the officials of Spices Board Head Office at Kochi, Shri Pradeep Shrivastava, Smt. Shikha Bhatt and Smt. Titiksha Kanti from YES Bank also attended the session. The Additional Secretary also visited the spice processing units of M/s. Arjuna Natural Pvt. Ltd and M/s. AVT McCormick Ingredients Pvt. Ltd.



Shri Amardeep S. Bhatia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, evaluating the products of Flavourit Spice Trading Ltd. (FSTL), an enterprises of Spices Board.



Shri Amardeep S. Bhatia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India with the officials of Spices Board during the interactive session

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# Buyer Seller and Spices Park Investors Meet Organized

A Buyer Seller Meet was organized on 20 April 2023 at Spices Park, Mawan, Guna, Madhya Pradesh, which was attended by 250 participants including 80 exporters and traders, 100 farmers and 12 FPO representatives from different states like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri B. N. Jha, Director (Marketing), Spices Board. Shri Sandeep Kumar Chaurasia, Assistant Director, Spices Board explained the activities of the Board and Shri Vinay Singh, FAO representative detailed the objectives of the project 'Strengthening the spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' implemented by Spices Board in collaboration with Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) under World Trade Organisation (WTO) and Food and

Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), India. Shri B. A. Gudade, Scientist-C and Officer-in-charge, Spices Board, Guna welcomed the participants.

Officials from the Horticulture Department, Agriculture Department, Industry Department, Cooperative Department, FIEO, ECGC, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Agricultural University provided information on the activities of their respective departments and export promotion and advanced agricultural practices.

The programme concluded with the summing up and address by Shri Goutham Sethiya, Assistant, Spices Board. Shri B. N. Jha, Director (Marketing), Spices Board and Shri Vinay Singh, FAO representative also visited the STDF project village in Gulwada and interacted with farmers.



Dignitaries during the buyer-seller meet





## Director's Message

### IPM Seva Kendra: A Synergistic Approach for Promoting GAP through Integrated Pest Management

Indiscriminate and injudicious use of chemical pesticides in agriculture has resulted in several associated adverse effects such as environmental pollution, ecological imbalances, pesticide residues in food, fruits and vegetables, fodder, soil and water, pest resurgence, human and animal health hazards, destruction of bio-control agents, development of resistance in pests, etc. Therefore, Govt. of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection in the overall Crop Production Programme since 1985. IPM is an eco-friendly approach which aims at keeping pest population below economic threshold levels by employing all available alternate pest control methods and techniques such as cultural, mechanical, and biological with emphasis on use of bio-pesticides and pesticides of plant-origin. The use of chemical pesticides is also advised as a measure of last resort when pest population in the crop crosses economic threshold levels (ETL). IPM helps in maximizing crop protection with minimum input costs, minimizing pollution in soil, water and air reducing occupational health hazards, conserving ecological equilibrium, and reducing pesticide residue loads in food.

Though Integrated Pest Management has been accepted by agriculture extension workers, farmers and researchers as an important component in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and proved its worth role in management of pests, the availability of IPM inputs like bio-control agents, light traps, rodent traps, pheromone traps, sticky traps, Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus (NPV), bird percher, seed treatment drums, Neem/Melia seed kernel extract, cow dung ash, etc., are the major constraints in implementation of IPM programme in farms. The main reason for this is the non-availability of local entrepreneurs for the production of these IPM inputs. To ensure the availability of above IPM inputs for spices, entrepreneurship development is needed among the farmers who can produce and sell or distribute these IPM inputs to the farmers of their vicinity.

#### Collaboration for Synergy

Among various central/state agencies promoting IPM, Spices Board is the one promoting IPM practices for spices. Instead of standalone initiatives, collaborative efforts are needed for creating synergy in this area. While working on a collaborative plan to promote the awareness and skill development in bringing up the IPM inputs, it came to the light that Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC) Ernakulam under the MoA & FW Gol is having a programme viz. "IPM Seva Kendra". So, Spices Board shouldered the responsibility of joining hands with Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC) Ernakulam and KADS PCL, Thodupuzha, which is a model FPC having more than 3000 farmers under its fold taking up cultivation of cardamom, pepper, ginger, etc. KADS PCL has been promoting organic farming, use of IPM inputs and similar activities to set up an IPM Seva Kendra for spices. This Kendra is envisaged to promote the awareness and skill



**Dr Joji Mathew**  
Director (Development i/c.)  
Spices Board

development in bringing the IPM inputs available to the farmers in their vicinity.

#### Inauguration of IPM Seva Kendra

The IPM Seva Kendra has been inaugurated by Shri D. Sathiyam IFS, Secretary, Spices Board on 23rd May 2023. In his address, he urged all the farmers to take maximum benefit available through the Seva Kendra. He also advised KADS PCL to put earnest efforts to popularise use of IPM in spice production to offer clean and safe spices to the export market. The inaugural function was followed by a training and demonstration on use of IPM inputs in spices by the technical experts of CIPMC. Farmers visited the IPM Seva Kendra and appreciated the timely efforts being put forth by Spices Board and bringing various agencies together for serving the spice farming community.

#### Location and available facilities in "IPM Seva Kendra"

Location: KADS Village Square, Thodupuzha, Idukki Dist. Kerala

Facilities for Spice Farmers: Training for the farmers in production technology of IPM inputs and making available IPM inputs from authentic sources as and when required by spice farmers. To develop skill of spice farmers for production of IPM inputs, the production methodology for some of the IPM inputs are simplified and described herein in the IPM Seva Kendra through display panels, booklets, pamphlets, etc. for benefit of the farmers. Samples of the inputs from various organisations such as ICAR-IISR, Kozhikode; ICRI, Spices Board; KVK Santhanpara; KAU, Pampadumpara, CIPMC, Ernakulam are exhibited in the display shelves in the centre for the experience of farmers. Entrepreneurship development for production of IPM inputs in villages will also be taken up through the centre.

KADS PCL will make available various IPM inputs from authentic sources like ICAR- IISR, KAU, ICRI, KVKs, etc., and Spices Board will be monitoring the functioning of this centre with the technical help of CIPMC and operational support by KADS PCL. This collaborative effort of Spices Board, CIPMC, Ernakulam and KADS PCL, Thodupuzha is expected to provide a one-stop solution for Spice Farmers in IPM input procurement.

Moreover, the collaborative training centre established under the joint auspices of Spices Board and KADS PCL which has already been functional for the last one year at Village Square, Thodupuzha is acting as a platform for propelling the trainings and skill development programmes of Spices Board, which also will add momentum to the activities of the "IPM Seva Kendra". All the farmers and other stakeholders are requested to make the most of the IPM Seva Kendra at KADS PCL, Thodupuzha.

## Mobile Spice Clinic Programme

A mobile spice clinic programme was conducted at Lower Palani Hills, Kodaikanal taluk, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu by Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Myladumpara, Idukki on 06 April 2023. The team consisted of Dr K. Dhanapal, Scientist-C (HOD of Crop Protection and Transfer of Technology), Dr Ansar Ali, Scientist-C and Dr S. Mohan, Farm Manager. They visited around eight cardamom plantations and collected samples affected by various insect pests and diseases in KC Patty, Kuppamalpatti, Nadupatty, Aadalur, Peraiyur, Pallathukalvai and Nallur Kadu. Around 38 soil samples were collected for analysis of micro and macronutrients for the judicious application of fertilizers and for the isolation of biocontrol agents. After the field visit, an interaction between scientists and farmers was conducted in Pachalur. Dr K. Dhanapal and Dr Ansar Ali, Scientists, ICRI interacted with the farmers and clarified their doubts about improved cultivation practices in Small Cardamom and black pepper. Dr S. Mohan, Farm Manager explained about various schemes of Spices Board to the farmers. The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks of Shri Dhamodhar Raja, a progressive planter from Pachalur.



A view of the field visit



Participants attending the spice clinic programme at Lower Palani Hills

ICRI, Myladumpara, Idukki organised another mobile spice clinic programme at Puttady on 29 March 2023. Scientists from ICRI, Dr K. A. Saju, Dr Manoj Oommen and Dr P. Thiyagarajan along with an official from the Development Department were the resource persons. During the field visit, the team addressed the diseases affecting cardamom reported by farmers and gave instructions for the management of such diseases. Diseased specimens were collected for laboratory studies. A total of seven farmers were benefited by this programme.



A view of the field visit at Puttady

Another spice clinic programme was organised by ICRI, Myladumpara, Idukki at Cumbummettu, Idukki, Kerala on 20 April 2023. The team consisted of Dr Shadanaika, Scientist-C (Plant Pathology), Dr Manoj Oommen, Scientist-C (Agronomy and Soil Science) and Dr P. Thiyagarajan, Scientist-C (Entomology) and they visited around six cardamom plantations. They discussed about the diseases occurring in summer seasons and identified Fusarium, Chenthal and Anthracnose diseased plants. Integrated pest and disease management and judicious application of fertilizers were explained to the farmers.



A view of the field visit organised as part of the spice clinic programme at Cumbummettu



## Activities Under Sugandhashree Project



Students in Assam planting pepper rooted cuttings at Model Spices Garden under Sugandhashree project.

## Spices Board Signed Agreement with Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited

Spices Board and Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited signed an agreement on 15 April 2023 regarding the establishment of a new General Support System (GSS) in Spices Park, Kota, Rajasthan. This will help in establishing industries in Spices Park and provide relief from electric cuts, tripping, voltage fluctuation etc., in Spices Park, Kota.



Officials of Spices Board and Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited after signing the agreement



## Exposure Visit of Probationary Officers of Indian Trade Services

Spices Board facilitated a one-day visit of Probationary Officers of Indian Trade Services on 18 April 2023 for a fruitful exposure and learning experience at Spices Board Head Office, Kochi.



Shri B. N. Jha, Director (Marketing), Spices Board interacting with the officials of Indian Trade Services

## Master Training Programme

Spices Board Divisional Office, Agartala, Tripura in association with the Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Government of Tripura organised a Master Training Programme on Black Pepper under 'Integrated project on production and post-harvest management of black pepper for Tripura' on 20 April 2023 at Horticulture Research Complex, Nagicherra.

Shri Ratan Lal Nath, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of Tripura inaugurated the programme. Shri Apurba Roy IAS, Secretary, Agriculture; Shri Sardindu Das, Director, Agriculture; Dr P. B. Jamatia, Director, Horticulture; Dr T. K. Maity, Principal, College of Agriculture, Tripura; Dr Biswajit Das, Joint Director, ICAR, Tripura and Dr D. M. Barman, Deputy Director, Spices Board attended the inaugural session along with various other invitees.

Around 100 participants including farmers and officials attended the training. The Hon'ble Minister also distributed planting materials of black pepper, ginger and turmeric to the farmers.



Dignitaries during the Master Training Programme on Black Pepper



## Mixing of Guatemalan Cardamom with Indian Cardamom and pooling in auctions

It has come to the notice of the Board that Guatemalan Cardamom is mixed with the Indian Cardamom and pooled in auctions. Licensed auctioneers are hereby directed to take necessary actions to prevent the pooling of Guatemalan Cardamom mixed lots in the auctions.

Any violations in this regard shall be dealt seriously.

For more details visit:

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/archive.html>

### Public Notice

It has come to the notice of the Board that fake / manipulated version of Spices Board e- auction schedule Circular No.MKT/AUC/SCHEDULE/01/2018 dated 10.04.2023 issued by Director (Marketing), Spices Board, Kochi-25 has appeared and circulated among the stakeholders through social media. It is hereby clarified that the said circular has not been issued by the Board and stakeholders are alerted against such fraudulent / fake information circulated in social media.

It is further clarified that the circular for e-auction schedule for conduct of auction are regularly published in the Official website of Spices Board ([www.indianspices.com](http://www.indianspices.com)) and the stakeholders are advised to check the Board's website or the Board's offices at Puttady or Bodinayakanur or the concerned licensed auctioneers for authentic e-auction schedule.

For the official notification click:

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/archive.html>





## Know Your GI Spice **Khola Chilli**

Khola Chilli is a famous variety of chilli grown on the hill slopes of Canacona taluka located in the South district of Goa. Named after the Khola village, Khola Chilli is known for its taste and colour. The Khola Chillies are attractive red (brilliant red) in colour and lengthy. It is medium pungent in taste. The outer covering is thick, hence having less chance of breakage and longer shelf-life. The chilli powder gives attractive red colour when added to various food preparations and recipes. Khola Chillies contain a good amount of minerals like Potassium (14080.00 mg/kg), Manganese (705.28 mg/kg), Iron (217.95 mg/kg), and Magnesium (705.28 mg/kg). Potassium is an important component of cell and body fluids that helps control heart rate and blood pressure. This good quantity of mineral content in Khola Chilli is attributed to the soil of the Khola village which is rich in minerals such as Iron, Manganese and Copper with pH of 5.5 to 6.5.



## CIRCULARS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Schedule for conducting Special e-auction for Cardamom (Small)

[http://www.indianspices.com/indianspices/sites/default/files/Schedule%20for%20conducting%20Special%20e-auction%20for%20Cardamom\(Small\)\\_10.pdf](http://www.indianspices.com/indianspices/sites/default/files/Schedule%20for%20conducting%20Special%20e-auction%20for%20Cardamom(Small)_10.pdf)

Schedule for conducting e-auctions at E-auction centre at Puttady & Bodinayakanur from 19.05.2023 to 15.06.2023

<http://www.indianspices.com/indianspices/sites/default/files/Schedule%20for%20conducting%20e-auctions%20at%20E-auction%20centre%20at%20Puttady%20&%20Bodinayakanur%20from%2019.05.2023%20to%2015.06.2023.pdf>

Circular 02- Date of Implementation of online payment gateway in ESS – reg

<http://www.indianspices.com/indianspices/sites/default/files/Circular%2002%20extension%20of%20date0001.pdf>



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The newsletter can be accessed from the websites of the Board

<http://www.indianspices.com> / [www.spicexchangeindia.com](http://www.spicexchangeindia.com)

Your valuable comments/ feedback may be sent to

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