

INDIAN SPICE NEWS

A Spices Board India Publication

Buyer Seller Meet for Black Pepper in Araku Valley, ASR District, Andhra Pradesh

Spices Board organised a Buyer Seller Meet for Black Pepper on 29 November 2022 in Araku Valley, ASR district, Andhra Pradesh under the project 'Strengthening spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' implemented by the Board in collaboration with Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) under World Trade Organisation (WTO) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The buyer seller meet aimed at creating a platform for better market access to the farmers by linking farmers/FPOs with buyers/exporters. More than 285 participants including farmers, FPOs, traders and exporters from various parts of the country attended the programme. Representatives from local bodies, officials from FAOIN, NDC, IDH, Spices Board, line departments and others also attended the programme.

Smt. Jallipalli Subhadra, Hon'ble Chairperson, Zilla Parishad attended the programme and in her address she explained the life of tribal farmers, their livelihood, climatic and geographical conditions of the area, cultivation methods of crops which are grown in tribal areas especially, coffee, pepper, turmeric, ginger, tamarind, and long pepper. She opined, "Even though tribal farmers are growing most of the crops naturally, they are not getting better marketing facilities and better price for their produce". She requested Spices Board to conduct more such buyer seller meets which are very helpful to the farmers.

Shri Chetti Palguna, Hon'ble MLA, Araku Constituency in his address mentioned the post-harvest improvement support extended by Spices Board to the farmers through supply of equipment such as pepper threshers, tarpaulin/ silpaulin sheets, and aluminium ladders. He also requested Spices Board for organic certification of pepper and turmeric crops and expansion of the Board's services for the development of tribal farmers.

Shri Sathaka Bulli Babu, Hon'ble Chairman, TRICOR, Andhra Pradesh appreciated the efforts taken by Spices Board for conducting the buyer seller meet for black pepper in Araku Valley and he requested the Board to provide training to the farmers on post-harvest machinery manufacturing, so that the local farmers make the machinery locally to process their produce. He highlighted the need for organic certification for the naturally grown produces in the region. He also assured necessary support to the exporters for establishment of Piperin and Curcumin extraction units in ASR district.

Smt. Susmitha Rani, Sarpanch, Padmapuram Panchayat, Araku Valley appreciated Spices Board for conducting the buyer seller meet and informed that farmers in Araku valley are growing pepper and coffee naturally without adding any chemicals. She said that, buyers could purchase directly from farmers to get better price for their produce. She also requested all the farmers to utilize the opportunity to get better market access.



Shri Sumit Kumar IAS, Collector and District Magistrate addressing the gathering

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Shri Sumit Kumar IAS, Collector and District Magistrate in his address, informed that the farmers are not aware of the quality of their produce, so buyers/exporters should give necessary support to the farmers to get better quality and good quantity of their produce. "Buyers should purchase not only the best quality produce but also other leftover produce from the farmers", he added. He also told the farmers to check the quality of pepper being produced before selling it for getting better price.

Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development), Spices Board explained about the STDF project which is being implemented by the Board with the support of FAO and WTO. He said that the BSM is one of the parts under this project.

Shri Vinay Singh, Project Manager, FAO in his speech said that though India is the largest producer of spices, the export of spices



A glimpse of the buyer seller meet

from India is subjected to rejection by countries which are sensitive to quality issues and the project is being piloted in Araku Valley and Paderu to build the capacity of farmers and other stakeholders across the value chain to improve the quality of spices. He also informed that there is a need for connecting farmers with exporters/buyers, so that farmers can utilize the benefit of better price realization. He also appreciated the dedication with which Spices Board, Paderu is implementing the project.

Dr Joji Mathew, Deputy Director (Development), Spices Board while welcoming the participants explained the role of Spices

Board in export development of spices in India. He also informed that Spices Board is implementing the project 'Strengthening spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' in Araku Valley and Paderu areas with an aim to ensure export of safe and high-quality spices from India to overseas markets and also to address sanitary and phytosanitary issues which are faced in field level.

"Spice Board is conducting a BSM for black pepper in Araku Valley due to the uniqueness of black pepper which is grown naturally by the farmers of Araku Valley. And this programme is being conducted to create a platform for better market access and linking farmers/FPOs directly to the buyers/exporters", Dr Joji Mathew added. He further informed that Spices Board has collaborated with the Quality Council of India (QCI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), etc. for implementing schemes especially, for the development of tribal farmers.

The introductory session was followed by a technical session and Smt. Kalyani Boddu, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board, Paderu welcomed all the participants to the technical session. During the interactive session, farmers/FPO representatives informed the availability of various spices whereas the exporters/buyers informed their requirement for pepper and other spices. All farmers/FPOs requested to purchase the produce directly from them by avoiding middlemen and also requested training from the buyers regarding the quality they require.

Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development), Spices Board interacted with exporters/buyers and assured that Spices Board will support for Organic Certification. Dr Joji Mathew, Deputy Director (Development), Spices Board requested the exporters and buyers to procure the produce directly from the farmers, then only the BSM will serve its purpose and farmers will get the benefit out of this programme.

After the interactive session, farmers, FPOs and buyers/exporters appreciated the service of Spices Board in Paderu and Araku in addressing the quality issues and requested for the expansion of Spices Board's services in Paderu tribal agency areas. The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks by Shri Nithin Joe, Deputy Director, Spices Board. As part of the BSM, a visit to farmers' fields at Doravalasa and Tudumu hamlets of Chinalabudu village was organised on 30 November 2022.



Visit to farmers' field





Director's Message

Export Oriented Production Programmes and International Collaborative Projects of Spices Board for Spices Development and Export



B. Venkateson
Director (Dev) I/C
Spices Board

Agriculture is an essential component for the livelihood and food security of rural households in India. Over 60 per cent of India's population is directly or indirectly involved in farming operations. Most farmers operate small-scale farms. The Government of India is making continuous efforts to improve the living standards of the farming community through many of its organizations including Spices Board and other line departments, agencies, etc. Given India's varied agro-climatic zones, agriculture has a great potential to boost development in rural areas, expand exports and reduce poverty. However, much more needs to be done to scale up the standards of practices in farming, production and post-harvest to meet the stringent food safety standards and expand market access.

In this context, Spices Board, with its limited mandate of post-harvest improvement and export promotion of 52 spices and production and research of Small and Large Cardamom, is implementing various schemes under its Export-Oriented Production Programmes to support the spices farmers across India.

Export-oriented Production Programmes for Spices

Spices Board implements 21 programmes for the post-harvest improvement, keeping in mind the phytosanitary requirements for spices like turmeric, ginger, black pepper, chilli, nutmeg, clove and seed spices viz., cumin, fennel, coriander, etc., and production, processing and quality improvements of Small and Large Cardamom. Spices Board has implemented

programmes with a financial assistance of Rs 23.5 crores towards the above objective which benefited 35,503 farmers across India during 2021-22.

The important programmes implemented include distribution of spices processing machinery like threshers, washers, driers, turmeric boilers and polishers; HDPE sheets; organic certification and organic cultivation programmes for various spices and assistance for replanting, quality seedling multiplication, irrigation and land development programmes for Small and Large Cardamom at a financial assistance of 50 per cent for General category and 75 per cent for SC/ST farmers respectively.

A special programme of Quality Gap Bridging Group (QGBG) for FPOs and farmers' groups with components like post-harvest processing machinery and demonstration plots was also implemented with 90 per cent financial assistance. All these programmes are aimed at sustainable production of quality spices that enables exporters to source quality spices for export. Quality Improvement Training Programmes (QITP) were conducted across the nation for various spices by incurring Rs 17.2 lakhs and trained 8695 spice farmers during 2021-22. All the above programmes together benefited 6265 SC/ST farmers with a financial assistance of 8.63 crores out of the total Rs 23.5 crores.

Spices Board is also involved in several Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) related activities in spices. The Board has organised capacity building training programmes in collaboration with various national and international bodies and made interventions to improve the existing farming practices with Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), better processing, and marketing of spices. These measures are taken up with the aim to produce IPM quality spices with SPS measures to

facilitate export of spices in the long run. The international collaborative projects/associations undertaken are as follows:

1. The pilot project: “Strengthening spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions”.

This is an international collaborative pilot project started in 2020 with the Standards and Trade Development Facility, Geneva; Food and Agriculture Organization-India and Spices Board as the local implementation agency. The STDF pilot project is still under implementation by Spices Board and will be completed by 2023 with a total cost of Rs 7.3 crores with a split up of Rs 4.16 crores from STDF, Geneva, Switzerland, Rs 0.82 crore from FAO and Rs 2.32 crores from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India through Spices Board.

The overall objective of the project is to expand the export of safe and high-quality spices from India. This will also contribute to improved food safety and consumer health. This project is further expected to boost the income of small-scale farmers, empower women and marginalized (tribal) communities, and support efforts to reduce poverty (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1) and hunger (SDG 2) in the selected project areas in India. The project also aims to build the capacity of stakeholders in the spice value chain to improve the safety and quality of three seed spices (cumin, fennel and coriander) and black pepper to increase market access with the involvement of 1200 farmers in 12 villages. The project is mainly focused at four selected areas viz., Paderu in Andhra Pradesh, Mehsana district of Gujarat, Jodhpur district of Rajasthan and Guna district of Madhya Pradesh, to implement improved food safety management systems and international food safety standards (Codex) in order to expand production, improve food safety and quality, promote value addition and boost exports.

This project also involves collaboration with agriculture departments, agriculture universities, Spice Research Stations, as well as other government entities. Providing training and advisory services to farmers will ensure that the activities will continue even after the project period. The capacity building of field level extension officers and all stakeholders involved in

the spice supply chain will ensure that the farmers/stakeholders will continue to receive training and guidance on how to produce safe and quality spices even after the completion of the project. Training modules and Training of Trainers (TOT) programmes will ensure the continuity of training on SPS standards and quality and safety management after the end of the project. The task of trainers is made easier by making available the training materials, manuals and leaflets developed while implementing project for public access through the Board's website. Thus, the knowledge imparted will be continuously made available and disseminated. This project strengthens the infrastructure by providing support to build a network of labs for testing and linking the same to farmers which will function even after the completion of the project. It is being planned to associate the INDGAP certification programme to certify the growers' groups under the STDF project for traceability and production of quality spices suitable for exports and further linkage with prospective exporters for direct procurement.

2. National Sustainability Spice Programme (NSSP), is an international collaborative spice project implemented by the World Spice Organization with the collaborative partners viz., GIZ and IDH. Spices Board is also supporting NSSP programme as a collaborative partner in the technical side in capacity building and sustainability programmes for the spice stakeholders. The programme provides a platform for the stakeholders of the spice industry to make a commitment to source products sustainably and to make a positive impact in their value chains.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, Spices Board is also involved in mandatory quality testing of export consignments of spices through its network of NABL accredited Quality Evaluation Laboratories and by ensuring facilities for primary processing and value addition through the eight Spices Parks established across India, along with various other export development and promotional programmes aimed at achieving an ambitious export target of US\$ 10 billion by 2027. Spices Board is open to explore all possible avenues to achieve the said target by working jointly with the various associations of spice stakeholders in India.



Spices Board in Gulfood Manufacturing 2022

Spices Board India participated in the Gulfood Manufacturing 2022 organised and conducted at the World Trade Centre Dubai, United Arab Emirates during 08 – 10 November 2022. Gulfood Manufacturing is one of the largest food and beverage processing and packaging shows in the Middle East, Asia and Africa. Approximately, 1300 food and beverages manufacturers from over 55 countries participated in the expo to showcase the latest solutions in ingredients, processing, packaging, supply chain and control and automation. The expo also presented a three-day food tech summit with 100+ speakers from across the globe.

The Indian pavilion was inaugurated by Shri Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to UAE. Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development) and Smt. Vijeeshna V., Assistant Director, Spices Board represented the Board in the event and welcomed the Ambassador to the Board's pavilion. Dr Aman Puri, Consul General of India visited Spices Board's pavilion and interacted with the Board's officials as well as the exporters and appreciated the participation of Indian Spice Exporters in Spices Board pavilion.

First day of the event focussed on global food challenges in Africa and South Asia. Latest developments in food inflation and tackling rising energy costs and supply chain blockages were also discussed. It also explored the enhanced opportunities for combating food crisis in saturated markets like South Asia and why investment opportunities in Africa are the gateway to food security. The second day of the food summit focussed on sustainable practices, exploring how sustainability can be the catalyst for progress during an era of eroding food security. Visitors at Spices Board's stall enquired about quality Indian spices and spices that are produced in the country in any form.



Shri Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to UAE inaugurates the Indian pavilion at Gulfood Manufacturing 2022



Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development), Spices Board interacts with the visitors at Gulfood Manufacturing 2022

Spices Board in 41st India International Trade Fair

Spices Board participated in the 41st India International Trade Fair – an exhibition organised at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, during 14 – 27 November 2022. The 41st India International Trade Fair exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister, of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, Government of India. The exhibition was based on the theme 'Vocal For Local, Local to Global'.

During the five-day exhibition, most of the visitors came to know about trade related information and new businesses. Buyer-seller meetings were also organised, where international buyers from all over the world met domestic suppliers to extend their network and develop new procurement sources.

A wide range of products and services were displayed during the event. Many government organizations participated in this exhibition and ten exporters/FPOs co-participated with Spices Board. Spices Board has put up a stall in the venue, which was visited by many participants and enquired about the Board's activities. Some visitors enquired about spices, registration and licensing, processing and general information on the spice industry. They also inquired the scope of spice export in domestic as well as international markets. The 41st edition of IITF saw the participation of nearly 2500 exhibitors from India and abroad.



Stall put up by Spices Board in the 41st India International Trade Fair

Spices Plant of ITC Limited at Spices Park, Guntur Inaugurated

Shri Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh inaugurated the internationally benchmarked spices plant of Indian multi-business conglomerate, ITC Limited at Spices Park, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh on 11 November 2022. The ITC Limited has a century-old association with Andhra Pradesh and has been expanding its presence across the three key sectors of the state's economy – agriculture, manufacturing, and services. The newly inaugurated spices plant will focus on exports to Europe, USA, Canada, Australia, and China. Mr Sanjiv Puri, Chairman, ITC Limited and other eminent dignitaries were present on the occasion.



The Minister during the inaugural function congratulated ITC and said that ITC's global spice processing facility unit will benefit thousands of farmers. The spices processing plant possesses a capacity of 20,000 metric tonnes of spices that can be processed annually and will provide facilities for cleaning, grading, grinding, steam sterilization, destemming and packing of 15 varieties of spices that grow in the region. "The second phase of the plant will complete in the next sixteen months and then it will become the largest spices processing unit in Asia", the Minister opined. He added that Andhra Pradesh has been at the top among other Indian states in terms of Ease of Doing Business (EoDB). The Minister also explained the YSRCP government decision to establish 10,668 Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) across the state which has brought revolutionary changes in the agriculture sector. Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh assured all possible support from the state government.

Commenting on the launch of this unit in Spices Park, Guntur, Shri Sanjiv Puri, Chairman, ITC Limited said, "Inspired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister's vision to usher in rapid and inclusive socio-economic development of Andhra Pradesh, I am delighted to announce the launch of our world-class spices factory in Guntur that promises to strengthen the State's position as a global hub for spices. The future-ready, export-oriented facility is an iconic Make-in-India industrial unit that will offer the finest quality of spices to the world conforming to global food safety export norms, whilst anchoring local agri-value chains. The unit will also be a flagbearer of sustainability and inclusion owing to its 360-degree initiatives that will contribute to raising incomes, foster women empowerment and support large-scale livelihoods whilst promoting extensive use of renewable energy".

The unit will source spices which shall influence 5000+ farmers' families, will also generate a direct employment for around 500 people and indirect employment for over 2000 across the value chain. The plant will be equipped with end-to-end processing needs, including storage, cleaning, processing, sterilization, packing, and quality testing. The infrastructure is compliant with Global Food Safety Export Guidelines. The newly opened processing unit will manufacture and export a wide range of products and anchor inclusive spices value chains to empower thousands of Indian farmers.



Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh at the newly inaugurated spices plant

Spices Board Observed Vigilance Awareness Week

As per the Central Vigilance Commission's direction, offices under Spices Board observed Vigilance Awareness Week 2022 during 31 October 2022 to 06 November 2022 on the theme "Corruption-free India for a developed nation". As part of the event, banners on 'Corruption-free India for a developed nation' were raised at every office.



Banner displayed at Spices Board on "Corruption-free India for a developed nation"

Awareness on Good Agricultural Practices through Street Play

Spices Board Regional Office, Guna, Madhya Pradesh organised an awareness programme through street play on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in coriander under the project titled 'Strengthening spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' funded by Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) at Negma village of Guna Tehsil in Madhya Pradesh.



Street play organised by Spices Board Regional Office, Guna



Regional Seminar on Turmeric

Spices Board Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad, Telangana organised a regional seminar on turmeric at Aloor, Nizamabad, Telangana district on 04 November 2022. Around 103 growers participated in the programme. The programme was presided over by Shri Palle Mohan, Village Sarpanch, Aloor. A lecture on integrated pest and disease management in turmeric was delivered by Dr Srinivas, Scientist, Turmeric Research Station, Kamarpally. Dr Naveen Kumar, programme coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nizamabad delivered a talk on Good Agricultural Practices and fertilizer and irrigation management in turmeric. The Deputy Director, Spices Board explained the quality improvement practices in turmeric and the developmental schemes of the Board. The Deputy General Manager, National Seeds Corporation, Secunderabad and Horticultural Officer, Nizamabad also spoke at the occasion. The team visited turmeric fields and rendered necessary technical guidance.



Regional seminar on turmeric at Aloor

Spice Clinic at Vayalur, Attappady

Spices Board Regional Office, Erode in association with the Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICRI), Myladumpara organised a spice clinic at Vayalur, Attappady, Palakkad on 03 November 2022. Scientists of ICRI, Dr John Jo Varghese, Dr Saju K. A. and Dr M. A. Ansar Ali explained various field related problems faced in the cultivation of spices and interacted with the participants. They also visited the farmers' fields and gave necessary technical guidance.



Spice Clinic organised at Vayalur, Attappady

Growers' Training Programme on Black Pepper

Spices Board Divisional Office, Agartala, Tripura conducted one-day growers' training programme on black pepper for 50 farmers of Gomati and South Tripura districts on 04 November 2022 at Udaipur, Gomati district under 'Integrated Project on Production and Post-harvest Management of Black Pepper for Tripura'. Dr P. B. Jamatia, Director, Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Government of Tripura, inaugurated the programme. Technical sessions were handled by Shri Tarun Kumar Das, Deputy Director, Horticulture, South Tripura; Shri Farukul Islam, Deputy Director, Horticulture, Gomati district; Shri Debasish Saha, Superintendent of Horticulture, Matabari Sub-Division; Shri S. N. Banik, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK, Gomati and Shri Pritam Chakraborty, Field Officer, Spices Board, Agartala.



Participants of the growers' training programme

Growers' Training Programme on Ginger

Spices Board Field Office, Shillong, Meghalaya conducted a growers' training programme on ginger on 09 November 2022 at Mawphrew village, Ri Bhoi district, Meghalaya. Shri Sen Thabab, Spices Board member from Meghalaya also participated in the programme and briefed about his experiences in ginger cultivation.



Growers' training programme on ginger at Mawphrew village



Students' Exposure Visit to Spices Board

Students pursuing B. Sc (Honours) in Horticulture at Karunya University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu visited Spices Board Regional Office, Bodinayakanur on 09 November 2022. Post-harvest technologies/processing of cardamom and black pepper, and marketing & export strategies were briefed to the students. Shri S. Senthil Kumaran, Senior Field Officer and Shri Nagaraj, System Support Engineer, Spices Board, Bodinayakanur coordinated the visit.



Students from Karunya University, Coimbatore at Spices Board Regional Office, Bodinayakanur

Quality Improvement Training Programme on Turmeric

Spices Board Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad, Telangana organised a quality improvement training programme on turmeric at Manoharabad village, Jakranpally mandal, Nizamabad district on 09 November 2022. Around 51 farmers from JKMPM Farmer Producer Company participated in the training programme and they were briefed about Good Agricultural Practices in Turmeric, Integrated Pest Management, quality improvement practices and value addition.



Quality Improvement Training Programme on Turmeric organised by Spices Board Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad

Farmers' Training Programme

Spices Board Regional Office, Jodhpur, Rajasthan organised a farmers' training programme on Good Agricultural Practices and Good Hygiene Practices in cumin at Tekra, Rajasthan under the project titled 'Strengthening spice value-chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' funded by Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF). The programme was conducted in two batches. The first batch was on 11 November 2022, wherein ITC Limited and M/s Maru Unnati, Farmer Producers Company, Bap, Jodhpur were part of the programme. Second batch of the programme was organised on 12 November 2022, where Khandelwal Biofertilizers, Sheo organics FPO and M/s Maru Unnati, Farmer Producers Company attended. Around 61 farmers participated in the programme.



Farmers' training programme on GAP and GHP in cumin

Training on Post-harvest Improvement and Good Agricultural Practices in Turmeric

Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad, Telangana organised a training on post-harvest improvement and good agricultural practices in turmeric for farmers on 11 November 2022 at Padakal village, Velpur mandal, Nizamabad district. Around 52 farmers participated in the programme. Technical sessions on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), post-harvest improvement, organic farming practices, value addition etc., were handled by the Deputy Director, Spices Board. Officials from State agriculture/horticulture department also spoke during the programme. Farmers' doubts and queries were clarified during the interactive session. The team visited turmeric fields and rendered necessary technical guidance also.



Officials of Spices Board briefing the activities of the Board



General Awareness Training Programme

Divisional Office, Spices Board, Tadong, Sikkim conducted a general awareness training programme at Toksi village, Pakyong district in East Sikkim on 14 November 2022. Around 20 spice growers were present in the programme. Activities of Spices Board were briefed by Shri B. Dangal, Farm Manager, Spices Board, Tadong.



General awareness training programme organised by Divisional Office, Spices Board, Tadong

Training on Post-harvest Improvement and Good Agricultural Practices in Turmeric

Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad, Telangana organised a training on post-harvest improvement and good agricultural practices in turmeric for farmers on 14 November 2022 at Laxmanchanda village and mandal, Nirmal district. Around 66 farmers participated. Technical sessions on GAP, IPM, post-harvest improvement, organic farming practices, value addition etc., were handled by the Deputy Director, Spices Board. Shri Praveen Kumar, Agricultural Officer, Shri Rajendher Reddy, Director, Reliance Foundation, Gopal Mithra FPO also attended the programme. Various doubts of the farmers were clarified in the interactive session.



Training on post-harvest improvement and good agricultural practices in turmeric

Farmers' Training Programme

Spices Board Regional Office, Guna, Madhya Pradesh conducted a farmers' training programme under the project titled 'Strengthening spice value-chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions' funded by Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) at Negma village. Around 100 farmers attended the programme.



Glimpses of the farmers' training programme

Growers' Training Programme on Turmeric

Spices Board Divisional Office, Agartala, Tripura organised a growers' training programme on turmeric for members of Muhuri Organic FPC Ltd on 16 November 2022 at Debipur, South Tripura district, Tripura. Technical sessions were handled by Shri Pritam Chakraborty, Field Officer, Spices Board, Shri Tikendra Das, Agriculture Assistant, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of Tripura and Shri Suman Bhowmik, Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board. Shri Jayanta Mog, CEO and Shri Biplab Baidya, Managing Director, Muhuri Organic FPC Ltd were also present during the training. A total of 52 farmers attended the training.



Participants of the growers' training programme



Quality Improvement Training Programme on Spices

Spices Board Field Office, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu conducted a quality improvement training programme on spices at Rural Uplift Centre, Parvathipuram, Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu on 16 November 2022. Dr Nirmalatha, Professor from Horticulture Research Station, Pechipparai handled a session on spices cultivation and post-harvest techniques. Smt. Kalarani, Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board explained the Board's activities to the spice farmers. Around 54 farmers attended the training and interacted with the faculties.



Participants during the quality improvement training programme on spices

Growers' Training Programme on Ginger

Spices Board, Field Office, Kohima, Nagaland conducted a growers' training programme on ginger on 17 November 2022 at Dzulhami village, Phek district. Technical sessions were taken by Shri Sahini Ronald, Field Officer and Shri David N. G., Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board. Shri Cizopra Neinu, CEO of Sekrunuzu Organic Spices Agro Producer FPC Ltd was also present during the training programme. A total of 76 farmers attended the training.



Glimpses of the growers' training programme on ginger

Master Training Programme

Spices Board Field Office, Nagercoil, Kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu conducted a one-day master training programme for the technical officials from Horticulture / Agriculture departments of Kanniyakumari district on 18 November 2022 at DDH Office, Nagercoil. Dr Kavitha, Associate Professor, ICAR-KVK, Thirupathisaram, Smt. Sheela John, Deputy Director, Directorate of Horticulture and Smt. Kalarani, Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board Field Office, Nagercoil led the technical sessions. Around 45 officials benefited through this programme.



Glimpse of the one-day master training programme

Training Programme on Good Agricultural and Good Hygienic Practices of Coriander

Spices Board Regional Office, Guna, Madhya Pradesh conducted a training programme on Good Agricultural and Good Hygienic Practices (GAP and GHP) of coriander. Around 100 farmers from Gulwada village participated in the training.



Training programme on Good Agricultural and Good Hygienic Practices (GAP and GHP) of coriander



Quality Improvement Training Programme on Large Cardamom at Seyochung Village

Spices Board Field Office, Kohima, Nagaland conducted a quality improvement training programme on Large Cardamom at Seyochung village, Kiphire district, Nagaland on 22 November 2022. Around 58 farmers attended the training programme.



Participants after the quality improvement training programme on Large Cardamom

Growers' Training Programme on Black Pepper

Spices Board Field Office, Mudigere, Karnataka conducted a growers' training programme on black pepper at Gram Panchayath Hall, Aldur in Chickmangalore district on 24 November 2022. Technical sessions were handled by Dr Boomika H. R., Assistant Professor, College of Horticulture, Mudigere and Dr Girish, Senior Scientist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mudigere. Around 65 farmers attended the training.



Dignitary speaking at the growers' training programme on black pepper

Workshop cum Buyer Seller Meet for Export of Potential Agri-products from Mizoram

Officials of Spices Board Divisional Office, Aizawl, Mizoram participated in the Workshop cum Buyer Seller Meet for Export of Potential Agri Products from Mizoram on 24 November 2022 at Mizoram University. Pu C. Lalrinsanga, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Government of Mizoram, Dr R. Lalhangliana, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of Mizoram, Dr Tarun Bajaj, Director, APEDA were present during the programme. Spices Board's stall at the venue was visited by the participants and dignitaries.



Stall set up by Spices Board during the Workshop cum Buyer Seller Meet

Growers' Training Programme on Large Cardamom and Ginger

Spices Board Field Office, Dimapur, Nagaland organised a growers' training programme on Large Cardamom and ginger at Bade village, Chumukedima on 25 November 2022. During the programme, training on organic cultivation, disease and pest management of ginger, etc., was given to the participants. Shri Sam Sing Taro, Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, delivered a lecture on post-harvest operation, storage, quality parameters and marketing of Large Cardamom and ginger.



Participants of the growers' training programme on Large Cardamom and ginger



Growers' Training Programme on Large Cardamom at Arunachal Pradesh

Spices Board Divisional Office, Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh conducted a growers' training programme on Large Cardamom for farmers at Chaglagam, Anjaw, the easternmost part of Arunachal Pradesh on 24 November 2022. The training was attended by 55 farmers and a few students wherein Large Cardamom production, post-harvest management and marketing were discussed.



Growers' training programme on Large Cardamom

Growers' Training Programme on Large Cardamom

Spices Board Field Office, Kohima, Nagaland conducted a growers' training programme on Large Cardamom at Menyitsuda, Pfitsero, Phek district, Nagaland on 29 November 2022. Around 54 farmers attended the training programme. Topics like Large Cardamom production technology, insect pests and diseases management, post-harvest management and marketing were discussed.



Participants of the growers' training programme on Large Cardamom

Training on Post-harvest Improvement and Good Agricultural Practices in Turmeric

Spices Board Regional Office cum Extension Centre, Nizamabad, Telangana organised a training for farmers on post-harvest improvement and good agricultural practices in turmeric on 28 November 2022 at Ibrahimpatnam, Jagtial district. Around 54 farmers participated in the programme. The Mandal President, Ibrahimpatnam presided over the programme. Technical sessions on Good Agricultural Practices, Integrated Pest Management, post-harvest improvement, organic farming practices, value addition, etc., were handled by the Deputy Director, Spices Board and Horticultural Officer, Ibrahimpatnam. Queries of the farmers were clarified in the interactive session. Another training programme was conducted on 29 November 2022 at Mailaram village, Dharpalle Mandal, Nizamabad district. Around 78 farmers participated in the programme. Technical sessions on Good Agricultural Practices, Integrated Pest Management, Post-harvest Improvement, organic farming practices, and value addition were handled by Dr B. Mahender, Scientist, Turmeric Research Station, Kamarpally and the Deputy Director, Spices Board. Various doubts of the farmers were clarified in the interactive session.



Training programme on post-harvest improvement and good agricultural practices in turmeric



Growers' Training Programme on Ginger

Spices Board Field Office, Shillong, Meghalaya conducted a growers' training programme on ginger on 29 November 2022 at Mawkyrwat, South West Khasi Hills district. In the technical session, a brief introduction about the Board and its activities were highlighted, which was followed by a session on pre-harvest and post-harvest management of ginger. The training was attended by 74 ginger growers from different villages of South West Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya and the programme concluded with an interactive session. The programme was also attended by Smt. Paleisha Lyngdoh, District Project Director of ATMA, Government of Meghalaya.



Growers' training programme on ginger at Mawkyrwat, South West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya

Mobile Spice Clinic

A mobile spice clinic programme was organised by ICRI and Spices Board Divisional Office, Erode, Tamil Nadu at Pettickal, Agali, Palakkad, Kerala on 03 November 2022. Dr M. A. Ansar Ali, Scientist -C, Dr John Jo Varghese, Scientist-C and Dr K. A. Saju, Scientist -C were the resource persons. The team visited a few cardamom plantations and suitable integrated pest management methods with biocontrol measures were suggested for disease and pest management. A group meeting was arranged at Pettickal in which 56 farmers of Agali area were present. Shri Shivalingam, Extension Assistant, Spices Board Divisional Office, Erode coordinated the programme.



Group meeting to explain cultivation strategies

Growers' Training Programme on Large Cardamom

Spices Board Divisional Office, Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh conducted a growers' training programme on Large Cardamom on 29 November 2022 at Laju, Tirap district. The village chief and 48 farmers attended the training. Both District Horticulture Officer and Horticulture Development Officer (HDO) from Department of Horticulture, Government of Arunachal Pradesh; Subject Matter Specialist, Horticulture, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tirap; Block Development Officer and Tirap Community Resource Management Society participated in the training programme.



Growers' training programme on Large Cardamom

Training for Organic Farmers

A three-day training programme on organic cultivation of cardamom for organic farmers was organised by Jeevagram (NGO) in association with ICRI Myladumpara during 15- 17 November 2022 at Murikassery, Idukki. Scientists of ICRI delivered lectures on various topics on organic cultivation of cardamom. The programme was based on the cultivation techniques prescribed by the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP). The scientists interacted with the participants on the management of cardamom pests using EPN, application of micro and macronutrients for growth, yield and quality of cardamom and maintenance of soil health.



Dr John Jo Varghese, Scientist, ICRI interacting with the participants



Report on XXX Annual Research Council Meeting on Large Cardamom

The XXX Annual Research Council Meeting on Large Cardamom for 2021-22 of Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICRI), Regional Research Station, Spices Board, Gangtok was held in the Conference Hall, Hotel Mount Siniolchu, Gangtok on 17 November, 2022. The meeting was attended by heads and scientists representing various National Research Institutes and Universities, officials from the State and Central Government Departments and other stakeholders of the Large Cardamom industry. Shri J. D. Bhutia IAS, Secretary, Agriculture and Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board, Kochi, Kerala were present during the inaugural ceremony.

The programme started with the welcome address by Dr D. Ajay, Scientist- C and in charge, Regional Research Station, ICRI, Spices Board, Gangtok. In the inaugural address, Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board, briefed about research, development and marketing activities on Large Cardamom undertaken by Spices Board in Sikkim region. She mentioned the various research activities, achievements and new research initiatives of the station.

The chief guest Shri J. D. Bhutia IAS, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of Sikkim, emphasized on conservation of indigenous cultivars of Large Cardamom and their utilization for the benefit of local people. He appreciated the efforts put forward by Spices Board in terms of research and development on Large Cardamom, benefiting the people of Sikkim. He also mentioned about State Government's initiative in value addition and marketing by establishing an agro processing unit at Rangpo in MoU with IFFCO and the same is expected to be operational by March 2023. He urged all the scientific institutions that the research findings should reach the farming community and all the line departments should work together for doubling the income of the *annadatas* (farmers). He also assured support to Spices Board from the State Government.

Guest of Honour of the occasion, Dr Rajib Gogoi, Scientist-E and Head, Botanical Survey of India (BSI) SHRC- Gangtok, appreciated the effort put forward by ICRI, RRS Gangtok towards Large Cardamom research. On the occasion, he briefed about the ongoing collaborative research works of BSI with ICRI on taxonomical studies of Large Cardamom and also assured that BSI will continue their support related to their domain. Dr R. Laha, Joint Director, ICAR Regional Complex for North Eastern Hill region - Gangtok in his brief address appreciated the research work carried out by ICRI and also mentioned that the research work addressed the various issues faced by the farmers and the outcome will definitely boost up the Large Cardamom sector.

During the technical session, Dr D. Ajay, Scientist-C and in charge made a presentation on overview and research highlights for 2021-22. This was followed by a presentation of research works by various scientists; Dr S. S. Bora, Scientist- C (Crop Improvement, Agronomy, Entomology and Transfer of Technology) and Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist- C (Entomology, Post-Harvest Technology and AICRPS). After the technical session, an open house discussion was conducted by all the attendees. The technical programme for 2022-23 was finalized after thorough discussions and the dignitaries appreciated the work attended by the scientists.

Shri P. T. Lepcha, Deputy Director, Spices Board Regional Office, Gangtok presented various problems in the field and also the development and marketing activities conducted during the reporting period. The decisions taken were presented by the session rapporteurs in the plenary session chaired by Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board.

On the occasion, the Annual Research Report of ICRI RRS for the year 2021-22 was released by Shri J. D. Bhutia IAS, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of Sikkim. The Secretary, Agriculture Department has extended all their support for conducting regional specific varietal trials at their farms and also in utilizing the department's soil testing facilities.



Release of the Annual Report of Indian Cardamom Research Institute by dignitaries



Meeting with the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Sikkim

Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board along with Shri P. T. Lepcha, Deputy Director, Spices Board Regional Office, Gangtok, Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist-C and Shri B. Dangal, Farm Manager, Regional Office, Gangtok met Shri L. N. Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Sikkim and apprised about the Research and Developmental activities carried out by Spices Board in Sikkim and also requested the support from the State Government. On the occasion, the Minister also appreciated all the efforts taken by Spices Board and assured all possible support to the Board.



Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance) presenting memento to Shri L. N. Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Sikkim

Group Discussion with Large Cardamom Farmers

Spices Board Divisional Office, Tadong, Sikkim organised a group discussion with farmers on curing techniques for Large Cardamom. The discussion cum demonstration on proper curing methods was conducted at Tockhi village in Pakyong district on 11 November 2022. Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist-C, ICRI, Research Station, Gangtok detailed the different curing techniques for Large Cardamom. The Sourcing Manager from "Diaspora", Mumbai also attended the programme along with local farmers.



Participants of the group discussion on curing techniques for Large Cardamom

Meeting with Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim

Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board, Kochi along with Dr D. Ajay, Scientist-C and in-charge, ICRI, Regional Research Station, Gangtok, Shri P. T. Lepcha, Deputy Director, Spices Board Regional Office, Gangtok, Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist-C of ICRI met the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim, Shri Vijay Bhushan Pathak IAS at Gangtok on 19 November 2022. In the meeting, the Secretary, Horticulture, Government of Sikkim, Shri B. B. Subba and Shri B. L. Dahal, Additional Director (Spices), Horticulture Department, Government of Sikkim were present. The Director (Research and Finance) apprised the activities carried out by Spices Board in the region and sought all support and cooperation from the Government and the Chief Secretary has assured all the possible support to Spices Board.



Know Your GI Spice Harmal Chilli



Belonging to the family of *Capsicum Annum* L, Harmal Chilli is a famous variety of chilli grown in the Harmal village in Pernem Taluka located in North district of Goa. This chilli is known for its spicy taste compared to other Goan chilli varieties and high colour value. The Harmal chillies are reddish-brownish in colour with a short length. It is medium to highly pungent in taste and gives a strong taste and colour when added to food preparations and recipes in a small quantity. This chilli has a good shelf life and can be stored for a longer duration. These chillies grown on lateritic soil with pH value of 5.5 to 6.5, contains rich minerals such as iron, manganese and copper. Chilli fruits contain large quantity of seeds and hence give good quantity of chilli powder and support its characteristics of colour and pungency. Harmal chilli plant is a sub-herb. Harmal chillies are grown only for dry usage purpose either by making powder as a whole or mixed and blended with other masalas in different proportions to suit different Goan cuisine. Harmal chillies have got the colour value of 48.8 (ASTA) with 0.18 % capsaicin value and pungency of 28,200 SHU.





14th World Spice Congress

CIDCO Exhibition & Convention Centre,
Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

16 - 18 February 2023



Registration Fee for Delegates & Spouses

Category	Early Bird (Up to 31.01.2023)	Regular (01.02.2023 to 10.02.2023)
Indian	INR 15000/- + 18% GST	INR 17500/- + 18% GST
Overseas *	USD 600	USD 750
Spouse of Indian delegate	INR 7500 + GST	
Spouse of overseas delegate*	USD 175	

* Delegate fee specified is inclusive of applicable taxes.

Exhibition Stall Registration Fee

Category	Dimension (4x3 Meter)		Dimension (3x3 Meter)	
	Bare Space	Shell Scheme	Bare Space	Shell Scheme
Indian Spice Industry	Rs. 90,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.1,00,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.70,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.80,000/- + 18% GST
Service providers (Indian)	Rs.1,10,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.1,20,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.90,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.1,00,000/- + 18% GST
Service Provider (Overseas)	USD 2250	USD 2500	USD 2000	USD 2250
Central / State Govt Depts / Institutions	Rs. 75,000/- + 18% GST	Rs.80,000/- + 18% GST	NA	NA

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CIRCULARS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Mandatory Sampling and Testing of Export Consignments of Spices and Spice Products Under the Quality Evaluation System of Spices Board - Reg.

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/notificationdetails.html?id=355>

Sub: Schedule for Conducting Special a-Auction for Cardamom (Small).

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/notificationdetails.html?id=359>

Schedule for Conducting e-Auctions at e-Auction Centre at Puttady and Bodinayakanur from 19.11.2022 to 17.01.2023 - Reg.

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/notificationdetails.html?id=346>

Circular-Preventing of Pooling and Distribution of Artificial Coloured Cardamom in e-Auction.

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/notificationdetails.html?id=343>



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<http://www.indianspices.com> / www.spicexchangeindia.com

Your valuable comments/ feedback may be sent to

spicedstory.sb@gmail.com

