

INDIAN SPICE NEWS

A Spices Board India Publication

Registration Regulations Prescribed by People's Republic of China

With regard to the Registration Regulations prescribed by the People's Republic of China, the Embassy of India (Eol), Beijing, China has informed that the status of applications, that have been submitted earlier through the CIFER portal for the spices that fall under Plant Seasoning (Spices) category and requires registration through DAPQ (unground spices), will no longer be updated in CIFER system. It has also been informed that in such cases (unground spices), the enterprises may check the status on the website of Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine, GACC through the link

<http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/dzs/2747042/3995819/qtzwcpc/4643123/index.html>.

Further, it is to inform that, as unground spices are not registered in CIFER, there is no need to check registration in CIFER system

when importers apply for customs declaration for unground spices. The registration details can be checked in the website of Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine, through the aforementioned link. The names of the approved products for export are given in Chinese and hence the exporters may confirm with the Chinese importers that the product(s) to be exported are already in the registered list.

With regard to the CIFER system, it has been informed that changes which are made by the Food Safety Bureau of GACC will automatically be updated in the CIFER system and the enterprises need not update on their own. All enterprises who export spices to China are advised to take note of the above and do the needful.



Health Certificate for Pesticides for Export Consignments of Curry Leaves to EU

It has been notified by the European Commission (DGSANTE) that, EU member states have reported persistently high detection of pesticide residues in Curry Leaves exported from India and it causes serious risk on human health. Therefore, it has been decided by the PAFF Committee (EU) to increase the official controls on Curry Leaves exported from India.

As per the decision taken by the Committee, each consignment of Curry Leaves originating from India arriving at EU countries, should be accompanied by an Official Certificate (Health Certificate) stating that the products have been sampled and analysed for pesticide residues and by the results of sampling and analyses showing compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticide residues.

The measures taken by the European Commission will soon enter into force after necessary modification in Commission Regulation 2019/ 1793 and the Board has already initiated steps

to undertake mandatory sampling of export consignments of Curry Leaves to EU for pesticide residue analysis (in addition to Ethylene Oxide) and also issuance of Health Certificate for compliant consignments.

However, exporters of Curry Leaves are requested to keep the existing consignments of Curry Leaves to EU on hold till the notification on commencement of mandatory test for Curry Leaves for pesticides and issuance of Health Certificate by the Board is published.



Homage

Spices Board pays homage to Dr P. S. Sreekantan Thampi, former Deputy Director (Publicity) and Honorary Editor of Indian Spice News. He left for heavenly abode on 03 February 2023. Dr P. S. Sreekandan Thampi joined Spices Board as the Publicity Officer and his glorious service record bestowed him with other roles like the Chief Editor of Spice India magazine and the Deputy Director, Publicity. His professionalism, honesty, integrity, commitment and enthusiasm made him a strong pillar of the Board. Even after his retirement, Dr P. S. Sreekandan Thampi served Spices Board as the Honorary Editor of the monthly e-newsletter, Indian Spice News. His hard work and services rendered is highly remarkable in the flavourful journey of Spices Board. He was a versatile genius who was loved by his colleagues as well as the Indian spice fraternity. His passing is indeed a great loss for the Board. May the departed soul rest in peace!





Director's Message

Bright Prospects to Spice Up Indian Spices Sector

Globalization and industrialization have been the main factors fostering trade in almost all nations including India. Among the commodities traded from India, spices hold a prominent position in the world market. Indigenous and exotic spices from India are cherished all across the globe and their applications in culinary, cosmetology, medicine and even in customary rites and practices among communities across the world have been an alluring factor for their higher trade significance. Since the prehistoric period, the value of Indian spices has been recognised and it paved the way for maritime trade, especially on the spice route. Today, the export of spices from India is contributing significantly to the forex of the nation.

Global spice production during the period 2010 to 2020 witnessed a growth of over five per cent CAGR from 9.38 Mn MT in 2010 to 15.82 Mn MT in 2020*. As per FAOSTAT, India is the largest producer of spices contributing nearly 42 per cent of the global production. It is followed by other countries such as China, Nigeria, Indonesia and Ethiopia. Globally, spices such as ginger, chillies, seed spices and pepper dominate the volume and area under cultivation followed by clove, nutmeg & mace and cardamom. The global spice trade is projected to reach USD 24.2 Bn in 2028 from USD 13.79 Bn in 2021.

It is astounding that Indian spice export has crossed the historic mark of 4 billion USD consecutively for the past two years and its trajectory is expected to move forward in the coming years. As per the advanced estimate, India is expected to produce 11.16 million tonnes of spices during 2022-2023.

The value of Indian spices and spice products in domestic market is driven by the demand and supply capability of competing countries for these spices in overseas export. It is also associated with the quality and quantity of the produce. Organic and high-quality spices hold a position in the apex. Similarly, spices produced under peculiar conditions and value-added spice products fetch a high amount in market. India has some key markets for the major spices, for example, Guntur of Andhra Pradesh is famed for the chillies grown in and around the state. Similarly, Bodinayakanur in Tamil Nadu is noted for cardamom, Nizamabad for turmeric, Unjha for cumin and Ramganj mandi of Rajasthan is often known as the 'Coriander city'.

Cardamom (Large and Small), that took birth in the Sub-Himalayan region of North Eastern India and evergreen forests of the Western Ghats of India respectively, has always been high on demand due to its pleasant aroma and ethereal flavour. Cardamom (Large and Small) in India is cultivated in an area around 85635 ha producing 33536 tonnes of spice. Coming to the 'King of Spices', pepper is cultivated in India in



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an area around 278049 ha producing 64000 tonnes of spice according to the trade estimates. The slightly pungent and aromatic nature of the spice bestowed it with an international acclaim and is being used as a major ingredient in flavouring dishes and seasonings. In domestic market, the average value of pepper has increased due to the high-quality of the produce.

Turmeric is another important spice that holds a prominent position in global as well as domestic market. The immune boosting properties of this spice have been well studied and was a major attraction during the pandemic. In India, the area under turmeric cultivation during 2020-2021 was 292876 hectares producing 1123857 tonnes. During 2021-2022, the leap is estimated to be 1330932 tonnes from 349642 hectares. Maharashtra is now emerging as a major state in the production of turmeric and has markets highly acclaimed for turmeric sale. In 2021-2022, turmeric was valued Rs 60.64 per kilogram and the value of the spice during 2022-2023 (April to January) was Rs 65.52.

The area under cultivation of many spices has increased which in turn increases the production of major spices in the country. For example, garlic was cultivated in an area of 401167 hectares during 2021-2022 which raised to 407208 hectares during 2022-2023 as per the advance estimates; in the case of ginger, the area under cultivation was 190686 hectares during 2021-2022, now showing an index of 205899 hectares. Similarly, the area under cultivation of many spices has expanded resulting in ample production of quality spices. However, the price of some spices like Small and Large Cardamom, turmeric, etc., has decreased considerably without any compromise on quality. As India is rightly called as the 'Spice Bowl of the World', exporters can find high-quality spices in Indian market at reasonable price than other spice producing countries in the world. Besides whole spices, value-added spice products also hold a great potential and attract the eye of foreigners. Production of spices along with value-addition opens new opportunities in market.

The higher value of spices compared to other crops, scope for value addition, better storage facilities, etc., attract stakeholders to start cultivating spices for adding up their income and also inspires farmers to expand the area under cultivation. The emerging market strategies combined with higher demand and increasing price enable farmers to take up organic and sustainable practices of cultivation to get maximum price for their produce, as they have a never-ending call on the market. These factors draw the interest of exporters and other consumers towards Indian spices.



Director's Message

Spices Board, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has been the flagbearer of Indian spice trade since its inception. The Board spreads an all-out campaign for the excellence of Indian spices, involving every segment of the industry. Spices like chillies, cardamoms, turmeric, ginger, saffron, pepper, garlic, cinnamon, clove, nutmeg, seed spices, etc. reign the global and domestic markets. The demand for spices and seasonings is anticipated to increase owing to factors such as rising disposable income, rapidly growing fast food industry, and urbanization in countries. The rising consumer awareness about the medicinal benefits associated with the consumption of spices is also expected to increase the demand for spices and seasonings globally. Consumers stick to clean, hygienic and fresh products. However, food administration authorities in several countries have stringent regulations on imported food. Varied factors such as globalisation, rising disposable income, increased

awareness on medicinal properties and health benefits of spices, increased demand for natural and plant-based ingredients and flavours and fragrances, application of spices and spice-based compounds in nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics, etc. will definitely fuel the growth of global spice industry. Indian spices sector is aspiring to achieve spices exports worth 10 Bn USD by 2030 and to sustain India's leadership in global spice trade. The focus is on product and market diversification, value-addition and development of innovative products and technologies and brand building

* As per the data available on FAOSTAT and the spices include dry chillies, pepper, ginger, cloves, nutmeg, mace, cardamom, anise, badian, coriander, cumin, caraway, fennel, juniper, other stimulants, spice and aromatic crops n.e.c.. This data varies from that of Spices Board's as it takes various other spices into consideration.

Spices Board in Indus Food 2023

Spices Board participated in Indus Food 2023 held at Hitex Exhibition Center, Hyderabad, Telangana during 08-10 January 2023 along with 11 spice exporters and NCDEX e-Market Limited for promoting services under e-Spice Bazaar project. The event was attended by participants from in and around the state. During the event, Spices Board put up a pavilion which was visited by the onlookers who enquired about quality Indian spices and the activities of the Board. Shri Rajesh Agrawal IAS, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Shri Srikar K. Reddy IFS, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce visited the Board's pavilion.



Visitors at Spices Board's pavilion in Indus Food 2023

Spices Board in Winter Fancy Food Show 2023

Spices Board participated in Winter Fancy Food Show 2023 which was held during 15-17 January 2023 at West Hall, Las Vegas Convention Centre, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

The 47th Winter Fancy Food Show witnessed the participation of thousands of qualified industry participants and over 900 exhibiting companies.

Spices Board participated in the event with five co-participants. In the event, Spices Board's stall was visited by importers, entrepreneurs, traders, etc. The visitors were apprised on the uniqueness of Indian spices, capacity of India to supply a wide range of spices and value-added spice products in compliance with the applicable standards of food safety and quality, etc. Also, information on the 14th edition of the World Spice Congress 2023 was provided to visitors. Shri Nithin Joe, Deputy Director represented Spices Board in the event.



Spices Board's stall at Winter Fancy Food Show 2023

Growers' Training Programme

Spices Board Regional Office Guna, Madhya Pradesh organised a Growers' Training Programme (GTP) on 04 January 2023 at Mahalpur district, Chhindwara. Around 52 progressive farmers attended the programme.



Dignitary speaking at the growers' training programme held at Mahalpur district in Chhindwara.

Spices Board in North East Krishi Kumbha 2023

Spices Board Field Office, Shillong, Meghalaya participated in the Regional Agricultural Fair (RAF) titled "North East Krishi Kumbha 2023" organised by ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill Region, Umiam, Meghalaya during 04-06 January 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. Dr D. M. Barman, Deputy Director, Spices Board, Guwahati represented the Board as one of the panellists. Spices Board also put up a stall at the programme which was visited by dignitaries and other participants.



Stall put up by Spices Board in the Regional Agricultural Fair

Growers' Training Programmes on Large Cardamom and Ginger

Spices Board Field Office, Dimapur, Nagaland organised growers' training programmes on Large Cardamom and Ginger at Heiranglwa, Peren district on 10 January 2023 and at Nkialwa, Peren district on 11 January 2023.



A glimpse of the growers' training programme on Large Cardamom and ginger

Quality Improvement Training Programme on Large Cardamom at Gumte Village

Spices Board Divisional Office, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh conducted a quality improvement training programme on Large Cardamom at Gumte village of Pakke Kessang district on 31 January 2023.



Participants of the quality improvement training programme on Large Cardamom

Quality Improvement Training Programme on Large Cardamom

Spices Board Field Office, Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh conducted a growers training programme on Large Cardamom at Ambam village on 30 January 2023. A total of 54 members participated in the training programme.



Participants after the quality improvement training programme on Large Cardamom



Growers' Training Programme on Black Pepper

Spices Board Divisional Office, Agartala, Tripura in collaboration with the Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Government of Tripura organised a one-day growers' training programme on black pepper on 06 January 2023 at Panchayat Raj Training Institute (PRTI), Ambassa, Dhalai district, Tripura. Around 50 black pepper growers from Dhalai and Khowai districts under the 'Integrated Project on Production and Post-harvest Management of Black Pepper for Tripura' participated in the programme. Technical sessions during the programme were handled by Shri Chayan Debbarma, Assistant Director, Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Government of Tripura; Shri Chandan Debbarma, Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of Tripura and Shri Pritam Chakraborty, Field Officer, Spices Board Divisional Office, Agartala.



A glimpse of the growers' training programme on black pepper held at Ambassa in Tripura.

Quality Improvement Training Programme for Traders

Spices Board Divisional Office, Hyderabad, Telangana organised a quality improvement training programme for traders at Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), Hyderabad on 06 January 2023. More than 40 traders from various parts of the state, the Director and other officials of FTCCI, officials from Spices Board, CEOs of reputed FPOs, exporters and media representatives participated in the programme.



Participants after the quality improvement training programme for traders held at FTCCI, Hyderabad.

Spices Board at Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Agro Expo 2023

Spices Board Divisional Office, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh participated in Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Agro Expo 2023 held during 11-14 January 2023 at Dhemaji, Assam. In the event, officials from Spices Board elaborated on the activities of the Board in North Eastern states including Assam. The Board's exhibition stall was visited by Shri Pradan Baruah, Member of Parliament, Shri Bhuvan Pegu, Member of Legislative Assembly from Assam besides visitors from different departments, FPC members and local farmers.



Dignitaries visiting Spices Board's pavilion put up at Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Agro Expo 2023 held at Dhemaji in Assam.

Regional Seminar on Turmeric, Ginger and Chilli

Spices Board Regional Office, Guwahati, Assam organised a regional seminar on turmeric, ginger and chilli on 12 January 2023 at Podumpathar, Golaghat district, Assam. Around 100 farmers actively participated in the regional seminar. A visit to farmers' fields was also arranged as part of the regional seminar.



Participants of the regional seminar on turmeric, ginger and chilli held at Podumpathar



Students' Exposure Visit

Forty-two students along with three faculties from Shri Shivaji Agriculture College, Amravati, Maharashtra visited Spices Park, Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh on 10 January 2023 and have seen the common processing units. Officials of Spices Park briefed the activities of the Park and Spices Board.



Students and faculties of Shri Shivaji Agriculture College at Spices Park, Chhindwara.

Spice Clinic Programme at Lower Berfok, Geyzing

Indian Cardamom Research Institute (ICRI), Regional Research Station, Gangtok, Sikkim in association with Spices Board Regional Office, Gangtok; Divisional Office, Jorethang and Field Office, Geyzing conducted a spice clinic at Lower Berfok, Geyzing. Field visits were organised and various issues faced by farmers were discussed. Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist-C, ICRI explained the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and identification of pests/diseases and their management. Awareness was also given on proper installation and operation of 'Bhatti'. Shri P. T. Lepcha, Deputy Director, Smt. Resmi R., Assistant Director and Shri Viswa Bhushan Joshi, Field Officer interacted with the farmers and made them aware of the development and marketing activities of Spices Board.



Spice clinic organised by Indian Cardamom Research Institute at Lower Berfok

Market Linkage Training Programme on Seed Spices

Spices Board Regional Office, Jodhpur, Rajasthan conducted a market linkage training programme focusing on seed spices as well as traceability and transparency in spice trade at Merta Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC), Merta on 16 January 2023. The objective of the programme was to showcase the details and highlights of the upcoming WSC 2023 to get international recognition and involve more small entrepreneurs as participants in the upcoming events. This will certainly boost the direct export from Rajasthan invariably. Shri M. Y. Honnur, Deputy Director, Spices Board; Dr Srishail K. Kulloli, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board; Shri Rajendra Kumar, Mandi Secretary, Merta; Shri Sumer Jain, Jain Industry Group and Shri Hemraj, M/s Salasar Trading Company, Merta made deliberations and many young entrepreneurs actively participated in the programme. A total of 51 stakeholders attended the meeting.



Dr Srishail K. Kulloli, Senior Field Officer speaking at the market linkage training programme held at Merta, Jodhpur.

Quality Improvement Training Programme on Turmeric

Spices Board Regional Office, Haveri, Karnataka organised a quality improvement training programme on turmeric in association with Sarvabhandha FPO and Golden Spice FPO on 16 January 2023 at Agriculture Research and Extension Centre, Mudhol (under the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad). Shri Bapugouda Kyatanagoudra, Field Officer, Spices Board, Haveri welcomed the gathering. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Rahul Kumar Bhavidoddi, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Bagalkot by watering a plant. The technical session was handled by Dr S. Sudha, Scientist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bagalkot. Judicious use of pesticides and quality issues were highlighted in the training programme. A total of 54 farmers participated in the programme.



Quality improvement training programme on turmeric held at Agriculture Research and Extension Centre, Mudhol



Master Training Programme on Large Cardamom

Spices Board Field Office, Kohima, Nagaland conducted a Master Training Programme (MTP) on Large Cardamom at Longleng Town, Nagaland on 17 January 2023. Technical sessions of the programme were handled by Shri Talimeren, District Horticulture Officer, Department of Horticulture; Shri S. Yongchang Phom, Agriculture Development Officer, Department of Agriculture, Government of Nagaland and Shri Sahiini Ronald, Field Officer, Spices Board Field Office, Kohima. A total of 48 participants attended the training.



Participants after the master training programme on Large Cardamom held at Nagaland

Spices Board in Shining Madhya Pradesh 2023

Spices Board Regional Office, Guna, Madhya Pradesh participated in Shining Madhya Pradesh 2023 held at Kalidas Academy, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh during 18-20 January 2023. Spices Board's pavilion at the event was inaugurated by Dr Mohan Yadav, Higher Education Minister, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Shri Anil Firojiya, Member of Parliament, Ujjain. Many participants visited the stall and enquired about the Board and its activities, which were answered accordingly by the officials.



Spices Board's pavilion at Shining Madhya Pradesh 2023 held at Kalidas Academy, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

Market Linkage Programme

Spices Board Regional Office, Jodhpur, Rajasthan conducted a stakeholders meeting cum market linkage programme focusing on World Spice Congress 2023 and recent trends in spice trade in jeera mandi on 20 January 2023. The main objective of the programme was to get maximum registration for World Spice Congress 2023 and to share the recent trends in spice trade. Around 50 stakeholders participated in the programme. The Mandi Secretary, Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC), Jodhpur, was the Chief Guest. The meeting was presided over by Shri Purushottam Mundadji, Chairman, Jeera Mandi. Shri M. Y. Honnur, Deputy Director, Spices Board extended the welcome. Dr Shrishail K. Kulloli, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board, Jodhpur spoke about marketing trends in spices.



Dr Shrishail K. Kulloli, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board speaking at the market linkage programme.

Quality Improvement Training Programme on Small Cardamom

Spices Board Field Office, Mudigere, Karnataka conducted a quality improvement training programme on Small Cardamom at Halekote in Chikmagalur district on 20 January 2023. The training programme was inaugurated by Shri Sheshadiri, Retired General Manager, Bank of Baroda and a progressive Small Cardamom planter. The technical sessions were handled by Dr Sree Krishna Bhatt, Head and In-charge, ICRI, RRS Sakleshpur. A total of 52 farmers attended the training programme.



Dignitaries during the quality improvement training programme on Small Cardamom held at Halekote in Chikmagalur.



Quality Improvement Training Programme on Turmeric

Spices Board Regional Office, Warangal, Telangana conducted a quality improvement training programme on turmeric at Mogullapally village, Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, Telangana on 20 January 2023. Technical sessions during the event were handled by Shri Surender Reddy, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture, Smt. Vijeeshna V., Assistant Director, Spices Board and Shri Srinivas, Executive (Development), Spices Board. Around 45 participants attended the training programme.



A glimpse of the quality improvement training programme on turmeric

Farmers' Training Programme on Seed Spices

Spices Board Regional Office, Jodhpur, Rajasthan conducted a farmers' training programme focusing on export-based sustainable production, post-harvest management and marketing of seed spices at Mangal Krishi Farm, Mathania village, Tinwari on 21 January 2023. Rajasthan has an upper hand in overall seed spices production, especially, cumin, fennel, fenugreek, coriander, Nagauri pan fenugreek, garlic, black cumin, dill, ajwain, Mathania chilli, etc. The main objective of the programme was to enhance the quality of seed spices, adopting sustainable and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to assure better market for producers. The programme witnessed the participation of 53 producers from Mathania village.



Farmers' training programme on seed spices held at Mathania Tinwari tehsil, Jodhpur.

Interactive Session with Exporters in Telangana

Spices Board Regional Office, Nizamabad, Telangana organised an interactive session with exporters of Telangana in hybrid mode at FTCCI Auditorium, Hyderabad on 23 January 2023. Shri Sundaresan N., Deputy Director, Nizamabad welcomed the dignitaries and participants. Shri D. Sathiyam IFS, Secretary, Spices Board joined the event virtually and gave introductory remarks about global spices trade and prospects of export of Indian spices. Shri Arvind Dharmapuri, Hon'ble Member of Parliament of Nizamabad and Member, Spices Board interacted with the exporters. He requested the Board to make promotional videos on its activities to enhance exports, address the issues related to pesticide residue for certain chemicals and called for more research on value addition of turmeric.

Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development), Spices Board briefed the export-oriented production schemes of the Board for turmeric and chilli. Shri B. N. Jha, Director (Marketing), Spices Board joined online and explained the export development and export promotion schemes of the Board. Shri Sudhir Kumar, Assistant Director, MSME; Smt. Sivasankari, Assistant General Manager, Export Guarantee Corporation of India and Shri Bharani, Assistant Director, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Hyderabad explained schemes in detail and other activities of their respective department for the benefit of exporters.

The Deputy Director, Spices Board briefed the quality and food safety standards for the export of turmeric and chillies. Shri Anil Kumar Agarwal, President, Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) and Smt. Sujatha, Deputy CEO, FTCCI also attended the meeting and addressed the gathering. Dr A. B. Rema Shree, Director (Research and Finance), Spices Board joined online and participated in the interactive session and addressed the queries of exporters. Shri Rajamanickam, Senior Field Officer, Spices Board proposed the vote of thanks.



Shri B. Venkateson, Director (Development), Spices Board addressing the participants during the interactive session with exporters.



Farmers' Exposure Visit

Coriander farmers from Rajasthan visited Spices Park, Guna, Madhya Pradesh on 21 January 2023. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and schemes of Spices Board were explained by the officials to the visitors.



Coriander farmers from Rajasthan at Spices Park, Guna during the farmers' exposure visit.

Meeting with Growers

Spices Board Regional Office, Jodhpur, Rajasthan conducted a meeting with the farmers under the project "Strengthening spice value chain in India and improving market access through capacity building and innovative interventions", implemented jointly by Spices Board and Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) of WTO, on 23 January 2023 at Ber Kalan village, Jaitaran tehsil, Pali district, Rajasthan. The meeting focused on overall practices being followed by farmers in fennel cultivation. Shri C. Jaisaravanan, Assistant Director, Spices Board interacted with farmers and made deliberations on present crop system, cultural practices, FPOs, etc. The team also visited a fennel field and gave necessary advice to the farmers to overcome issues faced in fennel cultivation.



Field visit organised as part of the meeting

Growers' Training Programme on Large Cardamom

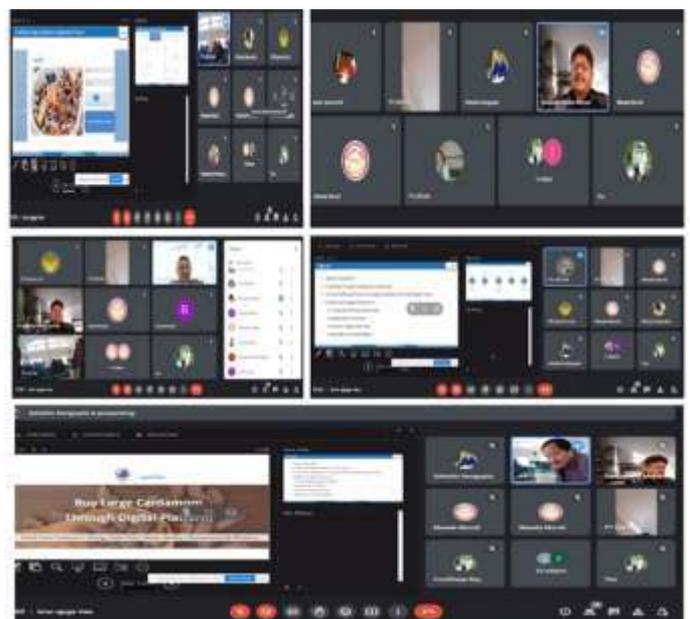
Spices Board Field Office, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh conducted growers' training programmes on Large Cardamom at Peram, Sumsing and Komkar villages on 16, 17 and 24 January 2023 respectively. Good agricultural practices for cultivation of Large Cardamom were discussed with the participants.



Glimpses of the growers' training programme on Large Cardamom.

Interactive Meet for the Pilot e-Selling Platform for Large Cardamom

Spices Board facilitated an interactive meet along with Mjunction with the participation of FPOs, entrepreneurs, dealers, exporters and the marketing wing of Sikkim Government on 24 January 2023 at Jorethang, South Sikkim. The meeting was conducted in online mode with a view to enable more buyers and sellers on the pilot e-selling platform for Large Cardamom.



Glimpses of the online interactive meet



Growers' Training Programme on Black Pepper

Spices Board Regional Office, Guwahati, Assam conducted a growers' training programme on black pepper at Borjuli village, Kamrup on 25 January 2023. A total of 51 spice growers participated in the training programme. Dr Nilakshi Kakati, Agriculture Development Officer, Government of Assam delivered a lecture on disease and pest management of black pepper.



Participants after the growers' training programme on black pepper held at Borjuli village, Kamrup

Farmers' Exposure Visit

Spices Board Field Office, Bodinayakanur, Tamil Nadu organised a farmers' study tour programme during 23-25 January 2023 with an aim to train the farmers on latest technologies in the field of food processing, value addition, marketing and business opportunity with start-ups, to facilitate knowledge sharing, exchange of experiences, etc. Farmers visited the National Institute of Food Technology & Entrepreneurship Management (NIFTEM-T), Thanjavur; Tamil Nadu Irrigation Management Training Institute (IMTI); Trichy Agri Business Incubation Forum (TABIF); ICAR-Krishi Vigyaan Kendra; Gandhigram Deemed to be University (DTBU) and the elite spice plantations of Lower Palani Hills. All the farmers including FPOs gained knowledge on new technologies and benefitted from the study tour.



Farmers at Irrigation Management Training Institute as part of their visit

Quality Improvement Training Programme for Turmeric, Ginger and Chilli Farmers

Spices Board Divisional Office, Hyderabad, Telangana organised a quality improvement training programme for turmeric, ginger and chilli farmers and other stakeholders as part of quality improvement training at Dhanasiri village, Mogudampally mandal, Sangareddy district, Telangana on 25 January 2023. The programme was conducted in coordination with line departments like the Department of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and Sericulture, District Bio-control Laboratory, Sangareddy, FPOs, NCDEX (NeML) and Karnavati University, Gujarat.

The main objective of the programme was to train turmeric, ginger and chilli growers and transfer the technology to farmers at grassroot level.

The meeting began with the welcome address by Shri H. Raju, Grama Sarpanch and Dr N. R. N. V. Gowripathi Rao, Senior Agriculture Engineer, Farm Machinery Division, Karnavati University, Gujarat inaugurated the programme and delivered the inaugural address. He also delivered a lecture on the importance of farm mechanisation and post-harvest machinery for turmeric, ginger and chilli crops. Ms G. Anusha Reddy from the Department of Horticulture and Sericulture, Government of Telangana took a session on 'Scope and overview of turmeric, ginger and chilli cultivation in the district and schemes implemented by horticulture department'.

Shri Srinivas, representative of Grama Bharathi FPO, Hyderabad spoke about organic agriculture. Shri Sriram Reddy, NCDEX (NeML) Hyderabad delivered a talk on 'Market linkages and trading opportunities for spice growers and FPOs'.

Smt. K. Premalatha Reddy from District Bio-control Laboratory, Sadasivpet delivered a talk on 'Bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides' and conducted demonstration on the same along with Smt. Saraswathi, Agriculture Extension Officer, Department of Agriculture, Government of Telangana. Shri G. Siva Kumar, Senior Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board, Hyderabad spoke on 'Value addition in turmeric, chilli and ginger' and explained the Board's activities in Telangana state. Open discussions were held along with representatives from FPOs and farmers' representatives on growers' related issues. A field visit to the farm of Shri Ram Prasad Reddy, a progressive farmer was also organised. More than 52 participants including district and mandal officials participated in the programme.



Dignitary speaking at the quality improvement training programme.



Mobile Spice Clinic

A mobile spice clinic was organised by Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Myladumpara and Spices Board Field Office, Rajakumari, Idukki in Chemmannar area of Idukki district on 05 January 2023. Dr M. A. Ansar Ali and Dr K. A. Saju, Scientists, ICRI attended the programme as resource persons and visited four cardamom fields. The officials advised on the use of chemicals to check the spread of diseases and biocontrol agents for maintaining soil health and soil fertility. Four farmers were benefitted by this programme.

Another mobile spice clinic programme was conducted at Muniyara, Idukki on 19 January 2023. Dr Shadanaika, Dr Manoj Oommen and Dr P. Thiyagarajan, Scientists, ICRI attended the programme as resource persons. The team visited ten cardamom plantations and collected pest and disease-infected samples and suggested control measures. They discussed about the fungal and viral diseases which affect cardamom and also explained about the diseases affecting in particular seasons. Around ten farmers were benefitted by this programme.



A view of the group meeting organised at Muniyara



Farmer explaining the problems

Exposure Visit of Students

A group of thirty-one students pursuing MBA in Food Processing and Business Management at the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru visited ICRI, Myladumpara on 09 January 2023. Dr K. Pradeep Kumar and Dr John Jo Varghese, Scientists briefed the activities and programmes of ICRI. In addition, twenty-eight students pursuing Post Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness and Plantation Management at IIPM Bengaluru visited ICRI on 10 January 2023. The Scientists explained various research programmes carried out in the institute. A laboratory and pepper nursery visit was also organised.



MBA-FPBM students of IIPM Bengaluru with Scientists of ICRI, Myladumpara

Spice Clinic at Rayong, Namchi District

Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Tadong, Sikkim organised a spice clinic at Rayong, Namchi district, Sikkim on 11 January 2023 in collaboration with Spices Board, Divisional Office, Jorethang. Dr T. N. Deka, Scientist- C, demonstrated the usage of various bio-agents for organic cultivation of Large Cardamom towards improved crop management practices. The spice clinic was also attended by Shri P. T. Lepcha, Deputy Director, Spices Board, Gangtok, Smt. Reshmi R., Assistant Director, Spices Board Divisional Office, Jorethang and Shri V. B. Joshi, Field Officer, Spices Board, Geyzing who provided information on various developmental schemes of Spices Board. A total of 25 Large Cardamom growers participated in the programme.



Participants of the spice clinic programme





Know Your GI Spice Naga Mircha

The 'Chudi Chilli', commonly known as the 'Naga Mircha' or 'Raja Mircha'- meaning the 'King of Chillies' is indigenous to the state of Nagaland and has been a part of the lifestyle of people since time immemorial. It is cultivated chiefly in four districts of Nagaland: Kohima, Peren, Mon and Dimapur. The unique soil and climatic conditions of this region perhaps provide the best possible environment for the cultivation of Naga Mircha. Farmers in Naga Mircha growing areas have been engaged in its cultivation since the time of their forefathers and this has been one of their chief sources of income and livelihood. It has long been associated with Nagaland as a staple culinary item and hence it is intrinsically linked to the local community. It is subconical to conical in shape and about 2.5-2.95 cm wide at the shoulders and 4.5-8.54 cm in length and weighs 12 to 16 gms. The skin is finely wrinkled and the flesh is thin. The Chudi Chilli has a distinctive pungency and fruity aroma. It is renowned as one of the hottest chillies in the world with a heat value of 1,001,304 Scoville Heat Unit (SHU).



CIRCULARS AND NOTIFICATIONS

1. Information on Registration Regulations Prescribed by People's Republic of China-Reg

<http://www.indianspices.com/trade/trade-notifications/notificationdetails.html?id=384>

2. Schedule for Conducting e-Auction at e-Auction Centre at Puttady and Bodinayakanur from 18.01.2023 to 17.03.2023 Reg.

<http://www.indianspices.com/indianspices/sites/default/files/CIRCULAR%20DATED%2012.1.2023%20e-AUCTION%20SCHEDULE%20FROM%202018%20JAN%20TO%202017%20MAR%202023.pdf>



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The newsletter can be accessed from the websites of the Board

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

Your valuable comments/ feedback may be sent to

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