

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Demand to reconsider the decision to import the soyabean residue cakes in order to benefit soyabean growers in the country particularly in Maharashtra.

**\*DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE (SHIRUR):** Honourable Chairman Sir, Thank you.

Soyabean is a very important crop as far as rural economy of Maharashtra is concerned. Farmers fetched remunerative prices for it last year. Hence cultivation of this crop is increased this year. But, due to the unseasonal and heavy rains before harvesting, farmers had been landed in trouble. Now the decision of importing 12 lac MT of Soyabean residue cakes has been taken by the Central Government. Subsequently, Government decided to fix ceiling on stocks of oil seeds and edible oils and also relaxed the import duty on edible oils. Due to this, soyabean crop price has come down drastically.

Now after yielding to the demand of Poultry Breeders Association, the Central Government has decided to import in additional 5.5 lac MT of soyabean residue cakes. This decision will devastate the soyabean farmers completely. Hence, through you, I would like to request the Central Government to revisit their decision. Thank you.