

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding Scheme or the Promotion of Native Edible Oils

SHRI K. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (POLLACHI): Whenever there is an increase in Edible Oil prices, the Union Government immediately reduces the import duty on Oils to tackle the price rise. This move is detrimental to the farmers and millers of our country. India imports 60% of its edible oil needs of which 60% is palm oil which the World Health Organisation has warned against consuming due to the high content of artery clogging saturated fats.

The recent Russia-Ukraine conflict has affected the availability of sunflower oil. Indonesia has banned the export of Palm Oil, once again leading to rising prices.

To tackle this and become self-sufficient in Edible Oil Production, the Government should instead promote the production of different edible oils that are native to the country such as Sesame Oil, Coconut Oil, Mustard Oil etc.

The Government of India should immediately announce a scheme for the production and promotion of coconut oil.

Pollachi Constituency, world renowned for coconuts will benefit immensely from this and will help India become a net exporter of edible oils. This scheme will also benefit many other states.

I once again urge the Union Government to announce a scheme for the promotion of native edible oils.