

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2357

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2000

IMPORT OF EDIBLE OILS

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UPPALAPATI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the demand of the edible oils in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; (
- (b) whether the Government are capable of meeting the demand through domestic production; (
- (c) if not, whether the Government are contemplating to import the edible oils to meet its demand during the current financial year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the import of edible oils has become costlier due to imposition of additional custom duty; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to minimise the import of edible oil?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREEI PRASAD)

- (a) Demand for edible oils in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are estimated at 96.43 lakh metric tonnes and 100.96 lakh metric tonnes respectively.
- (b), (c) & (d) : As per the oilseed production projection of the Agriculture Ministry, there would continue to be gap between demand and supply of edible oils. As a supplemental measure, to meet the gap between demand and supply of edible oils, Government has allowed import of edible oils. The import of edible oils during the current financial year (April, 1999 to January, 2000) is estimated at 42.18 lakh tonnes.
- (e) The prices of imported edible oils before and after the Union Budget 2000-2001 are recorded below :-

CIF prices per MT in US \$

Name of Oil
28.2.2000
6.3.2000

RBD Palmolein
340
347
Soyabean
373
383
Sunflower
375
388
Rapeseed
N.A.
404

- (f) Some of the important steps recently taken by the Government to minimise import of edible oils are :-
- (i) hike in the import duty on refined edible oils from 16.5% to 27.5%.
- (ii) stipulation of `actual user` condition for import of crude oils.

(iii) Higher custom duty at 38.5% for crude oils as also other refined oils imported by other than actual users.

(iv) imposition of SAD @ 4% for import of edible oils not fulfilling the requirement of actual user condition.