

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4427

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002

OILSEEDS PRODUCTION

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether high level Committee on Food Management and Agriculture Exports has considered a proposal for boosting oilseeds production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make country self-reliant in production of oilseeds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): The Standing Committee of Union Ministers and Chief Ministers on Food Management and Agriculture Exports discussed the issue of diversification in its third meeting held on 31.10.2001. The Committee suggested that Minimum Support Price(MSP) should be rationalized to facilitate diversification, particularly towards oilseeds and pulses.

(c): In order to increase the production of oilseeds and to make the country self-reliant in oilseeds/edible oils production, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 28 States covering 408 selected districts. Under the scheme financial assistance by way of subsidies is provided to the farmers in order to motivate them to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale in the country.