

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5071
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2003
PROBLEMS OF SOYABEAN INDUSTRY
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Soyabean Industry earns about 2200 crore rupees of foreign exchange every year from export;
- (b) whether soyabean industry is presently facing difficulties due to global agreements;
- (c) if so, whether Soyabean Processors Association has submitted a memorandum to the Government in regard to their problems;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with their demands; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

- (a) The total value of soyabean and its products exported during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Value (Rs. crore)
2000-01	2,113
2001-02 (Prov.)	2,098
2002-03 (Apr-Dec. 2002) (Prov.)	872

(Source: DGCIS, Calcutta)

- (b) to (d): The Soyabean Processors Association of India (SOPA) through various representations have represented that soyabean industry is passing through difficulties due to imports of soyabean oil, crude palm oil and RBD Palm Oil, and lower import duty of 45% on Soyabean Oil.

Various suggestions proposed for revitalising the industry include imposition of oilseed Development Cess, not to reduce import duty further, classification of soya industry under special category of 1% sales tax, exemption from Excise duty, withdrawal of minimum alternate tax, provision of duty drawback, availability of credit at lower interest rate, providing of Export Packing Credit facilities, charging of ECGC premium at time of physical export, provision of transport subsidy, motivation of farmers to cultivate oilseeds by shifting from other crops etc.

- (e): Review of EXIM Policy and other Government policies is an on-going exercise, keeping in view the overall position.