

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6855
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
DEMAND FOR EDIBLE OIL
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

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

- (a) the demand for edible oils in the country during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;
- (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 oils?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SREENVASA PRASAD)

- (a): The demand for edible oils in the country during 2001-2002 has been 103.36 lakh MTs. However, considering domestic supply and import of edible oils, the demand for edible oils in the country during 2002-2003 is estimated at 94 lakh MTs.
- (b): No, Sir.
- (c): The import of edible oils except Coconut Oil is under Open General Licence (OGL). As such the import of edible oils would depend upon the commercial judgement of the importers. There is no proposal, at present to import edible Oils on Government account.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e): No additional customs duty has been imposed on import of edible oils.
- (f): Does not arise.