

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1269
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
IMPORT OF SOYABEAN
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

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

- (a) the decision taken to protect the interests of Soya Bean producers who had been badly hit by cheap imports of Soya Bean earlier during the current year and the damage to Soya Bean crops by heavy rains, especially those in Madhya Pradesh; (
- (b) if so, the total quantum of Soya Bean and Soya Bean oil imported during the current year and the cost of their imports; and (
- (c) the production of these items and their annual consumption and requirement in the country, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) There has been no import of soyabean seed in the last three years. Even so, the Government has taken the following decisions to protect the interests of the soyabean producers:-

- (i) The duty on import of oilseeds including soyabean seed has been kept at the highest level of 40%.
 - (ii) MSP of Soyabean (Yellow) has been raised from Rs.795/- per quintal (during 1998-99) to Rs.845/- per quintal in the current year.
 - (iii) With effect from 30.12.1999, the import duty on refined oils has been raised from 16.5% to 27.5%. While the import duty on crude soyabean oil has remained at 16.5%, its import has been subject to `actual user` condition. One of the important objectives has been to help the farmers in terms of better realisation of their produce.
 - (iv) NAFED has been alerted to undertake market support operations as and when situation demands.
- (b) As already indicated, there has been no import of soyabean in the last three years including the current year. The total quantum and value of soyabean oil imported under OGL, in the current year (Nov.,1999 to Jan.,2000) has been approximately 1.18 lakh tonnes around Rs.190 crores.
- (c) The production of soyabean seed and soyabean oil in 1999-2000 is estimated to be 65.2 lakh MT and 10.4 lakh MT respectively. The entire production is consumed within the country. State-wise figures are not available.