

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5260  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2003  
MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE FOR OIL PALM  
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether out of total oilpalm plantation in the country; Andhra Pradesh accounts for 59%;
- (b) if so, whether the farmers are not getting remunerative price for oilpalm;
- (c) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requesting to Union Government to announce Minimum Support Price for oilpalm to safeguard the interests of the farmers keeping in view the price fluctuation of crude palm oil; and
- (d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Yes, Sir. From an area of 54,116 hectares covered under oil palm plantation (OPP) in the country, an area of 31,739 hectares has been covered in the State of Andhra Pradesh constituting around 59% of total area under OPP.
- (b): Since the import tariff on edible oil has increased substantially for past one year and the oil prices are comfortable, the oil palm farmers are getting remunerative price for their produce.
- (c)&(d): The Union Government received a letter from Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for oil palm. Since oil palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs) are highly perishable and its Fair Average Quality (FAQ) cannot be determined, it has not been covered under MSP. However, to protect the interest of oil palm farmers from distress sale, the Government has implemented Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for oil palm in Andhra Pradesh.