

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4489
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
PRODUCTION OF OILSEEDS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy to support the Indian market from dumping of imported oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has achieved its target of production of oilseeds;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is planning to extend any extra support to the edible oil sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (e) Imports are regulated through adjustments in Customs Tariff within the bound rates. The rates of Customs duty on agricultural produce are generally higher than the peak rate of customs duty. The Central Board of Excise and Customs also fixes minimum tariff rates for various edible oils such as crude palm oil, RBD palm oil, crude palmolein, crude soyabean oil etc. In cases of prices falling below the specified levels, the Government undertakes procurement operations, to ensure that farmers interest are protected. Imports are also regulated through the provisions of the Food Adulteration Act, 1954, Meat Food Product Order, Packaging requirements, Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) measures etc. The import of 300 sensitive items including major food items is being monitored on a regular basis by the Government for checking any surge in imports.

The production target and achievement of oilseeds in the country during the last three years is as under:

(lakh tonnes)

Year	Target	Achievement
2004-05	262.00	243.53
2005-06	278.00	279.77
2006-07	294.00	232.64 (IIIrd Adv. Estimates)

Source: Dept of Agri & Coop.(DAC)