

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3150

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010

IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL

Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan;Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether dependence on import of edible oil is increasing due to the decline in its availability in the domestic market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the demand and availability of edible oil in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the difference in the prices of domestic and imported edible oils during the said period; and
- (d) the details of the schemes being implemented for achieving self-sufficiency in the production of edible oil?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The import of edible oils has increased from 47.15 lakh tonnes in 2006-07 to 67.20 lakh tonnes in 2008-09 besides the increase in domestic production of edible oils from 73.70 lakh tonnes in 2006-07 to 84.56 lakh tonnes in 2008-09 due to increase in domestic demand/consumption. A statement showing details of demand, net domestic availability and import of edible oils during the last three years and current year is Annexed (Annexure-I).

(c): The details of yearly average prices of edible oils in the domestic and international market during the last three years and the current year are Annexed (Annexure-II).

(d): The details of scheme being implemented for achieving self sufficiency in the production of edible oil are as follows:

(i) A centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major oilseeds growing States for increasing production. The States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat etc. are implementing the Oilpalm Development Programme under ISOPOM.

(ii) Under the above Scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, gypsum/ pyrite/ lime/ dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity etc. to encourage farmers to grow these crops. Block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and ICAR. Budget Expenditure of Rs.320 crores has been kept for 2009-10 for ISOPOM Scheme.

(iii) Enhanced incentives to farmers through fixation of higher Minimum Support Price (MSP) of major oilseeds.

(iv) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is engaged in the development of higher yielding improved varieties, production and protection technologies in oilseeds for increasing the production and productivity and to make oilseeds cultivation profitable to farmers.