

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1351

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

IMPORT OF PALM OIL

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) whether Palmolein and Palm oil are being imported at zero duty;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to hike the duty in order to save coconut oil industry and growers from crash in price of coconut; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Yes, Madam. Crude palm oil is being imported at nil import duty and refined palmolein at an import duty of 7.5%.
- (b): There is wide gap between domestic availability and demand of edible oils in the country, which is met through imports. To facilitate smooth imports of edible oils, the import duty has been maintained as above.
- (c): No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise.