

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3352

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010

PRODUCTION OF EDIBLE OIL

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

- (a) whether the production of edible oil is continuously declining in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the details of demand and supply of edible oil during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for decline in the production of edible oil alongwith the steps taken to increase the production thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which the production of edible oil has increased as a result of the steps taken thereon?

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. Production of oilseeds and availability of edible oils from domestic sources in the country since 2007-08 has been declining as seen from details below.

(Quantity in lakh tons)

OIL-YEAR

(Nov. to Oct.) 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10

Domestic Production of oilseeds 242.9 297.6 277.2 249.3

Availability of Edible Oils from Domestic Sources 73.7 86.5 84.6 79.3

Total Estimated Demand of Edible Oils 120.9 142.6 166.4 167.5

However, production of Oilseeds in Khariff 2010 is estimated to be higher than the previous Khariff season. The gap between domestic demand and supply of edible oils is met through imports.

(c) & (d): Major constrains in domestic production of oilseeds are these:-

- (i) Low productivity primarily due to their cultivation on un-irrigated areas;
- (ii) Lack of varietal replacement through development of hybrids in crops like groundnut, sesame, soyabean, niger, etc;
- (iii) Production losses due to pests and diseases; and
- (iv) Vagaries of nature.

Various steps taken to increase domestic production of oilseeds/edible oils are as follows:

- (i) Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major Oilseeds and 9 oil palm growing states to increase production and productivity of these crops in the country. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to farmers for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed,

distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals & equipments, weedicides, supply of micro nutrients & improved agricultural implements, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and training, publicity, etc.

(ii) Block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR in order to disseminate information on improved production technologies.