

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2280

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009

IMPORT DUTY ON EDIBLE OIL

Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the prices of the domestic coconut and other edible oils have fallen due to slashing of import duty on edible oils including palmolein causing a huge loss to the farmers and domestic manufacturers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the prevailing import duty imposed on different varieties of edible oils during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to assist the farmers and domestic manufacturers and ensure remunerative price to them?

**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): The prices of all major edible oils have fallen in the last one year because of measures taken by the Government such as reduction in import duties on all crude and refined oils to nil and 7.5% respectively and ban on export of major edible oils, fall in international prices etc. The export of coconut oil has been allowed through Cochin Port and import of palm oils through ports in Kerala has been prohibited. A statement showing details of import duty adjustments on various dates on edible oils during the last three years is annexed.

(c): Government of India fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) every year for oilseeds and undertake support price operations if the prices fall below MSP. Custom duties are adjusted keeping in view the interests of farmers, consumers and domestic manufacturers.