

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1453
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009
RISE IN PRICES OF EDIBLE OIL
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) the production and demand of edible oils in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the prices of edible oils have gone up considerably in the last one year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has imported edible oils to meet the shortage; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken/proposed to increase production and improve availability of edible oils in the country?

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): A statement showing details of production of oilseeds, net domestic availability and demand of edible oils for the last three years and current year is annexed.
- (b): No, Madam.
- (c): Does not arise.
- (d)&(e): Import of edible oils is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL) except coconut oil. During the current oil year 47.90 lakh tons of edible oils have been imported from November 2008 till May 2009. There was no import of edible oil on Government account in the financial year. During 2007-08, 3.6 lakh tons of edible oil was imported on Government account by PSUs.

Further, in order to increase the production and improve the availability of edible oils in the country, certain measures like downward revisions in the import duty on major crude and refined edible oils, ban on export of major edible oils, imposition of stock limits by State Governments and implementation of Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) etc. have been taken by the Government.