

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2979
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the decline in production and supply of oilseeds and increased consumption has led to an increase in the import of edible oil;
- (b) if so, the details of the total import made during 2011-12 and 2012-13 so far;
- (c) the extent to which reduced inventory by Malaysia and Indonesia and the reduced prices in the global market has led to increased imports by India during the said period; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the domestic demand and reduce imports by increasing the production of edible oil and oilseeds in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Import of edible oils has increased due to stagnant production of oilseeds and increase in consumption. The details of import of edible oils during 2011-12 and 2012-13 is detailed below;

Year (April-March) Quantity (in lakh tons)

2011-12 67.18

2012-13 53.13
(upto Sept., 12)

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (Deptt. of Commerce).

(c): Due to increase in domestic demand of edible oils in the country about half of the demand has to be met through imports during the said period. The reduced inventory by Malaysia and Indonesia and the reduced prices in the global market has not much impact on the imports in the country.

(d): The steps taken by Government to increase the production of oilseeds/edible oils in the country are:

(i) In order to enhance the production and productivity of oilseeds, maize & area expansion under oil palm, Govt. of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseed growing states, 15 maize growing states and 9 oil palm growing states to increase the production and productivity of these crops in the country. The Scheme of ISOPOM is being implemented with an allocation of Rs. 575 crores, through the State Department of Agriculture. The expenditure on subsidies is mostly shared on 75:25 basis between Central and State Governments.

(ii) Union Finance Minister in his budget speech for 2012-13 has announced a Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm during XII Plan which aims at increasing the domestic production of oilseeds/edible oils through several focused and integrated interventions in a time bound manner.