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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1993 ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009 IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to import palm oil during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the palm oil imported during the last three years and current year; and
- (c) whether the said palm oil has been sold through trading into the open market and the amount of profit earned by these agencies?

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 Government of India had implemented a 'Scheme for distribution of subsidised imported edible oils through States/UTs' during 2008-09 for import of upto 10 lakh tons of edible oils by designated Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) & National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED). The Central subsidy was Rs. 15/- per kg till January 2009 and thereafter Rs. 25/- per kg of imported edible oil handed over to the States for distribution. A quantity of 2,91,674 tons of refined palmolein was imported, out of which 2,46,914 tons was handed over to States/UTs for distribution. The Scheme ended on 31.3.2009. The Scheme has been extended in August 2009 for the current year upto 31.3.2010. The extended Scheme envisages import of upto 10 lakh tons of edible oils by PSUs, NAFED and National Cooperative Consumer Federation (NCCF) with a subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg of edible oils handed over to States for distribution. 68,890.90 tons of refined palmolein have been imported under the Scheme till 20.11.2009. There was no such Scheme and thus, no import of refined palmolein by the Government during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

(c): Under the 'Scheme for distribution of subsidised imported edible oils through States/UTs' implemented during the year 2008-09, the designated PSUs and NAFED had imported 2,91,674 tons of refined palmolein. Out of this quantity, 44,760 tons which was not lifted by the States, was sold in the open market through tenders. The PSUs and NAFED have not earned any profit in these sales. Out of the refined palmolein imported in 2009-10, no quantity has been sold in the open market.