

[Translation]

Import of Oil Seeds

2644. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

DR. RAVI MALLU :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

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

(a) the total quantity of oil seeds imported during each of the last two years;

(b) the total demand of oil seeds at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to import oil seeds instead of oil to meet the shortage of edible oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of oil-seeds likely to be imported; and

(e) the extent to which the import of oil seeds is likely to reduce the prices and short-fall of edible oil in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) As per available information there is no import of oil seeds during the last two years.

(b) The total demand of oil seeds computed in terms of edible oils for the year 1998-99 is estimated at 82 lakh MTs.

(c) In addition to vegetable oil, Government has allowed import of certain oilseeds namely soyabean, sunflower and rapeseed to meet the shortage of edible oils.

(d) The import of soyabean is allowed in split/cracked form. Import of sunflower and rapeseed is allowed subject to quarantine requirements. A duty of 45% is applicable to import of oil seeds. At this level of duty negligible import of oilseeds is visualised.

(e) Since sizeable import of oilseeds under the current circumstances is considered unlikely, its impact, if any is unlikely to be perceptible.

[English]

Import of Pulses

2645. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the type, quantity and countries from which

pulses have been imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchanges spent during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to ensure that the pulses maintain the quality; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Preservation of Water Bodies

2646. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount provided for preservation of the water bodies including the Dal Lake in J & K;

(b) whether these funds are likely to be used for preserving and developing water bodies in Jammu region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The following funds have been released up to 1997-98 by the Central Govt. to the Govt. of J & K, for conservation and management of wetlands and lakes in J & K:-

Wullar Lake	Rs. 92.154 lakhs
Tsomorari	Rs. 34.00 lakhs
Tisgoltso	Rs. 7.00 lakhs
Dal Lake	Rs. 2500 lakhs

In addition, Rs. 25 crores has been provided for Dal Lake in the Annual Plan 1998-99.

Funds have also been released so far for research activities in respect of the lakes and wetlands in J&K as indicated below:-

(i) Wullar Lake	Rs. 6.34 lakhs
(ii) Lake Manasar	Rs. 4.45 lakhs
(iii) Dal and Nagin Lakes	Rs. 2.49 lakhs
(iv) Shivalik lakes, Sunisar and Gharana Wetland	Rs. 2.63 lakhs
(v) Hokarsar Wetland	Rs. 2.17 lakhs