

### **Regarding increase in import of Soyabean oil from Nepal- Laid**

**SHRI MUKESHKUMAR CHANDRAKAANT DALAL (SURAT):** Although Nepal remains only marginal producer of soyabean oil, there has been unprecedented import from Nepal between April 2024 to November 2024, while the total import surged to 19% during the same period. It is a matter of grave concern for the country. China is biggest exporter of Soyabean oil but it does not directly export to India. It might be through Nepal route. The Government raised basic custom duty on refined palm, soya & sunflower oil from 13.75% to 20% in September 2024 to protect interest of Indian oil seed farmers which could be one of the reasons why its import skyrocketed in November 2023. This could be a result of the possible flouting of rules of origins by Nepal and zero duty structure it enjoys due to Nepal-India Treaty of Trade 2009. It is noteworthy that Nepal is a low edible oil consuming country & refined industries there have flourished only due to undue benefit of FTA duty structure. The Government needs to intervene immediately and initiate appropriate action.