

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:855
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
IMPORT OF SUGAR AND EDIBLE OILS
BHASKAR RAO PATIL;KAMAL NATH

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

- (a) the total quantum of sugar and edible oils imported during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise;
- (b) the countries from which such imports were made and under what terms and conditions;
- (c) the justification of importing such a huge quantum of edible oils;
- (d) whether the Government propose to encourage edible oil manufactures to boost their production; and
- (e) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a),(b)&(c): Sugar & Edible Oils have not been imported on Government account during the last three years. These items are under Open General Licence (OGL). The total quantum of sugar and edible oils imported during the last three years are as under:

Year	Quantity (lakh MT)
Sugar	
2000-2001	00.30
2001-2002	00.27
2002-2003	00.41
Edible Oils	
2000-2001	41.77
2001-2002	43.22
2002-2003	42.66

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata.

These items have been imported mainly from Brazil, Indonesia, Argentina, USA and Malaysia.

(d)&(e): Some of the steps taken by the Government to encourage edible oil manufacturers to boost their production are:

(i) A technology Mission on Oilseeds is in place to harness appropriate production processing and management technology;

(ii) Vanaspati manufacturers have been allowed to use 30% expeller mustard oil in the manufacture of vanaspati. In addition, coconut oil has also been allowed to be used in the manufacture of vanaspati in order to enhance the availability of permitted edible oils for the industry.