

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2565
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
IMPORT OF CRUDE PALM OIL
Patel Shri Dilip

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the adverse impact of increasing import of crude palm oil at zero duty on domestic edible oil industry including coconut oil industry and oil seeds farmers who are facing the problems of declining demand and unremunerative prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of crude palm oil imported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether Government proposes to enhance the import duty of crude palm oil to support the price of indigenous edible oil;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to support the indigenous edible oil industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) & (b): Import Duty on Crude Edible Oils including Crude Palm Oil has already been increased from zero to 2.5% with effect from 23.01.2013. The import of Crude Palm Oil has actually decreased as shown in table below:-

Import of Crude Palm Oil

Financial Year Quantity (in Lakh Tons)

2011-12	50.04
2012-13	70.04
2013-14	51.35
2014-15	35.71

(up to Sept)

Source : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S)

Also the domestic prices of major oilseeds viz Soyabean, Mustard, Milling Copra and Sunflower except Groundnut are presently above Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(c), (d) & (e): The Government reviews the impact of import of edible oils and takes necessary remedial measures, in order to support the indigenous edible oil industry.

The import duty on refined edible oils was increased from 7.5% to 10% with effect from 20.01.2014. Minimum Export Price (MEP) on export of edible oils in branded consumer packs of upto 5 Kg. has been decreased from USD 1400 to USD 1100 with effect from 30.04.2014, to promote export of premium edible oils.

To reduce dependency on imported edible oils by enhancing production of oilseeds and hence edible oil, Government of India is implementing the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) in the country during the XIIth Five Year Plan. Under the Mini Mission – II (Oil Palm) of NMOOP, the financial support is being provided to the farmers @ 85% cost of the planting material and @50% cost of other components like maintenance cost of new plantations for three years, installation of drip-irrigation system, diesel/electric pump-sets, bore-well/ water harvesting structure /ponds, input for inter-cropping in oil palm, construction of vermin-compost units and purchase of machinery & tools etc.