

Targeted Public Distribution (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Government of India and State/UT Governments. The Government of India carries out procurement of foodgrains for the TPDS, their storage, transportation and allocation to the State/UT Governments. The responsibilities for lifting of the allocated foodgrains, their distribution within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL and AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration cardholders through fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments,

As per provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001, functioning of FPS is regulated by State/UT Governments.

TPDS is being operated in all States and UTs. For streamlining its functioning, the Government has directed State and UT Governments for:—

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels; and
- (iv) introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart card based delivery of essential commodities.

#### **Import duty on edible oil**

3076. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the competent authority has reduced import duty on edible oil consistently over the past three years;
- (b) if so, the details including the import duty of crude palmolein and palmoil for the last three years, year-wise and category-wise;
- (c) the quantity of palmoil and crude palmolein imported during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise;
- (d) whether competent authority has taken any step to protect the farmers and coconut growers who are badly affected by the edible oil import;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The import duty on edible oil has been reduced over the past three years. The details of import duty including the import duty of crude palmolein and palm oil for the last three years, year-wise and category-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The quantities imported during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise is given below:—

*Quantity in MTs*

Item description	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Crude palm oil and its fractions	1959920	2541629	3276662
Refined bleached deodorised palm oil	97	15318	14074
Refined bleached deodorised palmolein	269797	68751	160468
Other refined palm oil	219370	140684	63696

Source: DGCIS, Kolkatta

(d) to (f) Government has taken various steps to protect the interest of farmers and coconut growers in the country include:—

- (i) A centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major oilseeds growing States for increasing production. Under the above Scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, gypsum/pyrite/lime/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity etc. to encourage farmers to grow these crops.
- (ii) Enhanced incentives to farmers through fixation of higher Minimum Support Price of major oilseeds.
- (iii) Research for development of higher yielding improved varieties and production and protection technologies in oilseeds.
- (iv) Export of coconut oil has been permitted through Cochin Port and import of crude and refined palm oils through any port in Kerala has been prohibited to help maintain coconut oil prices, thereby protecting the interest of coconut growers.

**Statement**

*Details of import duty including the import duty of Crude Palmolein and Palm Oil for the last three years*

Name of Oil	Rates of import duty/effective dates					
1	2					
Crude Palm Oil	70%	60%	50%	45%	20%	-Nil-
	(11-08-06)	(24-01-07)	(13-04-07)	(23-07-07)	(21-03-08)	(01-04-08)
RBD Palmolein	80%	67.5%	57.5%	52.5%	27.5%	7.5%
	(11-08-06)	(24-01-07)	(13-04-07)	(23-07-07)	(21-03-08)	(01-04-08)

	1		2		
Crude Soyabean Oil	40%	-Nil-	20%	-Nil-	
	(23-07-07)	(01-04-08)	(18-11-08)	(24-03-09)	
Refined Soyabean Oil	40%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	
	(23-07-07)	(01-04-08)	(01-04-08)	(01-04-08)	
Crude Sunflower Oil	65%	50%	40%	20%	-Nil-
	(24-01-07)	(01-03-07)	(23-07-07)	(21-03-08)	(01-04-08)
Refined Sunflower Oil	75%	60%	50%	27.5%	7.5%
	(24-01-07)	(01-03-07)	(23-07-07)	(21-03-08)	(01-04-08)

#### Wholesale and consumer price index

†3077. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the rate of wholesale price index of the country remaining almost at zero in the months of May and June, 2009 the consumer price index was being evaluated at 10 per cent;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the actual status of the rising prices in the country is ascertained only on the basis of consumer price index because this affects the common man; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Wholesale Price Inflation (WPI) in May and June, 2009 was 1.06% and (-) 1.40% respectively, while the Consumer Price Index (Industrial Workers) (CPI-IW) inflation for May, 2009, the latest month for which data is available, was 8.63%.

(c) and (d) Inflation in India is currently measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and four Consumer Price Indices (CPI), constructed for specific user groups, such as industrial workers (CPI-IW), urban non-manual employees (CPI-UNME), agricultural labourers (CPI-AL) and rural labourers (CPI-RL) whereas WPI is a single National Index compiled at the national level. CPI is a user specific and centre-specific Index Numbers. All India CPI of each user group is a weighted average of centre specific Index Numbers. Both group of Indices have their unique use. The WPI is used for broad macro-economic quick policy responses. CPIs are used for wage indexation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.