

**Sharp rise in price of mustard oil**

2324. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of mustard oil has registered a sharp rise recently;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to bring down the price and ensure availability of edible oils in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The prices of mustard oil did go up recently on account of fall in production because of adverse weather conditions.

(c) The following specific measures were taken to improve the domestic availability of edible oils :

I. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil. Export of other edible oil in branded consumer packs of up to 5kg is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.

II. States/UTs have been empowered to impose stock holding limits for edible oils under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

III. States were also advised to take strict action against Hoarding/Black Marketing.

IV. A National Mission on Oilseeds and Palm oil (NMOOP) is being implemented since 2014-15 where assistance is being provided to farmers for various components/ interventions in order to increase oilseed production.

V. To incentivize its production of oilseeds, its MSP have been raised.

**Assistance under CRF/SDRF and NDRF**

2325. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider for enhancing input assistance extended under Calamity Relief Fund (CRFV/State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF)/National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) to calamity affected farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government and if not, the reasons therefor in this regard?