

Production of Edible Oils

921. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is producing the required quantity of edible oils;
- (b) if so, the requirement, production and consumption of edible oils during the last three years, State-wise particularly in Gujarat;
- (c) the quantity of edible oils imported during the said period; and
- (d) the percentage of population in the country consuming indigenous edible oils, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The import of edible oils during the last three years is as under:-

(Quantity in lakh Mts)	
Year	Imports of edible Oils*
1999-2000	41.96 41.77
2000-2001	42.14 (Prov.)
2001-2002	

Source: *DGCI & S, Kolkata

Approximately 55% of the demand is met through indigenous oils. Data relating to consumption of edible oils, State-wise is not maintained as there is no restriction on the inter-State movement of oilseeds/oils.

Exports of Poor Quality of Rice

922. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that between January and September 2002, traders have exported four lakh tonnes of poor quality rice even though contracts specified higher quality and pocketed the difference;