

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2092
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13/12/2024

MEASURES TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

2092. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of major agro products imported in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has introduced any measures to reduce dependence on agricultural imports, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the policies and schemes to ensure self-sufficiency in agriculture?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): India imported Rs. 2.39 Lakh Crore, 2.83 Lakh Crore and 2.69 Lakh Crore worth of agricultural and allied products in the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, respectively (As per data available on the website of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics).

(b) & (c): India has a surplus in trade in agricultural commodities. Vegetable oils constitute a major import item group, and National Mission on Edible Oils-Oilseeds (NMEO-OS) and National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) have been implemented to address their issues. Enhanced production and productivity of crops is one of the most important measures to reduce dependence on agricultural imports. As such, for increasing production and productivity of agro products including oilseeds, food grains, pulses, fruits and spices etc., Government implements various programmes/schemes, viz. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card etc. Additionally, seed hubs have been established through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to ensure the availability of quality seeds for crops such as millets and pulses, with the aim of enhancing their production and productivity.
