

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3842
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04/04/2025

AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY SEEDS UNDER NMEO-OILSEEDS

3842. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether India is heavily dependent on imports to meet domestic demand for edible oils;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to launch National Mission on Edible Oils-Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds);
- (d) if so, the aims and objectives thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which Government proposes to ensure timely availability of quality seeds and also likely steps to be taken to expand oilseed cultivation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, while oilseed production in India has been increasing steadily for last 10 years, due to larger increase in demand, the country has been importing edible oil, details as under:

(Qty in Lakh Tonne)

Oil Year (Nov.- Oct.)	Production of Oilseeds	Domestic Production of Edible Oils	Imports of Edible Oils*	Total Availability/ Consumption	% Share of self - sufficiency	% Share of imports
2014-15	275.11	92.00	138.50	230.50	40.00	60.00
2023-24	396.69	121.75	156.55	278.30	43.75	56.25

* Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (Ministry of Commerce)

(c) to (e): The Union Cabinet has approved the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-OS) on 3rd October, 2024, an initiative aimed at boosting domestic oilseed production for implementation all over the country over a seven-year period, from 2024-25 to 2030-31 to strive toward self-sufficiency in edible oil production.

The objective of NMEO-Oilseeds is to enhance the production of key primary oilseed crops such as Rapeseed-Mustard, Groundnut, Soybean, Sunflower, and Sesamum, as well as increasing collection and extraction efficiency from secondary sources like Cottonseed, Rice Bran, Corn oil and Tree Borne Oils. The mission aims to increase primary oilseed production from 39 million tonnes (2022-23) to 69.7 million tonnes by 2030-31.

The Mission specifically focuses on small and marginal farmers with the objective of improving their oilseed crop yields through initiatives such as Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs), Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLDs) and Block-Level Demonstrations (BLDs), thereby exposing farmers to good agricultural practices and access to essential production inputs.

Furthermore, NMEO-OS has provision for setting up of Value Chain Clusters to be managed by Value Chain Partners (FPOs, Cooperatives and other agencies) for providing high-quality seeds, training in good agricultural practices, advisory services on weather and pest management and procurement support to the participating farmers in the cluster including small and marginal farmers. In addition, the mission supports establishment and upgradation of post-harvest infrastructure to enhance the recovery of products from secondary sources such as cottonseed, rice bran, corn oil, and Tree-Borne Oils (TBOs).

Through the mission, production of improved varieties and hybrids of oilseeds are being promoted by way of 100% support for breeder seeds and for certified seeds used for distribution in the Value Chain Clusters. Additionally, under the mission, there is a provision for establishing 65 new seed hubs and 50 seed storage units in the public sector, significantly enhancing the production and storage of seeds across the country. The mission entails advance tie-ups with seed-producing agencies e.g. cooperatives, FPOs, and government or private seed corporations through a five-year online seed rolling plan facilitated on the central seed portal (SATHI).
