

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2403
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2015

IMPORT OF OIL SEEDS

2403. SHRI DILIP PATEL:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- a) the quantum and value of different varieties of GMO Oil seeds including white poppy, canola, sunflower and soya seeds imported into the country during each of the last three years and relaxation given in the criteria fixed for their import, country and variety-wise;
- b) whether the Government proposes to import different varieties of seeds including canola seeds in higher quantity during the current year and if so, the quantum and value thereof;
- c) whether any relaxation has been given for import permission at the port of exit for seeds and any oil and if so, the details thereof; and
- d) whether the Government has any agency/committee to examine the quality of imported seeds and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d): Country-wise and variety-wise India's import of all oil seeds for the last three years and current year (up to September, 2015) is at Annex.

Import of oil seeds is free; only seed quality is 'restricted'. Import of seed is subject to Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules there under for sanitary (bacterial contaminants, pesticides, inspection and labelling) purpose and Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 for phytosanitary (pest & disease) purpose.

Import Policy of Genetically Modified Food, Feed, Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) is duly notified under ITC (HS) 2012, Schedule-1 (Import Policy). Import

of GM food requires prior approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) constituted under Rules, 1989. The above regulations provide for taking punitive action against the importers in case of wrong declaration or import without prior approval of the GEAC.

The Government of India is following a policy of case by case approval of genetically modified (GM) crops. In view of the safety concerns, all crops are tested for its safety, efficacy and agronomic benefits in accordance with the prescribed biosafety guidelines and provisions of 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms (HMOs) / Genetically Engineered Organisms (GMOs) or Cells,1989' (Rules, 1989) notified under the Environment (Protection) Act,1986. The environmental safety assessment includes studies on pollen escape out-crossing, aggressiveness and weediness, effect of the gene on non-target organisms, presence of protein in soil and its effect on soil micro-flora, confirmation of the absence of terminator gene and baseline susceptibility studies. The food and feed safety studies include assessment on composition analysis, allergenicity and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes. In case, the transgenic crop is not found suitable for release in the environment or human consumption, the product is rejected during the trial stage itself. Permission is granted on case by case basis following regulatory guidelines and procedures stipulated under Rules 1989. In addition, GM seeds also undergo obligatory and elaborate post-entry quarantine processing and molecular and quarantine testing for pest, pathogens & insects before initiating further research on it.

Further, vide Gazette Notification GSR 584 (E), 586 (E), 588(E) and 589(E) dated 1stSeptember, 2006, issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change , the seed inspectors, seed analyst and laboratories notified under the Seed Act, 1966 and seed Control Order, 1983 have been empowered under EPA, 1986.

IMPORT OF OIL SEEDS

(VALUES IN MILLION USD)

ITCHS	ITCHS DESC	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
		QTY(TON)	VAL	QTY(TON)	VAL	QTY(TON)	VAL
12011000	SOYA BEANS W/N BROKEN OF SEED QLTY	235.00	0.03	75.00	0.01		
12019000	OTHER SOYA BEANS	837.40	0.62	440.31	0.46	6311.56	3.82
12022010	SHELLED GROUNDNUTS KERNEL H.P.S	19.00	0.03				
12022090	SHELLED GROUNDNUTS KERNEL N.E.S	19.15	0.03				
12024220	KERNELS, OTHER					20.00	0.02
12024290	OTHER			114.00	0.06	106.20	0.06
12040010	LINSEED W/N BROKEN OF SEED QLTY					110.38	0.07

12040090	OTHER LINSEED W/N BROKEN	22.00	0.02	270.40	0.20	587.10	0.37
12051000	LOW ERVUCACID RAPE OR COLZA SEEDS	0.12	0.00				
12059000	OTHER RAPE/COLZA SEEDS W/N BROKEN	75.00	0.02	19.79	0.12		
12060010	SUNFLOWER SEEDS W/N BROKEN OF SEED QLTY	1258.00	0.69	1086.00	0.61	1238.00	0.65
12060090	OTHER SUNFLOWER SEEDS W/N BROKEN	150.56	0.08	0.82	0.01	7.00	0.01
12074010	SESAMUM SEED W/N BROKEN OF SEED QLTY	2154.00	3.23	5743.41	9.64	12663.20	21.15
12074090	OTHER SESAMUM SEEDS W/N BROKEN	35896.45	51.41	67184.69	124.85	22104.59	41.52
12079100	POPPY SEEDS W/N BROKEN	13209.56	28.01	15110.00	51.06	12834.15	39.10
12079910	AJAMS W/N BROKEN	126.00	0.04				
12079930	NIGER SEED W/N BROKEN					703.00	0.60
12079990	OTHER OIL SEEDS AND OLEGINOUS FRUITS W/N BROKEN	41551.76	18.66	52810.20	26.09	43305.79	21.67
Grand Total		95554.00	102.85	142854.61	213.10	99990.96	129.05

NOTE:FIGURES FOR 2015-16(APR TO SEP)
IS PROVISIONAL.

COUNTRY-WISE IMPORT OF OIL SEEDS							(VALUES IN MILLION USD)	
COUNTRY	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16(APR TO SEP)	
	QTY(TON)	VAL	QTY(TON)	VAL	QTY(TON)	VAL	QTY(TON)	VAL
AFGHANISTAN	51.250	0.044						
AUSTRALIA			0.060	0.0004	0.115	0.001		
BANGLADESH PR	75.000	0.016						
BENIN	6528.756	3.239	7743.990	3.581	2133.000	1.170		
BURKINA FASO			54.000	0.097	639.000	0.366	380.280	0.486
CANADA			4.548	0.006	30.000	0.011	68.000	0.043
CHAD			417.990	0.721				
CHINA P RP	663.000	1.413	578.432	1.677	1808.000	6.004	1739.000	4.411
COSTA RICA	950.000	0.578	1125.962	1.022	100.000	0.080		
COTE D'IVOIRE	1116.240	0.674	700.250	0.500	182.000	0.091		
CZECH REPUBLIC	65.000	0.178	174.000	0.693	152.000	0.520	51.000	0.164
DJIBOUTI	608.000	0.963	57.000	0.110	660.000	0.385		
EGYPT A RP	127.000	0.060	216.000	0.380	48.000	0.017		
ETHIOPIA	2452.000	3.864	1254.000	2.626	5884.556	4.356	8122.500	5.327
FRANCE			50.306	0.036				
GERMANY	19.500	0.028	57.217	0.104				
GHANA	20699.000	9.448	37452.000	19.035	28207.000	15.693	446.000	0.355
GREECE	48.000	0.092			19.000	0.054		
GUINEA BISSAU							129.000	0.156
IRAN	764.250	0.261	564.350	0.187	372.000	0.172	131.000	0.087
ISRAEL			18.000	0.056				
ITALY	19.000	0.028			37.000	0.104		
JAPAN	0.460	0.001						
KENYA			33.000	0.064	24.000	0.050		
KOREA RP	0.120	0.000			618.000	1.579		
MADAGASCAR			11.000	0.011				
MALAWI			155.000	0.083	104.000	0.060		
MALAYSIA			50.000	0.050				
MALI							190.000	0.240
MOLDOVA					745.000	0.373	1009.000	0.477
MOZAMBIQUE	200.000	0.164	91.000	0.116	398.000	0.581		
MYANMAR					703.000	0.599	3443.000	3.993
NEPAL	37.000	0.021	227.000	0.146	783.680	0.472	73.500	0.039
NETHERLAND					20.160	0.024		
NEW ZEALAND			19.725	0.119				
NIGERIA	7486.049	10.881	12698.520	22.877	3459.310	4.470	2111.900	2.589
PAKISTAN IR	3034.397	4.145	15835.762	31.580	1827.513	2.574	95.000	0.123
RUSSIA					20.000	0.022		
SENEGAL							38.000	0.044
SINGAPORE			315.000	0.532	37.000	0.109		
SOMALIA	7983.060	9.949	25745.530	43.860	20146.425	35.846	9449.829	11.565
SRI LANKA DSR			3.000	0.006				
SUDAN	23334.974	22.886	18669.180	30.022	18441.234	18.434	2186.280	2.858
TAIWAN					12.817	0.049		
TANZANIA REP	1399.064	0.765	996.000	0.615	797.000	1.478	93.860	0.178
THAILAND	741.989	0.956	1026.000	0.373				
TOGO	1684.152	2.615	660.560	1.184	147.000	0.320	380.300	0.481
TURKEY	12481.559	26.418	14358.000	48.689	10881.149	32.587	7596.288	22.711
U ARAB EMTS	1866.150	2.455	1231.705	1.794				
U K	19.030	0.025	0.018	0.000			0.050	0.000
U S A	758.000	0.555	0.500	0.000	126.000	0.114	304.000	0.280
UGANDA	235.000	0.033	131.000	0.109				

UKRAINE					389.000	0.218		
UNSPECIFIED	107.000	0.096			19.000	0.038	57.205	0.102
UZBEKISTAN					20.000	0.023		
VIETNAM SOC REP			129.000	0.038				
Grand Total	95554.000	102.851	142854.605	213.100	99990.959	129.045	38094.992	56.708
NOTE: FIGURES FOR 2015-16(APR TO SEP) IS PROVISIONAL.								
