

## **EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF OILCAKES AND EDIBLE OILS IN INDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

India being one of the largest producers of oilseeds in the world has also become the largest importer of edible oils in the world. The production of oilseeds in the recent years has fallen short of the requirements due to number of reasons. Whereas, the percapita consumption of vegetable oils rising continuously may be due to oils and fats forming an essential part of human diet, increasing population and economic growth. The percapita consumption of vegetable oils is rising continuously touching 12.1 kg/year in 2006-07 and it is likely to increase to 12.5 kg/ year in 2007-08. As per the recent projection by DAC-Rabo Bank, the percapita consumption of vegetable oils is likely to rise to 12.60, 14.57 and 16.38 kg/ year by 2010, 2015 and 2020 respectively. This amounts to vegetable oil requirement of 14.8, 18.3 and 21.8 million tonnes by 2010, 2015 and 2020 respectively for a projected population of 1175, 1256 and 1331 million respectively. In terms of oilseeds, it is nearly equivalent to 44.8, 55.5 and 66.0 million tonnes by 2010, 2015 and 2020 respectively, provided that the proportion of different oilseeds remains constant in the coming years. India is the world's leading importer of edible oils and likely to remain an important source of global import demand for the foreseeable future. Against this background the primary objective of this paper is to analyze the share of edible oils in the country's total imports of agricultural products and total imports as well as the trends in exports and imports of oilcakes and edible oils based on the availability of data respectively in India during 1980-81 to 2008-09 and Compound growth rate is calculated which intended to throw light on the imbalance between domestic consumption and production of edible oils over the period under the study. In pursuit of this, the paper outlines the role of the state in supplying quality seeds, introducing crop insurance to the farmers. Further, introduction of new technology in the farm field at a low cost which has direct bearing on production and productivity of oilseeds.

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