
GS-III Storage, Transport and Marketing of Agricultural Produce and Issues and Related Constraints

- 1. Free Market Import of Edible Oil for the last 25 years has advanced Consumers' Interests; but has Miserably Failed to protect growers' Interest. Critically Analyze.**

Why this Question?

- Despite chronic shortage, oilseed growers are often in distress as market prices rule below the government-assured minimum support price.

Key Demands of Question:

- Impacts of free market import of edible oil of the country.

Directive Word:

Critically Analyze:

- When asked to Analyze, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.
- Whenever it is asking Critically Examine, Critically Comment or Critically Analyse just remember that you have to write both pros and cons and give a fair, unbiased or value loaded judgement. It should always give a closure feeling while examiner reading the answer.

Structure of Answer:

Introduction:

- Give brief intro about the oil sector in India. Mention some current import statistics or India's stagnant growth in the sector.

Body:

- Explain how free market import benefits the consumers interests like availability, affordability, etc.
- Discuss the adverse impact of the free market imports on production side. For example lack of minimum support price, no value addition, stagnant growth of the domestic industry, etc.
- Explain the measures to boost the domestic supplies of edible oil. For example, regulation of imports, expanding yield, infrastructure creation, etc.

Conclusion:

- Conclude with the policy objective should be balance to growers and Consumers Interests.