

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** June 30, 2023

**Report Number:** IN2023-0045

**Report Name:** India Reduces Import Duties on Refined Sunflower and Soybean Oils

**Country:** India

**Post:** New Delhi

**Report Category:** Oilseeds and Products, Trade Policy Monitoring

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**Report Highlights:**

On June 14, 2023, India's Ministry of Finance issued Public Notice No. 39/2023 - Customs that reduces the import duty on refined sunflower and soybean oils. As of June 15, 2023, the basic customs duty (BCD) for both refined oils are lowered from 17.5 percent to 12.5 percent, which aligns with the government's import duty for refined, bleached deodorized (RBD) palm olein. The move is intended to control fluctuating edible oil prices.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

On June 14, 2023, India's Ministry of Finance issued Public Notice No. 39/2023 - Customs. The notification states that as of June 15, 2023, the Indian government has reduced the BCD for refined sunflower and soybean oils from 17.5 percent to 12.5 percent. With a 10 percent Social Welfare Surcharge (cess), the effective duty is 13.75 percent for both oils. The revised BCD aligns with the import duty for RBD palm olein. Unrefined (crude) palm, sunflower, and soybean oils are subject to a 5 percent basic customs duty.

While India primarily imports crude edible oils, the government's move is intended to diversify its edible oil basket and control price food price inflation leading into 2024. The Refined Palm Oil Concessional Duties, amended on December 28, 2022, have supported the increased use of RBD palm olein due to the narrow price differential between RBD palm olein and crude palm oil. India's palm oil imports fell to a 14-month low in April 2023, owing to increased domestic supply and imports of heavily discounted sunflower oil.<sup>1</sup>

## Background

For additional background, see: [India: Oilseeds and Products 2023 Annual - IN2023-0031](#)

The full text of the notification can be found at the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (Ministry of Finance) website at <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/>.

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<sup>1</sup> See: "India's April palm oil imports slump 30% to 14-month low." [Reuters](#), Published on May 12, 2023.

**Appendix I: Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Department of Revenue,  
Ministry of Finance Notification No. 39/2023-Customs; Decrease in Import Duties on  
Refined Sunflower and Soybean Oils**

नोट : प्रधान अधिसूचना संख्या 48/2021-सीमा शुल्क, दिनांक 13 अक्टूबर, 2021, को सा.का.नि. 733(अ), दिनांक 13 अक्टूबर, 2021, के तहत भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण, के भाग II, खंड 3, उप-खंड (i) में प्रकाशित किया गया था, और इसमें अंतिम संशोधन अधिसूचना संख्या 65/2022-सीमा शुल्क, दिनांक 29 दिसंबर, 2022, सा.का.नि. 909(अ), दिनांक 29 दिसंबर, 2022, के तहत भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण, के भाग II, खंड 3, उप खंड (i) में प्रकाशित, के द्वारा किया गया है।

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**(Department of Revenue)**

**NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 14th June, 2023

**No. 39/2023-Customs**

**G.S.R. 439(E).**—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 48/2021-Customs, dated the 13th October, 2021, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), *vide* number G.S.R. 733(E), dated the 13th October, 2021, namely:-

In the said notification, in the Table,

- i. against S. No. 2, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "12.5%" shall be substituted;
  - ii. against S. No. 6, in column (4), for the entry, the entry "12.5%" shall be substituted.
2. This notification shall come into force with effect from the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

[F. No. CBIC-190354/227/2022-TO(TRU-D)]

NITISH KARNATAK, Under Secy.

**Note :** The principal notification No. 48/2021-Customs, dated the 13th October, 2021, was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), *vide* number G.S.R. 733(E), dated the 13th October, 2021, and was last amended *vide* notification No. 65/2022-Customs, dated the 29th December, 2022, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), *vide* number G.S.R. 909(E), dated the 29th December, 2022.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.