# New White Paper Charts India's Path to Palm Oil Self-Sufficiency by 2047

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**Mumbai, India, September 26, 2025:** Solidaridad Asia, in collaboration with The Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA) and the Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA), released a research-backed white paper titled Path to Palm Oil Self-Sufficiency in India. The white paper provides a comprehensive strategy to reduce India's heavy reliance on palm oil imports, boost domestic production, and achieve up to 50% self-sufficiency by 2047, potentially saving trillions of dollars in import costs while enhancing farmer income and environmental sustainability.

India, the world's largest importer of palm oil, sourced 8.9 million metric tonnes (mmt) in 2023— accounting for 21% of the global imports—while the domestic output met less than 5% of the demand. With the projected vegetable oil demand reaching 66.8 mmt by 2047, driven by rising incomes, urbanisation and growing reliance on processed and packaged foods, the white paper warns of a potential 40 mmt supply gap if production lags.

"India's pursuit of self-sufficiency in edible oils is both a national imperative and a collective responsibility. Among vegetable oils, palm oil stands out for its affordability, versatility, and critical role in meeting both nutritional and industrial needs. Yet, domestic production of Palm Oil fulfils only a small fraction of our demand, leaving the nation heavy depend on its import," said Dr B.V. Mehta, Executive Director, SEA.

The white paper highlights the potential of palm across critical pathways.

Economic resilience: Oil palm is a highly profitable crop, delivering a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) of 1.49, compared to 1.03 for rice and 1.13 for cotton. In states like Andhra Pradesh, transitioning from low-return crop cycles, such as rice-rice, rice-maize, and groundnut-based systems to oil palm can boost farmer profits by INR 30,000 to INR 1,50,000 per hectare per year.

Multi-sectoral growth: An expanded palm oil value chain is projected to create an additional cumulative output of INR 15 trillion by 2047, creating an estimated 6.9 lakh new employment opportunities per year.