case of emergency and shortages in the country. GTC has occasionally announced international tenders.

According to the article no. 16 of the law governing the import of food, beverages and cosmetics, release of these commodities out of customs requires the following certificates:

- Suppliers health certificate
- Suppliers consumption expiry date
- Disinfectant certificate by supplier (soyfood for poultry)
- Import certificate by The Ministry of Health which requires the analysis formula and the name of preservatives
- ISIRI (Institute of Standards and Industrial Investigation of Iran) certificate

Crude oilseeds are exempted from customs duties because their import is widely done by GTC (about 90% of the imported volume) and also due to the fact that the import licenses are granted on the basis of the official exchange rate (Rls. 70 per US\$ while the current floating rate is above Rls 1,600). Changes in the import regulations can always be expected.

List of major importers

Governmental Trading Company (GTC) Add: No. 185 Gharani Ave., Tehran

Tel: 009821 882 7121-8

Fax: 83 53 33

Tlx: 212369/213842/213720

222830/222831/214163 GTC IR