

USSEC GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

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Soy Flour Improves Health in India

The government of the Indian state of Gujarat voted to fund three nutritional programs whose primary goal will be to raise their low health index ratings by fortification of foods with soy flour. Chief Minister Narendra Modi stated, "The soybean protein-fortified flour will be given to families living below the poverty line, children in schools for mid-day meal, as well as pregnant and lactating women." Gujarat is located in western India and has a population of over 50 million.

Consultant Raj Kapoor worked closely with government officials and stakeholders to convince state legislators to support the inclusion of soy flour as a major part of these efforts. Human Nutrition Director Suresh Itapu noted, "This success is a great boost for human soy consumption and will be used in similar programs throughout India." Kapoor and Itapu estimate Gujarat's annual soybean use will reach 1.5 million bushels.



The activities of the U.S. Soybean Export Council to expand international markets for U.S. soybeans and soy products are made possible by producer checkoff dollars invested by the United Soybean Board and various State Soybean Councils, support from cooperating industry, and through the American Soybean Association's investment of cost-share funding provided by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.