

*[English]***Production of Fruits and Vegetables**

1217. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) the rank of India among the fruits and vegetables producing countries of the World;

(b) the percentage of the fruits and vegetables produce being exported to other countries from India;

(c) the steps being taken to increase the percentage of such export;

(d) the stage at which the decision regarding setting up of Food Processing & Training centres in different State particularly in Orissa stands; and

(e) the steps being taken to set up the EPTCS in Orissa expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) . India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the World and exports about 0.26% of its production of fruits and 0.69% of vegetables.

(c) The Government under its plan schemes assist various organisations/agencies to create post-largest infrastructure facilities like precooling, grading, cold/cool storage and cold transportation etc. for fruits and vegetables with a view to prolong their shelf life for export/ Besides this the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides technical, financial and marketing assistance to the growers and exporters.

(d) and (e) Till February, 1996, the Ministry has provided assistance for setting up of 179 Food Processing & Training Centres to various Organisations in the country out of which, 31 are in the State of Orissa. State wise details of these Food Processing and Training Centres are given in the enclosed Statement.

**STATEMENT**

*Statement of Food Processing & Training Centres Assisted During 1992-93 to 1995-96 (upto Feb. 96)*

S.No.	State	Number of FPTCs Assisted
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	21
4.	Bihar	18
5.	Goa	-
6.	Gujarat	3
7.	Haryana	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4

1	2	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6
10.	Karnataka	8
11.	Kerala	6
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5
13.	Maharashtra	5
14.	Manipur	-
15.	Meghalaya	-
16.	Mizoram	6
17.	Nagaland	2
18.	Orissa	32
19.	Punjab	-
20.	Rajasthan	3
21.	Sikkim	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	10
23.	Tripura	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	29
25.	West Bengal	9
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-
27.	Chandigarh	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-
29.	Daman & Diu	-
30.	Delhi	1
31.	Lakshadweep	-
32.	Pondicherry	-
Total		179

**Visit of US Defence Secretary**

1218. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the US Defence Secretary had recently visited India;

(b) if so, what was the proposed agenda for discussion and the issues actually discussed during his visit;

(c) whether there was any reference to the violation of International laws by Pakistan by abetting terrorism across the border; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the discussion held in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) . Do not arise.