

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
AGRO BASED INDUSTRIES
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the position of Agro based industries specially in eastern part of India like Bihar, Assam etc.;
- (b) whether the Government propose to encourage agro based industries and food processing industries in these States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and financial assistance given to start such industries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH)

(a) & (b): Government has been taking a number of steps for the development of processed food industries in the country. Under the Plan Schemes of the Department of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is provided to private industries, Public Sector Undertakings, Non-Governmental Organizations, Cooperatives, Human Resource Development Organisations and Research & Development Institutions etc, for the development of processed food sector. The schemes provide for higher quantum of assistance for projects to be set up in difficult areas which include Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North-Eastern States and integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas. These schemes are project oriented and not State specific. The Department do not set up any unit directly in any State.

(c): Financial assistance of about Rs. 5.06 crores has been provided in respect of proposals received from Assam and Bihar during the first three years of the Ninth Plan (1997- 98 to 1999-2000).