

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:20
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003
FOOD LAW FOR FPI
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to evolve a simple and rational food law that would allow for speedy decision making and promote self compliance by the Food Processing Industries (FPI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are considering to simplify the procedures for financial assistance and rationalising the tax structure for FPI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 20 for answer on 21.7.2003 regarding Food Law for FPI.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A Group of Ministers (GOM) has been constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other changes for preparing a Modern Integrated Food Law and related regulations. It is proposed to converge and modernize the existing laws and to bring about a single statute for regulation of food products that would allow for speedy decision-making. This law is expected to take into account the international scenario and the modern developments so as to create an enabling environment and promote self-compliance by the food processing industries.

(c) & (d): Simplified guidelines have been prepared by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to help entrepreneurs access financial assistance under the various Plan Schemes being operated by the Ministry.

Rationalization of taxes is an ongoing process and the Government of India takes appropriate measures from time to time in this regard. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also written to the State Governments for granting exemptions from sales tax on food processing industries.