

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:557
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006
FOOD TESTING LABORATORIES .
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) Whether the Government provides financial assistance under its Plan Scheme for setting up/upgradation of food testing laboratories;
- (b) If so, the details of financial assistance provided for the purpose during each of last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) The steps taken by the Government to strengthen the food testing laboratories for the benefit of consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) provides financial assistance under its Plan Scheme to various stakeholders for setting up / up-gradation of food testing laboratories. Under the Plan Scheme, the Central/State Government organizations, IITs and Universities are eligible for grant-in-aid limited to entire cost of the capital equipments required for setting up/ up-gradation of such laboratories. All other implementing agencies are eligible for grant-in-aid limited to 33% of the cost of capital equipment required for setting up/up-gradation of such laboratories for general areas and 50% for difficult areas.

A statement indicating State-wise financial assistance provided by MFPI during last three years for setting up / up- gradation of food testing laboratories is at Annexure-I. The laboratory facilities thus created are common and can be availed by consumers, food processing units and other stakeholders for the purposes of testing of food products.