

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:252
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007
MEGA FOOD PARK SCHEME
Agarwal Shri Dharendra;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether there has been any discussion with the Planning Commission about the Mega Food Park Scheme;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the Mega Food Park Scheme and the subsidy or other incentives being provided by the Government to attract private sector in this scheme; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to the farmers from this scheme?

Answer

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

(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. 252 FOR 30TH AUGUST 2007 REGARDING MEGA FOOD PARK SCHEME

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has submitted a proposal to Planning Commission for Mega Food Parks under 11th Five Year Plan. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximizing value addition, minimizing wastages, increasing farmers' income and creating employment opportunities in rural sector. Mega Food Park envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages. The scheme also envisages Public Private Partnership (PPP) models for its implementation.

The Scheme proposes financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid upto 50% of the project cost in general areas and up to 75% of the project cost in special category states subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 Crores or the cost of approved facilities, whichever is lower, for all implementing agencies including private sector. The proposal also envisages infrastructure status under section 80 (1) (A) of Income Tax Act for mega food parks to attract private investment. The scheme is under finalization in consultation with Planning Commission for inclusion in the 11th Five Year Plan.