

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3389

ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO REDUCE WASTAGE OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering for Public Private Partnership to reduce the wastage of fruits and vegetables in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Under the Scheme of Infrastructure Development, Ministry is implementing an ambitious Scheme for Development of Mega Food Parks and Integrated Cold Chain Facilities for the food processing industries. The scheme envisaged to make available common infrastructure facilities, especially for small and medium enterprises. In the 11th Five Year, Government with a view to provide an integrated approach having strong backward and forward linkages, has come up with a new scheme of Mega Food Parks under Infrastructure Development. Under the new Scheme, grant in aid will be available upto 50% of the project cost in general areas and 75% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crore. It is proposed to set up 30 Mega Food Parks during the 11th Five Year Plan Period. The process of setting up of 10 out of these parks has already been initiated. The scheme is a demand driven and cluster based, where availability of raw material in the cluster is of utmost importance to sustain the commercial viability of Mega Food Parks.

In order to minimize wastage of fruit & vegetables, Ministry is encouraging setting up of cold chain facilities, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has a Plan Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during the 11th Plan to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public / private organizations for cold chain infrastructure development. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore.

These two schemes will provide necessary processing and refrigerating facilities from farm gate to the consumers thus minimizing wastage of fruits and vegetables.

(c): Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. MFPI through its various schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of food related infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities, modernization of Food Processing Sector including fruit & vegetables processing units.