

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:34
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009
FOOD PARKS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up any expert committee to review the functioning to the Food Park Scheme in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Food Processing Industries with a view to make schemes/programmes more supportive for farmers/investors and achieve the targets under the Vision 2015 had set up Sub-group on Infrastructure. The Sub-group reviewed the functioning of Food Parks set up during 8th to 10th Five Year Plan Periods and identified the problems relating to location, basic infrastructure facilities, financial assistance as well as weak linkages with markets & producers. Based on the suggestions of Sub-group, remedial measures were taken in the 11th Five Year Plan and a new scheme under Infrastructure Development, namely setting up of Mega Food Parks has been implemented.

The new scheme envisages an integrated approach having strong backward and forward linkages. The Scheme provides for a grants-in-aid up to 50% of the project cost in general areas and 75% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.50.00 crore. The Scheme is a demand driven and cluster based one where availability of raw material in the cluster is of utmost importance to sustain the commercial viability of Mega Food Parks.