

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:843

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010

PROCESSING OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

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

- (a) the percentage of fruits being processed in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether fruits worth millions of rupees get spoilt due to lack of processing and storage facilities in the country;
- (c) is so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regards?

Answer

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

(a): The level of processing of fruits and vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%. However Ministry of food processing industries do not maintain state-wise data.

(b) & (c): The low level of fruit and vegetables processing is due to non-availability of processable varieties of raw materials at right quantity and quality, seasonable nature of industry, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance to food processing industries including fruit and vegetable processing units in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs.50.00 lakh in general area or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs.75.00 lakh in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas.

(d): In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015.