

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4843
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010
CONFERENCE OF STATE FOOD PROCESSING MINISTERS
Thakor Shri Jagdish

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

- (a) whether the Food Processing Industry is suffering due to lack of finances, raw materials, technology and backward linkages with farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of outcome of the recently held national conference of the State Food Processing Ministers; and
- (d) the further action proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the Vision 2015 document of the Ministry, the food processing sector is suffering from lack of finances, inadequate variety of raw materials, low level of technology and poor backward linkages with farmers. The major constraints of food processing industry is confronting at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented and traditional farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities, lack of processable variety of raw material, lack of adequate inflow of investment in the sector etc.

(c): The State Food Ministers' Conference was organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 06-10-2009. Some of the important issues that were discussed during the Conference related to development of rural farm gate infrastructure, addressing procedural and regulatory constraints, uniform Food Processing Policy, Food Safety & Quality and Human Resources Development.

(d): Taking into consideration of the out come of the conference, this Ministry has urged all the State Governments/Union territories to frame suitable food processing policies catering to specific needs of the respective states/Union territories.