

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:435

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010

FOREIGN COLLABORATION IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the Government is seeking state-of-the-art technology from foreign countries for development of the food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for collaboration with Germany in the food processing sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the salient features of the proposed collaboration; and
- (f) the details of employment generation and other benefits expected to be achieved therein?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 435 FOR ANSWER ON 09.12.2010 REGARDING FOREIGN COLLABORATION IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR.

(a): Yes Sir.

(b): This Ministry is striving hard to facilitate the transfer of the state-of-the-art technology from foreign countries for development of the food processing sector in the country through cooperation in research, technical assistance / collaboration in food processing industries sector, setting up of Joint food testing labs and capacity building, etc.

(c): There is no specific proposal for collaboration with Germany in the food processing sector. However, a meeting was convened recently with the German Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection on 15.11.2010 at New Delhi for bilateral cooperation in the field of food processing sector.

(d): A meeting was held on 15.11.2010 at New Delhi between Union Food Processing Minister and German Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. During the meeting, both the Ministers have discussed, inter alia, the food processing sector at length.

(e): A Joint Statement was also signed between both the countries on 15.11.2010, which aims to achieve the following:

i. Possibilities of building food processing infrastructure and transfer of food processing technologies by German firms in India where Mega Food Parks and modern abattoirs are being established.

ii. Possibilities of capacity building and joint research programmes in food processing sector.

iii. Participation in important food fairs in Germany and vice-versa to facilitate B2B interaction, flow of investment and transfer of technology.

(f): The details of employment generation and other benefits expected to be achieved therein cannot be enumerated immediately as outcome of the bilateral cooperation between the two countries are known over a period of time. However, among many benefits, the bilateral cooperation with foreign countries have led to an increase in employment and exports of processed food items through transfer of technology that brings in value addition to processed food items. And also increased Foreign Direct Investment inflows into the country over the last few years.