

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:170

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011

PRESERVATION OF HORTICULTURAL PRODUCE

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

- (a) the current percentage of post-harvest losses of horticultural produce in each State/Union territory;
- (b) whether the Government has recently analysed the reasons for substantial post-harvest losses of these produce;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote use of latest technology in the preservation of perishable commodities including horticultural produce?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a): A comprehensive quantitative assessment of Harvest and Post- Harvest losses for agricultural produces has been carried out by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET). As per the study report published on 21st April, 2010, the losses in selected crops are as under:

Name of Sector Losses (in %)

Selected Cereals 3.9 to 6.0

Pulses 4.3 to 6.1

Oil seeds 2.8 to 10.1

Selected fruits and 5.8 to 18.0

vegetables

(b) & (c): Due to fragmented supply chain and lack of adequate processing infrastructure along the value chain, the processing levels in the country are quite low.

(d): The scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs is applicable to promote latest technology in the preservation of perishable commodities including horticultural produce processing. The scheme envisages to extend the financial assistance for setting up of new food processing units as well as Technological Upgradation and Expansion of existing units in the country. Ministry extends financial assistance in form of grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs.75 lakhs in difficult areas.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industry is encouraging setting up of Cold Chain facilities, value addition and preservation infrastructure which envisages financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machineries 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.