

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4623

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009

INDUSTRIAL POLICY FOR FOOD PROCESSING

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Union Government to encourage States to frame industrial policy for the development and growth of food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments in this regard so far;
- (c) whether there has been huge wastage of perishable food items per annum due to lack of proper food processing;
- (d) if so, whether the Union Government is considering to develop technologies to minimize wastage of perishable food items; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, with the intention of creating an enabling environment for the development and growth of food processing sector across the country, has been repeatedly requesting the states for framing a suitable Food Processing Industrial Policies. While Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh have formulated separate food processing policies, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Tripura have included the policy as an integral part of their industrial / agricultural policy.

(c) to (e): It is estimated that the annual wastage of agricultural food items is about Rs. 50,000/- crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting. In order to increase the level of processing and promote industrial growth in the sector, the Ministry has come out with Vision 2015 with an objective of trebling the size of the industry, increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and Indian share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015.

In order to achieve the above, the Ministry has been implementing various plan schemes, namely – i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with major components i.e. Mega Food Park, Cold Chain and Value Added Centres, Modernization of Abattoirs, ii) Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries, iii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex, Standards and R&D, iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development, v) Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions and vi) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food. Under the scheme of funding R&D projects, the Ministry has been funding projects submitted by reputed institutions like IIT, etc to develop new technologies & new products so as to enhance shelf life & reduce wastages.

The Ministry has also set up bodies like Indian Grape Processing Board, National Meat and Poultry Processing Board and is in the process of setting up/ upgrading institutions like National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) and Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT) to develop new technologies, to improve the processing capabilities of the Indian industry and thus reduce wastage.