

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3191
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
WASTAGE OF AGRICULTURAL FOOD ITEMS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study for preparation of Vision-2015 in respect of the potential of food processing facilities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the objectives of the Vision-2015;
- (c) whether the level of wastage of agricultural food items is very high in the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to minimise such wastage in their Vision-2015; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Ministry has sponsored a study to suggest a roadmap for the growth of food processing sector. M/s Rabo Bank has conducted the study and submitted a Vision Document suggesting strategy & action plan for food processing sector in India namely, Vision 2015. The Vision Document was prepared in the year 2005 and the same was adopted by the Government. Vision Document suggested strategy to ensure faster growth of the sector. The adopted Vision 2015 provides for enhancing the level of processing of perishable from 6% to 20%, enhancing value addition from 20% to 35% and increasing India's share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by the year 2015.

(c): Wastage and low value addition does cause loss to farm income. As per the study conducted by the Central Institute for Post Harvest Engineering & Technology, Ludhiana, (published in 2010) Post Harvest losses were estimated to the tune of about Rs. 44,000 crore per annum.

(d) & (e): To achieve targets envisaged in the Vision Document, an investment of Rs. 100 thousand crores was estimated by year 2015, out of which Rs. 10,000 crores was to come from Government. Accordingly, Ministry formulated its 11th plan schemes to attract the required investment in the sector.

The Government have taken up a number of schemes for setting up of Mega Food Parks, Cold Chains and construction and modernization of Abattoirs, Scheme for setting up new food processing units, technology upgradation in existing units and schemes for skill development in the 11th Plan aimed at increasing the processing levels and thus reduction in wastage.