

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2231
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
COMMITTEE ON FPIS
Sardinha Shri Francisco

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up any committee to further strengthen the development of food processing industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the committee had submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the salient features of the recommendations alongwith the follow up action proposed to be taken thereon; and
- (e) the other steps proposed to be taken to develop this sector?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A Working Group was constituted by Planning Commission on Food Processing Industries to review present status of Food Processing Sector in the country and to suggest measures to further strengthen the development of Food Processing Sector in the country during 12th Plan period.

(c) & (d): The Working Group had submitted its report to Planning Commission with the following key recommendations

- (i) Decentralization with Greater Innovation of State Governments,
- (ii) Focus on Policy Making and Coordination instead of Project Implementation,
- (iii) Infrastructure Development with Focus on Creation of Value Chains.

The Ministry has proposed to involve State Governments for implementation and monitoring of large number of components to be operated through National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP).

(e): Government has formulated and is implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for the establishment and modernization of Food Processing Units, Creation of Infrastructure, Support to R&D, Human Resources Development, Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Moreover, the Government has taken several steps like tax reduction, waiver/reduction of excise duty, reduction of custom duty on specific food items with a view to encourage the growth of Food Processing Industries and make them more competitive.