

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:445

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN FOOD PROCESSING

Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) the details of various new Research and Development projects under implementation in the Food Processing Sector during the year,2011-12 and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to launch a "Research and Development Scheme in Food Processing Sector" through the Science and Engineering Research Board(SERB);
- (c) if so, the salient features of the scheme;
- (d) the organizations/ institutions eligible to submit applications under the scheme; and
- (e) the steps taken /proposed to be taken by the Government to popularise the scheme in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 445 FOR ANSWER ON 8th MAY, 2012 REGARDING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN FOOD PROCESSING.

(a): Ministry has approved 14 R&D projects at a cost of Rs. 445.269 lakhs during 2011-12 and the details are at Annexure - I. No project has been approved in the current year.

(b): Ministry's existing R&D scheme as per 11th Plan Scheme guidelines has been transferred for implementation through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) with effect from 1.04.2012(2012-13).

(c): Salient features of the R&D Scheme remains the same as that of 11th Five Year Plan Scheme guidelines except that the mode of implementation would be through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).

(d): The organizations/ institutions eligible to submit applications under the schemes are all Universities, IITs, Central/ State Government Institutions, Public and Private Funded Organizations.

(e): Ministry of Food Processing Industries conducts workshops/ seminars to boost R&D activities in the sector. Last year the following events were held:

(i) A National Workshop organized by the Ministry on "New Perspectives in Research and Development in Food Processing Sector" on 29th June, 2011 at New Delhi and

(ii) A Conference at Mumbai on "Technology for Value Creation" on 17th November, 2011 was organized by FICCI with the support of the Ministry.

In addition, Ministry resorts to wider publicity at regular intervals in the leading newspapers for inviting applications for R&D projects. To further encourage R & D across all sectors of the economy in the Union Budget 2011-12, weighted deduction on expenditure incurred on in-house R & D has been enhanced from 150% to 200%. Further, weighted deduction on payments made to National Laboratories, Research Associations, Colleges, Universities and other institutions for scientific research has been enhanced from 125% to 175%. Ministry of Finance has issued an amendment to this effect under section 35 AD of Finance Act 2011. This incentive would give a boost to R&D activities of all sectors.

As a result of all these efforts the expenditure on R&D projects for Food Processing assisted by this Ministry has considerably increased from Rs.259.35 lakhs in the year 2007-08 to Rs.638.055 lakhs for the year 2011-12.