

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6277
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
COTTAGE FAMILY LEVEL FOOD PROCESSING
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to promote food processing amongst the farmers across the country including Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard including providing food processing technology at farm level during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the importance of farm level value addition and cottage level food processing in the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to formulate any specific scheme in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT) (a) to (e): For the development of the food processing sector in the country including Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, the Government has taken various initiatives to strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure. Government is implementing scheme for Mega Food Parks and Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.

Besides, in order to assist the entrepreneurs including farmers and agro-processing industries, the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is specifically aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities for various sectors including Milk, Fruit & Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, Fishery, Wine, Consumer Items and Grain Milling. The Ministry has also taken up other schemes like Construction and Modernization of Abattoirs, Technology Upgradation, Skill Development etc. to catalyze growth in the food processing sector. A National Mission on Food Processing has been launched as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme from 2012-13 to give further impetus to this sector through decentralization and better reach.

Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries during 2007-08 to 2011-12 total 3229 Food Processing Industries have been assisted with an amount of approx. Rs. 56020.09 lakhs in the country. Out of which a total 271 food processing units have been assisted with an amount of Rs. 5318.80 lakhs in Gujarat and 79 food processing units have been assisted with an amount of Rs. 1235.06 lakhs in Madhya Pradesh.