

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:355  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012  
R & D IN FPI SECTOR  
Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether the Research and Development (R&D) scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (FPI) has been transferred for implementation through the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) from 1 April,2012;
- (b) if so, the rationale behind the move;
- (c) whether the implementation of the scheme has been reviewed by the Government recently;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the deficiencies identified and the corrective measures taken by the Government so far, in this regard?

**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. 355 FOR ANSWER ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2012 REGARDING R&D IN FPI SECTOR

(a): Yes, Madam. The existing R&D scheme of Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been transferred for implementation during 2012-13 as per 11th Plan Scheme guidelines to the Science and Research Board (SERB) under the Department of Science and Technology, with effect from 1.04.2012.

(b): SERB has been established under an Act of Parliament for promoting R&D programmes in newly emerging and challenging areas of science & engineering and has eminent scientists and technologists drawn from various disciplines. It thus, has the expertise and experience to implement the R&D Scheme of MoFPI. Under the revised arrangement, funds are placed by MoFPI with SERB, wherein SERB evaluates, decides upon funding of individual proposals, monitors the progress and gives periodical reports to MoFPI on the progress of the scheme. This arrangement has the benefit of getting better projects, ensuring more efficient utilization of funds and promoting effective outcome of the scheme.

(c) & (d): MOFPI is monitoring the implementation of the R&D scheme by SERB. Apart from this, a representative from the Ministry is a member of the Experts Committee constituted by SERB for scrutiny of project proposals. An amount of Rs.3.85 Crore has been released by MoFPI to SERB for implementation of R&D projects on Food Processing in respect of proposals received with effect from 01.04.2012. Out of this amount, grant-in-aid amounting to Rs.2.01 Crore for 11 new projects has been released by SERB, so far.

(e): So far no deficiencies have been noticed, in the implementation of the scheme by SERB.