

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3678

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

SEPARATE HEAD FOR FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government had created a separate head for the food processing industries sector to overcome problems of bank funding to use the sector as a tool for increasing rural income and maximize returns to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details and the facts in this regard;
- (c) the extent to which the level of value addition has risen by creating a separate head;and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to promote food processing industries and to raise rural income?

Answer

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

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) For Development of the Food Processing sector, Government has been implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance: Scheme for Infrastructure Development (Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Added Centres and Modernization of Abattoirs). The Mega Food Park scheme envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with infrastructure support and well established supply chain. The Cold Chain envisages with aim at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce etc. Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacity of the abattoirs, which will be linked, with commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports.

In addition, Government also implemented several plan schemes in 11th Plan as well as in 12th Plan (2012-13) to promote food processing industries to raise the rural income. The schemes like the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of food processing industries, Research & Development (R&D), Food Testing Laboratories, Human Resource Development besides Other Promotional Activities.