

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3187  
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014  
WASTAGE OF FOOD PRODUCTS  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether about 35-40 per cent of food products are being damaged or lost due to poor packaging in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the damages estimated during the last three years, State/UT and food item-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken in this regard in coordination with the farmers and the State Governments?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Estimated losses due to poor packaging, as per the study conducted by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana in 2009 for major agricultural produces at national level, are given below:

Percentage of losses due to packaging for major produces

Crop	Cumulative wastage
Pulses	0.14-0.23 percent
Oil seeds	0.06-0.21 per cent
Fruits	0.08-0.94 per cent
Vegetables	0.10-1.64 per cent
Plantation crops	0.06-0.24 per cent
& Spices	
Fisheries (Inland)	0.46 per cent
Egg	0.98 per cent

Source: CIHPET, Ludhiana

(c): With a view to reduce harvest and post-harvest losses, Government has been strengthening supply-chain through creation of infrastructure viz. Cold Chain, Mega Food Park and Setting up/ Modernization of Abattoirs. Further, with a view to ensure increase in level of processing and reduction of wastage, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) - on 1st April, 2012 for implementation through State/ UT Governments. The various schemes under the NMFP, inter alia, include setting up/ modernisation of food processing units, setting up Cold Chain units for non-horticultural products, Primary Processing Centres / Collection Centres in Rural Areas, setting up/ modernisation of meat shops, Reefer Vehicles, Human Resource Development and Promotional Activities.