

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4528  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009  
SURVEY FOR FOOD PROCESSING POTENTIAL  
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**Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to conduct any survey to assess the food processing potential of the country particularly Konkan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken towards development of processing of foods and beverages?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (b): Under the scheme of Promotional Activities, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has a provision to make need based financial support available for surveys/studies to be undertaken by State Governments in their respective State for development of food processing sector. Surveys/studies have been conducted by the Government as a measure for development of Food Processing Industries in different States of the country like Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Jharkhand etc. However, the Ministry has currently no proposal to conduct any specific survey to assess the food processing potential of the country as a whole and/or Konkan region particularly.

(c): For the development of the food-processing sector, the Government has taken various initiatives to strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure. Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Added Centres and Modernization of Abattoirs. The Infrastructure scheme envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with supporting infrastructure and well established supply chain. It aims 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.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities. Benefits of the Scheme will also be available to integrated projects of value addition / processing / preservation of horticulture, dairy, marine, and meat sector. Another infrastructure development scheme is for setting up / up-gradation of food testing laboratories which would benefit all stakeholders including domestic industry, exporters, entrepreneurs, small and medium enterprises, existing academic & research institutions, food standards setting bodies.

Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme-targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacities of the abattoirs, which will be linked with commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports. The financial assistance (grant-in-aid) is being extended at 50% and 75% of the cost of plant and machineries and technical civil works in general and difficult areas respectively subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for each project.

Further, the Ministry has several other schemes for promotion of the food processing industry. The Scheme for Technology Up-gradation /Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities, modernization of Food Processing Sector to include Milk, Fruit & Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items, oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc.