

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:238

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015

Mega Food Parks

Parthipan Shri R.;Singh Shri Sunil Kumar

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

- (a) the number of Mega Food Parks/Agro Parks/Food Processing Zones set up during each of the last three years and the current year in each State/UT;
- (b) whether the process of setting up of Mega Food Parks has gradually slowed down in these States/UTs during the above period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has involved National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development in setting up of Mega Food Parks in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other measures taken by the Government to reduce the wastage of agricultural produce in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SMT. HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 238 FOR ANSWER ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2015 REGARDING MEGA FOOD PARKS.

(a) A total 21 Mega Food Park projects have been accorded Final approval by the Government for setting up in the country during the last three years and the current year. Year-wise details of the projects accorded final approval in each State/UT is at Annexure.

(b) & (c) No, Madam. Out of the total 29 projects accorded final approval, 21 projects have been accorded final approval during the above period. Further, out of total 5 functional Mega Food Parks, four Mega Food Parks have become functional during last three and half years. Three more Mega Food Parks at Khargone in Madhya Pradesh, Murshidabad in West Bengal and Ranchi in Jharkhand are also likely to become functional by the end of the current financial year. Government has taken a number of steps to further speed up the pace of the projects implementation. The progress of each of the projects is being monitored closely and regularly by the Ministry. Regular interactions with stakeholders are being held. The Mega Food Park scheme and operational guidelines of the scheme have been modified time to time to streamline the process of project implementation.

(d) & (e) Yes, Madam. A Special Fund of Rs. 2000 crore has been setup by the Government in NABARD to make available affordable credit to designated food parks and the food processing units in such Parks.

Loan for food and Agro-processing up to an aggregate sanctioned limit of Rs. 100 crore per borrower and construction of storage facilities (warehouses, market yards, godowns and silos) including cold storage units/cold storage chains designed to store agriculture produce/products has been covered under Priority Sector Lending.

With the objective of reduction in wastage of agricultural produce, the Ministry is also implementing Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Scheme of Modernization of Abattoirs and Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development and Other Promotional Activities. Scheme of National Mission on Food Processing was also launched by the Government of India during 12th Plan for implementation through State /U.T Governments. This Scheme has now been delinked from Central Government support since April, 2015 and State Governments may now decide to continue (or not) with the Mission out of the increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.

In addition, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Ministry of Commerce and Industries are also providing assistance for setting up food processing and preservation infrastructure.

Foreign Direct Investment has been permitted in food processing upto 100% through automatic route. The Government has also given various fiscal incentives for setting up food processing infrastructure.
