

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3910
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014
PROCESSING OF MILLET GRAINS
Sreeramulu Shri B.

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

- (a) whether the value addition of millet grains is not given adequate importance in the food processing sector of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any steps to revive and add value to the food products prepared with millet grains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): No, Madam. Ministry of Food Processing Industries had implemented in 11th Plan a Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries (TUS) for promotion of processing of agriculture produce including Millet Grains. However, during the 12th Plan, the said scheme has been subsumed in a Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) w.e.f. 1.4.2012 and the same is being implemented through State/UT Governments. Under the above scheme, financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is provided to the interested and eligible entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and @ 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas and @50% subject to a maximum of Rs.100 lakh for N.E States, for setting up of new food processing units as well as Technological Upgradation and Expansion of their existing units for facilitating processing of agricultural produce including Millet Grains.

(b)&(c): In order to promote value addition in various agricultural produce including preparation of food products with millet grains, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also implementing another Scheme titled "Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Promotional Activities". Under this scheme, one of the components is Research and Development, with an objective to enable development of new food products including the products prepared with Millet grains and also use of cost effective technologies for making such products. The scheme provides financial assistance (grant) to Universities, Indian Institute of Technologies, Central/State Government Institutions, Public and Private Funded Organizations and CSIR recognized R&D units in private sector for facilitating Research and Development for value addition in food products including the products prepared with Millet grains. For Government Organizations, the quantum of grant is up to 100% of equipment cost plus cost of consumables and expenditure related to JRF/SRF/RA. In case of Private Organizations, the same is to the tune of 50% in general areas and 70% in the difficult areas. For the R&D projects sponsored by the Ministry, the grant is up to 100%.