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Title: Need to accord approval to the proposal of Marathwada Agricultural University for setting up a Mega Food Park in Parbhani district, Maharashtra.

SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR (PARBHANI): I would like to draw the attention of Government to provide early sanction/grant for the establishment of Mega Food Park in Marathwada region, particularly in my Constituency i.e. Parbhani district. This proposal has been submitted by Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani and pending with Ministry of Food Processing Industries since long time. There is an urgent need for the establishment of Mega Food Park in Marathwada region for the benefit of small and Marginal Farmers. Many agricultural produce i.e. fruits and vegetables are wasted due to lack of preservation, processing and infrastructure facilities. There is scope for many fruits and vegetables to be exported. The perspective potential to prevent losses and wastage of food material coupled with provision of large scale employment to the people of Marathwada region will lead to the economic development of the Marathwada region. I request the Central Government to accord early sanction to the proposal of Mega Food project submitted by the Marathwada Agricultural University by providing all necessary assistance for tackling the problem of wastage of agricultural produce in the Marathwada region.

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