

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
LEVEL OF PROCESSING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS .

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SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI

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

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- (a) whether it is a fact that the level of processing of the various agricultural products in the country is very low as compared to the developed and even some developing countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of major constraints food processing industry is confronting; and
- (d) the details of measures being contemplated by Government to overcome these constraints?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The level of processing of fruits & vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%.
- (c): The major constraints food processing industry is confronting at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented and traditional farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities, lack of processable variety of raw material, lack of adequate inflow of investment in the sector etc.
- (d): The Government is implementing various schemes for overcoming constraints in the development of the sector. These include creation and development of processing infrastructure, setting up/modernization/ upgradation of the food processing units, food safety and quality control, skill upgradation and capacity building.