

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1860
ANSWERED ON- 28.12.2018

POOR INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AGRI-PRODUCE

1860. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the export-related infrastructure for agri-produce is grossly inadequate, especially at sea ports and airports and more than 30 per cent of the produce from the fields gets spoilt due to poor post-harvesting facilities and lack of adequate storage infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) & (b): The Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) has funded 115 common infrastructure projects having pack houses, cold storages and Centre for Perishable cargos (CPC) at different ports to facilitate agri-exports in different location in the country.

As per a study, "Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Commodities in India" by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana, the cumulative percentage of wastage of different agricultural produces in 2015 are as follows:

Name of the Agri-produce	Cumulative Percentage of Wastage
Cereals	4.65 - 5.99
Pulses	6.36 - 8.41
Oil seeds	3.08 - 9.96
Fruits & Vegetables	4.58 - 15.88
Milk	0.92
Fisheries (Inland)	5.23
Fisheries (Marine)	10.52
Meat	2.71
Poultry	6.74

As per a Study, 'All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity (Assessment of Status and Gap), commissioned by National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and conducted by NABARD Consultancy Services Private Limited (NABCONS) in 2015 there has been infrastructural gaps ranging from 10% in the case of cold storages (bulk & hub) to 99.6% in the case of pack houses as compared to the requirement of the level of production of perishable produces like fruits and vegetables. Insufficient private investment in such infrastructure and logistics is one of the principal reasons for such gaps.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)' with an allocation of ₹6000 crore for the period 2016-20 coterminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. PMKSY is a comprehensive package designed to result in creation of robust modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management along the entire value chain from farm gate to retail outlet. The various component schemes of PMKSY are (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), (iii) Creation / Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme), (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters (APC), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages(BFL), (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL) and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. Financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid for capital subsidy under component schemes of PMKSY are provided to the individuals, farmers, farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, societies, self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and central/State PSUs etc. against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% depending on the component scheme and location of the project.

Also, MoFPI is implementing a new Central Sector Scheme "Operation Greens" exclusively for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain, with an outlay of Rs.500 crore to promote Farmers Producers Organizations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management in addition to short term price stabilisation component to prevent crashing of prices of the TOP crops during the time of glut.
