

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-700
ANSWERED ON- 08.02.2019

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN FPIs

700. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:

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

- (a) The reason why funds allocated for Research and Development in food processing sector has come down from Rs.10.50 crore in 2012-13 to Rs.5.80 crore in 2016-17:
- (b) The status of implementation of Research and Development since April, 2017 by the Ministry: and
- (c) The details of targets set and achieved since 2017?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): The scheme for Research and Development (R&D) in food processing sector was implemented through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of Department of Science and Technology from 2012-13 to 2016-17. Before transferring the implementation of the scheme to SERB, the R&D scheme was directly implemented by the Ministry. In the beginning of the year 2012-13, the Ministry had also some outstanding liabilities of already approved projects before 2012-13. The SERB had also started implementation of the scheme and sanctioned new R&D projects during 2012-13. Keeping in view the outstanding liabilities of already approved projects by the Ministry and to meet the requirement of funds of SERB projects, the allocation of the budget for 2012-13 was kept at Rs. 10.50 crore. The budget allocation of subsequent years was kept as per the requirement of funds for SERB approved projects and to meet remaining outstanding liabilities of the approved projects of the Ministry. The outstanding liabilities of the projects approved by Ministry before 2012-13 declined subsequently. Accordingly, the allocation of budget during the subsequent years under R&D scheme was reduced.

(b) & (c): The Ministry has taken a fresh look at the implementation of the scheme in accordance with deliberations in the Parliamentary Consultative Committee for Ministry of Food Processing Industries in its meeting held on 04.08.2016. It was decided to implement the R & D scheme directly by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and from 1st April, 2017 onwards, the implementation of R&D scheme was taken back from SERB to MoFPI. Accordingly, the scheme guidelines were revised and issued on 10.08.2017. As per revised scheme guidelines, Expert Committee (EC) for scrutinizing and reviewing of new R&D proposals had been constituted on 13.09.2017. The scheme is open ended. For receipt of proposals under the scheme a notice was put up on website of Ministry for receipt of fresh R&D proposals for sanction. After revision of scheme guidelines, so far three meetings of EC have been convened to consider new R&D proposals received in the Ministry.

The scheme for Research and Development in food processing sector is now a component of scheme for Human Resource and Institutions under the umbrella scheme of the Ministry i.e. Kisan SAMPADA Yojana. The scheme is being implemented with an allocation of Rs.50 crore to meet the committed liability of existing on-going projects and taking up of 100 new projects till 2020. After starting of Kisan SAMPADA Yojana, the Ministry has approved 32 new R&D projects as on 04.02.2019 with approved grant-in-aid of Rs.12.65 crore.
