

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1345**  
ANSWERED ON 02<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2024

**DEVELOPMENT OF MAKHANA INDUSTRY**

**1345. SMT. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:**

Will the **MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not yet operating any Makhana based industry by Government in Darbhanga district of Bihar despite the district is a major area of Makhana production;
- (b) Government's plans to set up Makhana based industries on a large scale in Darbhanga district in view of the immense possibilities, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of scheme of Government to train local youth for manufacturing biscuits, chips and other nutritious food items etc. using Makhana as raw-material; and
- (d) timeframe by when all the schemes are likely to be started?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
(SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) do not set up Makhana based industry on its own. However, as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan - Vocal for Local Initiative in food processing sector, MoFPI is implementing a centrally sponsored "PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme" for providing financial, technical and business support for setting up / upgradation of micro food processing enterprises in the country including Bihar. The scheme is operational for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Crore. The Scheme primarily adopts One District One Product (ODOP) approach to reap the benefit of scale in terms of procurement of inputs, availing common services and marketing of products.

Six districts of Bihar, namely Araria, Darbhanga, Katihar, Madhubani, Saharsa and Supaul have been approved for ODOP for Makhana. So far, a total of 127 Makhana based micro enterprises have been approved in Bihar for credit linked subsidy of Rs 3.54 Cr. Out of these, 51 Makhana based food processing units have been sanctioned in Darbhanga district.

(c) & (d) Under the Capacity Building component of PMFME scheme, training is provided for Food Processing and Entrepreneurship Development to meet the requirement of food processing industry and Product Specific Skilling. Two State Level Training Institutes (SLTIs) have been approved in Bihar. Till 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 77,250 beneficiaries have been trained under the scheme in the country, out of which, 366 beneficiaries have been trained in State of Bihar.

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