

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1350**  
ANSWERED ON 02<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2024

**STARTUPS IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR**

**1350. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether any initiatives have been taken to promote startups in food processing sector, such as the SUFALAM Startup Conclave, and the outcomes so far;
- (b) the details of the number of startups supported, including details on funding, mentorship, and market access provided by Government;
- (c) whether these startups have played any role in driving innovation, sustainability, and inclusive growth; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
(SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN)

(a). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) had organized a Startup Conclave titled SUFALAM (Startup Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors) on 13-14 February, 2024 at New Delhi to promote Startups in the food processing sector. The event had knowledge session, panel discussion, networking & pitching session along with exhibition showcasing novel products from the startups.

(b). MoFPI has supported 38 Startups, through its two autonomous Institutions namely, National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship & Management, Kundli, Haryana (NIFTEM-K) and National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship & Management, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu (NIFTEM-T). Six of them are the winners of National Level Startup Grand Challenge conducted last year and awarded with cash prize of Rs.3 lakh each.

The Institutes also provide handholding support, mentorship, training, access to facilities such as Pilot Plant, NABL-accredited Food Testing Labs, incubation services, quality testing, R&D support, networking opportunities, etc. to these Startups.

(c) & (d). These startups in the Food and Allied sectors developing value-added products, bringing innovative technologies, enhancing productivity & efficiency in food processing, fostering entrepreneurship, providing job opportunities and skill development, which boosts economies and contribute in inclusive growth.

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