

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 547
ANSWERED ON 29TH November, 2024

PROBLEMS OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

547. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of various issues faced by the country's food processing industry which include the need for more suitable infrastructure like inadequate cold storage facilities, transportation systems and processing facilities which hamper the efficient operation of the sector and resulting in post-harvest losses, shorter product shelf lives and higher transportation costs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with measures taken to be taken by Government to resolve the above said issues, sector-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure large investments in equipments, technology and Research & Development in the said sector?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI RAVNEET SINGH)

(a) & (b). Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing Central Sector Schemes of Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and Centrally sponsored Prime Minister Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme for the overall development of food processing sector, including creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet, and to help in providing better returns to farmers, creation of employment opportunities, reducing wastage, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods. All these three schemes are demand driven and implemented across the country.

Under sub-schemes of PMKSY, MoFPI provides mostly credit linked financial assistance (capital subsidy) to entrepreneurs with total outlay of Rs.5520 crore for 15th Finance Commission Cycle. MoFPI has sanctioned 41 Mega food Parks, 399 Cold Chain projects, 76 Agro- Processing Clusters, 559 Food Processing Units, 61 Creation of Backward & Forward Linkages Projects & 51 Operation Green projects under corresponding component schemes of PMKSY till 31st October, 2024.

MoFPI also provides financial, technical and business support for setting up/ upgradation of micro food processing enterprises under PMFME scheme. The scheme is operational from 2020-21 to 2025-26 with total outlay of Rs. 10,000 crores. A total of 1,08,580 micro food processing enterprises have been approved for assistance under PMFME till 31st October, 2024.

PLISFPI is, inter alia, intended to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in international market. The scheme is being implemented over a six-year period from 2021-22 to 2026-27 with an outlay of Rs. 10,900 crores. 171 food processing companies have been approved for assistance under various categories of the scheme so far.

(c). Keeping in view the requirement of innovative product and process development in Food Processing Sector, MoFPI extends Grant-in-Aid to educational and research institutions including Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) recognized Research and Development (R&D) units in private sector for related demand driven R&D projects through its R&D scheme under PMKSY. 80 research projects have been approved since 2017-18 till 31st October, 2024 with an approved subsidy of Rs. 28.75 crore.

In addition, National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship & Management (NIFTEM), Kundli and NIFTEM, Thanjavur, under administrative control of MoFPI, are also engaged in R&D activities in the sector.
