

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3914**  
ANSWERED ON 04<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2025

**ACTION TO REDUCE THE WASTE IN FOOD PROCESSING UNITS**

**3914. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that percentage of wastage in food processing units has considerably increased, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has initiated any action to cut down the wastage occurring in food processing units;
- (c) whether Government will come forward to provide all infrastructure facilities to the food processing units in preserving the food products, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of Central/State PSUs involved in implementing the scheme for promotion of food processing units?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c):** As per studies conducted by Indian Council for Agricultural Research – Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology (ICAR-CIPHET), 2015 and NABARD Consultancy Service Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS), 2022, the estimated percentage of Harvest and Post-Harvest loss of various agricultural produce in India is as follows:

Crops/ Commodities	Estimated Percentage Loss	
	As per ICAR-CIPHET study (2015)	As per NABCONS study (2022)
<b>Cereals</b>	4.65 - 5.99	3.89-5.92
<b>Pulses</b>	6.36 - 8.41	5.65-6.74
<b>Oil Seeds</b>	3.08 - 9.96	2.87-7.51
<b>Fruits</b>	6.70-15.88	6.02-15.05
<b>Vegetables</b>	4.58-12.44	4.87-11.61
<b>Plantation Crops &amp; Spices</b>	1.18-7.89	1.29-7.33
<b>Milk</b>	0.92	0.87
<b>Fisheries (Inland)</b>	5.23	4.86
<b>Fisheries (Marine)</b>	10.52	8.76
<b>Meat</b>	2.71	2.34
<b>Poultry</b>	6.74	5.63
<b>Egg</b>	7.19	6.03

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) supports the creation and expansion of the processing/preservation capacity through implementation of various schemes viz. Central Sector umbrella scheme- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY), Centrally sponsored "PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme" and Central Sector Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industries (PLISFPI). These schemes aim for the overall development of food processing sector, including creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet, reduce post-harvest losses and create higher value-addition, providing better returns to farmers, creation of employment opportunities, reducing wastage, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

Food irradiation facilitates in reduction of post-harvest losses and wastage of perishable farm produce by enhancing shelf life. Food irradiation units are assisted under the Integrated Cold Chain & Value Addition Infrastructure scheme, one of the component scheme of PMKSY. MoFPI has approved 16 numbers of project proposals for setting up of multi-product food irradiation units across the Country till date. The total amount of Grants-in-aid of ₹ 112.99 Crore has been approved of which, ₹ 68.38 Crore has been released.

Further, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formed the Indian Food Sharing Alliance (IFSA) with an aim to address India's food waste and hunger crisis by integrating various partner organizations, Food Recovery Agencies and NGO's. IFSA aims to recover the surplus food generated, reduce the amount of food waste generated and increase the amount of safe and nutritious food donated to those in need. FSSAI has framed regulations "Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and Distribution of Surplus food) Regulation, 2019" to promulgate food donation drive and prevent food loss and waste in India.

**(d):** Under the PMFME Scheme of MoFPI, there are 8 State Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been appointed as State Nodal Agency (SNA) in 8 States/ UTs for implementing PMFME whereas 12 State PSUs have been appointed under the Mega Food Park (MFP) Scheme, a component scheme of PMKSY. The MFP scheme has been discontinued by the Government w.e.f. 01.04.2021 with provision for committed liability during 15th Finance Commission cycle.

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