

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3917
ANSWERED ON 04TH APRIL, 2025

STEPS TO MODERNIZE SUPPLY CHAIN OF PERISHABLES

3917. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the rising temperature in India has caused post-harvest food loss;
- (b) if so, the estimated quantum of food loss in 2023-24 and the details thereto;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to modernize the supply chains of perishables prevent food loss; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has not conducted any specific study to assess the impact of high temperature on post-harvest losses of agricultural produce in India. High temperature conditions generally lead to quality deterioration of fruits and vegetables. The Ministry had commissioned a study through NABARD Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd. (NABCONS), namely, “Study to determine Post harvest losses of Agri Produce in India” in 2022 covering the production year 2020-21. The details of estimated loss of various commodities reported in the study are as under:

<u>Post-harvest losses of major crops and commodities</u>	
Crops/ Commodities	Estimated Percentage Loss
Cereals	3.89-5.92
Pulses	5.65-6.74
Oil Seeds	2.87-7.51
Fruits	6.02-15.05
Vegetables	4.87-11.61
Plantation Crops & Spices	1.29-7.33
Milk	0.87
Fisheries (Inland)	4.86
Fisheries (Marine)	8.76
Meat	2.34
Poultry	5.63
Egg	6.03

(c) & (d): MoFPI implements Central Sector Umbrella Scheme-Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) since 2016-17 to create post-harvest infrastructure and processing facilities to boost the overall development of the food processing sector including reduction in post-harvest losses, enhancing value addition etc. Under the component schemes of PMKSY, MoFPI provides credit linked financial assistance (capital subsidy) in the form of grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs for setting up of food processing/preservation infrastructure which, inter alia, includes cold storages to minimize post-harvest losses. As on 28th February, 2025, 1608 projects have been approved under various components of PMKSY.

Apart from MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has also launched the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Scheme in July 2020 under the Atmanirbhar Bharat package in order to improve post-harvest infrastructure and create community farming assets. The AIF Scheme facilitates sanction of medium to long term loans by Banks and other lending institutions for the setting up of cold storage facilities, warehouses and processing units, aimed at reducing crop wastage and enhancing value addition.