

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2484
ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2026

WOMEN IN AGRO PROCESSING MSMES

2484 SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of women employed within agro-processing MSMEs, State/UT wise;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to encourage women led agro-processing MSMEs in rural areas through training or technical support;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the number of MSMEs owned by women, State/UT wise;
- (e) whether Government has introduced any schemes or subsidies to enable empowerment of rural women through MSMEs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) : As per the latest report of the Annual Survey of Industry (ASI) for the year 2023-24, State-wise women employment in the food processing sector is placed at **Annexure-I**.

(b) to (f) : In order to promote and ensure overall development of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/ expansion of related infrastructure, through its two Central Sector Scheme viz. Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and a Centrally sponsored PM Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme across the country. MoFPI provides subsidy/incentives to the eligible entities, as per scheme guidelines across the country including rural women and MSMEs. MoFPI is also supporting women Self Help Groups (SHGs) engaged in Food Processing activities through its schemes.

Under PMFME Scheme, Ministry provides Grants for Seed Capital up to Rs. 40,000/- per member of SHG. Individual SHG member can avail credit linked grant @35% of the project cost with maximum ceiling of Rs.10 lakh as a single unit of food processing enterprise.

Under the Capacity Building component of the PMFME Scheme, MoFPI provides assistance for training of Trainers, District Resource Persons, Entrepreneurs and various other groups for Entrepreneurship Development Skilling (EDP+) & product specific skilling to entrepreneurs including women entrepreneurs, to meet the requirement of food processing industry. The scheme also envisages strengthening backward and forward linkages, provision of common facilities, incubation centres, training, marketing & branding.

MoFPI, through its two autonomous Institutions namely, National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship & Management, Kundli, Haryana (NIFTEM-K) & National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship & Management, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu (NIFTEM-T), 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 entrepreneurs including women entrepreneurs.

As per information provided by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, The number of women-led MSMEs functioning and registered on the Udyam Registration Portal and Udyam Assist Platform since 01.07.2020 to 28.02.2026 are given at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2484 FOR ANSWER ON 13TH MARCH, 2026 REGARDING “WOMEN IN AGRO PROCESSING MSMEs”

State/UT wise directly employed women in Food Processing Sector

Sr.No	State/ UT	Number of directly employed women
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	36
2	Andhra Pradesh	50454
3	Arunachal Pradesh	282
4	Assam	8223
5	Bihar	1000
6	Chandigarh	34
7	Chhattisgarh	2093
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	220
9	Delhi	258
10	Goa	945
11	Gujarat	11112
12	Haryana	1198
13	Himachal Pradesh	633
14	Jammu and Kashmir	352
15	Jharkhand	608
16	Karnataka	21213
17	Kerala	38727
18	Ladakh	9
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	5637
21	Maharashtra	8108
22	Manipur	288
23	Meghalaya	82
24	Mizoram	30
25	Nagaland	23
26	Odisha	3592
27	Puducherry	432
28	Punjab	2667
29	Rajasthan	1654
30	Sikkim	491
31	Tamil Nadu	48941
32	Telangana	4980
33	Tripura	237
34	Uttar Pradesh	4373
35	Uttarakhand	850
36	West Bengal	4633

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) TO (f) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2484 FOR ANSWER ON 13TH MARCH, 2026 REGARDING “WOMEN IN AGRO PROCESSING MSMEs”

Total women owned MSMEs reported under Udyam since 01/07/2020 to 28/02/2026 (Manufacture of food products)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of women owned MSMEs
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	563
2	Andhra Pradesh	86,626
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,562
4	Assam	53,082
5	Bihar	59,363
6	Chandigarh	500
7	Chhattisgarh	14,060
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	231
9	Delhi	9,663
10	Goa	2,543
11	Gujarat	26,334
12	Haryana	18,089
13	Himachal Pradesh	3,406
14	Jammu And Kashmir	5,573
15	Jharkhand	17,986
16	Karnataka	64,851
17	Kerala	56,706
18	Ladakh	282
19	Lakshadweep	48
20	Madhya Pradesh	31,703
21	Maharashtra	274,789
22	Manipur	9,848
23	Meghalaya	3,726
24	Mizoram	1,352
25	Nagaland	4,758
26	Odisha	44,251
27	Puducherry	2,299
28	Punjab	24,769
29	Rajasthan	42,897
30	Sikkim	837
31	Tamil Nadu	179,169
32	Telangana	48,936
33	Tripura	6,973
34	Uttar Pradesh	76,523
35	Uttarakhand	9,273
36	West Bengal	31,202