

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 733
ANSWERED ON 24th July 2026

NIFTEM-Massey MoU to boost India's agro-exports

733. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR

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

- (a) the specific core areas of international scientific research and food technology innovation prioritized under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli (NIFTEM-K) and Massey University, New Zealand;
- (b) the clear mechanism devised to ensure that the academic and research outputs under this bilateral collaboration directly address national priorities like reducing post-harvest losses and enhancing global market compliance for Indian agro-exports; and
- (c) the strategic policy frameworks implemented by Government to accelerate industrial manufacturing, expand food processing capacities, and diversify export baskets originating from Himachal Pradesh?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli (NIFTEM-K) and Massey University, New Zealand, for collaboration in the field of technology and research. The core priority areas of MoU include food technology, food processing, food science, dairy processing, food safety, and allied interdisciplinary research. The MoU provides an enabling framework for collaboration, while the alignment of academic and research outputs with national priorities is to be ensured through a structured implementation mechanism based on joint planning, project-based collaboration, periodic review, and outcome-oriented monitoring. The implementation mechanism includes:

- Nomination of Institutional coordinators by both universities to facilitate the planning and execution of identified and mutually agreed upon activities.
- Establishing a joint coordination committee to plan and monitor academic activities.
- Identifying priority academic areas at the under graduate (UG) and post graduate (PG) levels, in food processing, dairy processing, post-harvest management, food safety, and business management.
- Planning for opportunities for collaborative academic programmes, credit transfer and joint or dual degree programmes.
- Organising joint workshops, seminars, training programmes, and curriculum development activities.

- (c) 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 schemes namely Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and a Centrally Sponsored – Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme across the country including Himachal Pradesh. These schemes are not region or state specific but demand driven.

Under component schemes of PMKSY, MoFPI provides financial assistance to entrepreneurs selected on the basis of Expression of Interest (EoI) issued from time to time. So far, MoFPI has sanctioned 45 food processing projects with approved grant in aid of Rs 297.53 crores under corresponding component schemes of PMKSY in the State of Himachal Pradesh till 30.06.2026.

Ministry provides financial, technical and business support for setting up/ upgradation of micro food processing enterprises under PMFME scheme. A total of 2826 micro food processing enterprises have been approved with subsidy of Rs 70.39 crores for assistance under PMFME in the State of Himachal Pradesh till 30.06.2026.

PLISFPI is, inter alia, intended to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in international market. Food processing projects at 4 locations with committed investments of Rs 10.66 crores have been approved for assistance under various categories of the PLISFPI scheme in the State of Himachal Pradesh till 30.06.2026.

Schemes implemented by MoFPI aim towards creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet which includes storage, transportation, value addition etc., thereby enhancing productivity, reducing wastage of agricultural produce, reduction in post-harvest losses, promoting industrial development, strengthening food processing capacities and enhancing the export of the processed foods.
