2450. **DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:**

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposals to include Dal Mills Industry as Agro Based Industries in the country in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the said proposal is likely to help to rejuvenate the Dal Mill Industries in the country, State/ UT-wise including Karnataka?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) to (c): Pulse Processing industries are already treated as agro-based industries and as such these are eligible for financial assistance under the relevant Scheme implemented by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI). Under the scheme of Creation and Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC), a constituent component of umbrella Central Sector Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), financial assistance at the rate 35% to 50% of the eligible project cost subject to maximum of Rs.5 crore depending on the location of the project is provided for setting up of food processing units or expansion thereof that includes pulse processing in the country including in the State of Karnataka. These industries are covered under priority sector lending (PSL) for bank credit up to an aggregate limit of Rs.100 crores per borrower. The food processing units including the pulse processing units in the Mega Food Parks (MFPs) and other Designated Food Parks (DPFs) are also eligible to get cheaper credit facility out of the Special Food Processing Fund of Rs.2000 crore set up with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

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