

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 436
ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2021

HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION HUB

436. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the North Bengal region is a horticulture production hub with huge potential for pineapples, oranges, mangoes, bananas, litchi, jackfruit, lime, etc., which are in high demand across the world;
- (b) whether some fruit processing facilities are already in existence in the North Bengal districts of Darjeeling, Kalimpong; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering to establish a food processing plant in the North Bengal region given the high quality of fruit production and suitable agro-climatic conditions, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a). Yes Sir, North Bengal region is a potential Horticulture Production Hub for various fruit crops namely, pineapple, orange, mango, banana, litchi, jackfruit, lime etc. The major growing areas of these fruit crops are:

Fruit Crop	Major Growing Areas
Pineapple	Jalpaiguri, Cooch behar, Darjeeling, Uttar Dinajpur
Orange	Darjeeling and Kalimpong
Mango	Malda
Banana	Jalpaiguri, Cooch behar, Dinajpur
Litchi	Malda and parts of Dinajpur
Jackfruit	Jalpaiguri, Cooch behar, Plain area of Darjeeling
Lime / lemon	All the district of North Bengal

- (b) & (c). Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) does not set up food processing infrastructure on its own. However, it provides credit linked financial assistance (capital subsidy) in the form of Grants-in-Aid to entrepreneurs for setting up of food processing industries, including for processing of fruits, under component schemes of Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY). PMKSY is demand driven and financial assistance is provided to the eligible applicants selected on the basis of Expression of Interest (EoI) issued from time to time. MoFPI has approved two projects in Darjeeling District of West Bengal for assistance under Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities Scheme of PMKSY. Related details are placed at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) AND (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 436 FOR ANSWER ON 20TH JULY, 2021 REGARDING “HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION HUB”.

Details of projects approved under Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities Scheme:

(Rs. In crore)

Sl. No	Name of the Project	District	Sector	Date of Approval	Project Cost	Approved Grant	Released Amount	Status
1.	M/s Mahananda Food Pvt. Ltd	Darjeeling	F&V processing	07.12.2018	22.94	4.94	4.77	Completed
2	M/s Aarson Lozenges Factory	Darjeeling	Consumer Products	29.05.2019	4.75	1.31	0.66	Under Implementation