

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3999**  
ANSWERED ON 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024

**COLD CHAIN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE**

**3999. SHRI SHASHANK MANI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken initiatives to support farmers by reducing post-harvest losses and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to initiate specific programmes to enhance cold chain infrastructure for agricultural produce;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including contribution of these initiatives for improving farmers' incomes; and
- (d) whether the Government has any further plans to expand/enhance support for reducing post-harvest losses by strengthening cold chain infrastructure and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a). Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) implements Central Sector Umbrella Scheme-Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) 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, providing better prices to farmers, etc. The component schemes under PMKSY are (i) Mega Food Park scheme (MFP Scheme), discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2021; (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure; (iii) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters; (iv) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages, discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2021 (v) Creation / Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities; and (vi) Operation Greens. Under these component schemes, 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. Apart from MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has 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.

(b) to (d). The Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain & Value Addition Infrastructure under PMKSY has been envisaged as a comprehensive package for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. It covers creation of infrastructure facility along the entire supply chain viz. pre-cooling, weighing, sorting, grading, waxing facilities at farm level, multi product/multi temperature cold storage, CA storage, packing facility, IQF, blast freezing in the distribution hub and reefer vans, mobile cooling units for facilitating distribution of non-horticulture, horticulture, fish/marine (except shrimp), dairy, meat and poultry. Integrated Cold Chain & Value Addition Infrastructure scheme is demand driven and proposals are invited under the scheme from time to time across the country based on availability of funds by floating Expression of Interests (EoIs) in the Ministry's website. Individuals including small farmers as well as entity/ organization such as FPOs/ FPCs/NGOs/PSUs/Firms/Companies, etc. are eligible to avail benefits under the scheme. Under the scheme a total of 399 cold chain projects have been approved since inception (2008) and out of these, 284 cold chain projects have been completed and commenced their commercial operations till 31.10.2024.

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