

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 839**  
ANSWERED ON 04<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025

**POST HARVEST LOSSES**

**839. SHRI CHAMALA KIRAN KUMAR REDDY:  
SHRI EATALA RAJENDER:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that post harvest losses in the country are estimated to cost nearly Rs. 1.5 trillion annually-amounting to about 3.7% of the agricultural GDP- and that fruits and vegetables are the most vulnerable commodities, suffering losses to the extent of 10%-15%, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that even staple crops such as paddy and wheat incur significant post-harvest wastage, estimated at around 4.8% and 4.2% respectively, resulting in loss of nutrition as well as wastage of water, energy and labour, and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that, in the context of the worsening climate crisis and India's large agricultural output, such percentage losses translate into millions of tonnes of food being wasted annually, adversely impacting farmers' incomes, national food availability and environmental sustainability, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether food loss varies across crops, value chains and regions, and whether the Government proposes to identify the regions with high post-harvest losses, quantify the associated greenhouse gas emissions and undertake targeted interventions to address such inefficiencies and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b): As per studies conducted by Indian Council for Agricultural Research – Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology (ICAR-CIPHET), 2015 and NABARD Consultancy Service Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS), 2022, the estimated percentage of Harvest and Post-Harvest loss of various agricultural produce in India and category wise losses in monetary terms are as follows:

Crops/ Commodities	Estimated Percentage Loss		Monetary loss NABCONS (in Rs. Crore)
	As per ICAR- CIPHET study (2015)	As per NABCONS study (2022)	
<b>Cereals</b>	4.65 - 5.99	3.89-5.92	26000.79
<b>Pulses</b>	6.36 - 8.41	5.65-6.74	9289.21
<b>Oil Seeds</b>	3.08 - 9.96	2.87-7.51	10924.97
<b>Fruits</b>	6.70-15.88	6.02-15.05	29545.07
<b>Vegetables</b>	4.58-12.44	4.87-11.61	27459.08
<b>Plantation Crops &amp; Spices</b>	1.18-7.89	1.29-7.33	16412.56

<b>Milk</b>	0.92	0.87	29871.41
<b>Fisheries (Inland)</b>	5.23	4.86	
<b>Fisheries (Marine)</b>	10.52	8.76	
<b>Meat</b>	2.71	2.34	
<b>Poultry</b>	6.74	5.63	
<b>Egg</b>	7.19	6.03	3287.32
<b>Total monetary losses</b>			<b>152790.42</b>

(c): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has not conducted any specific study to assess the relation of climate crisis on post-harvest losses/ wastage of agricultural produce in India.

(d): As per the study stated above, the post-harvest losses vary across crops, value chains and regions. The study also helped to identify the regions with high post-harvest losses. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has not conducted any specific study to quantify the greenhouse gas emissions associated with post-harvest losses.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) through implementation of various initiatives and schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), Prime Minister Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industries (PLISFPI) aims for the overall development of food processing sector. Under various components of the aforementioned schemes, the MoFPI provides financial assistance for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlets. The infrastructure created and assistance provided aims at providing better returns to farmers, creation of employment opportunities, reducing wastage, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

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