

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 868
ANSWERED ON 04TH DECEMBER, 2025

INITIATIVES TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

868. SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHAWA:

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

- (a): whether the Government has taken cognizance of the fact that a large amount of food is wasted every year and a significant portion of agricultural produce is lost after harvesting;
- (b): if so, the details of the initiatives proposed by the Government to reduce food wastage and improve food processing infrastructure in the country; and
- (c): whether the Government is of the opinion that a strong food processing sector is important for increasing farmers' income and encouraging exports and if so, the details of the steps being taken in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 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 is as follows:

Crops/ Commodities	Estimated Percentage Loss	
	As per ICAR-CIPHET study (2015)	As per NABCONS study (2022)
Cereals	4.65 - 5.99	3.89-5.92
Pulses	6.36 - 8.41	5.65-6.74
Oil Seeds	3.08 - 9.96	2.87-7.51
Fruits	6.70-15.88	6.02-15.05
Vegetables	4.58-12.44	4.87-11.61
Plantation Crops & Spices	1.18-7.89	1.29-7.33
Milk	0.92	0.87
Fisheries (Inland)	5.23	4.86
Fisheries (Marine)	10.52	8.76
Meat	2.71	2.34
Poultry	6.74	5.63
Egg	7.19	6.03

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 levels and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been implementing Central Sector umbrella scheme – Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) since 2017-18 across the country. The component schemes under PMKSY are (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP scheme- discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2021), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain & Value Addition Infrastructure (iii) Creation of Infrastructure for Agro Processing Clusters (APC scheme), (iv) Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC scheme), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (CBFL scheme- discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2021) and (vi) Operation Greens (OG scheme). The schemes are demand driven and proposals are invited by floating Expression of Interest from time to time based on availability of funds. Under these component schemes, MoFPI provides financial support in the form of grants-in-aid/ subsidy for setting up of food processing projects thereby creating both processing and preservation infrastructure facilities including cold chain infrastructure. The facilities created under the component schemes help in preservation & processing of raw farm produce and efficient transport of raw & finished processed food products thereby reducing post-harvest losses of farm produce. A total of 1619 projects have been sanctioned across the country since inception under PMKSY, out of which 1181 projects have been completed as on 31st October, 2025.

MoFPI provides financial, technical and business support for setting up/ upgradation of micro food processing enterprises in the country under "Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme. The support is provided for potential entrepreneurs for all the products including One District One Product (ODOP) products under PMFME Scheme across the country. The scheme is operational from 2020-21 to 2025-26 with total outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore. As of 31st October 2025, 3,86,686 applications have been sent to banks and out of which 1,62,744 loans have been sanctioned with term loan amount of Rs. 13.23 thousand crore. Seed Capital support of Rs. 1244.95 Crore has been sanctioned for 3,65,935 women SHG members.

Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industries (PLISFPI) of MoFPI is intended, inter alia, to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in international market. The scheme is being implemented over a six-year period from 2021-22 to 2026-27 with an outlay of Rs.10,900 crores. By 31st October 2025, 170 applications have been approved under this scheme, with beneficiaries reporting investment of ₹9,032 crore and receiving incentive of ₹2162.55 crore. Also, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides incentives to processed food exporters under its different schemes for Infrastructure, Quality, Market Development etc. These schemes are implemented across the country.
