GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2289
ANSWERED ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2026

SETTING UP OF HIGH-TECH FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

2289. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH:

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

(a) whether the Government has launched initiatives to establish high-tech food processing industries nationwide to boost value addition, generate employment for youth and strengthen farmer incomes, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of approved and operational high-tech food processing units including total investment, number of jobs created and technological collaborations with domestic and foreign companies made in this regard;

(c) the details of the schemes, incentives and fund allocations provided during the last three years and the current year to promote high-tech food processing industries, especially for startups and MSMEs;

(d) whether the Government has any plans to expand research, innovation and training programs in high-tech food processing, particularly for rural youth and women entrepreneurs to enhance employment and skill development, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that delays in approvals, land acquisition and licensing have slowed the setting up of high-tech food processing industries and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government would ensure faster clearances, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : In order to promote and ensure overall development of food processing sector including promotion of high-tech food processing, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of related infrastructure through its two Central Sector Schemes namely Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and a Centrally sponsored PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme across the country.

These schemes aim towards creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet which includes storage, transportation, value addition etc., thereby help in providing better returns to farmers, enhancing productivity, reducing wastage of agricultural produce and creating off-farm employment opportunities.

In order to promote use of high-technology viz. use of Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, etc. in Food Processing Sector, MoFPI extends Grant-in-Aid to educational and research institutions including Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) recognized Research and Development (R&D) units in private sector for related demand driven R&D projects through its R&D scheme under Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY).

Under R&D component of the Scheme, financial assistance as grant-in-aid is provided to Private organizations/ universities/institutions/R&D laboratories and CSIR recognized R&D units in private sector to the tune of 50% of equipment cost in general areas and 70% in difficult areas and to various Universities, IITs, Central/ State Government Institutions, Government funded organizations to promote and undertake demand driven R&D work in food processing sector for product & process development, design and development of equipment, improved storage, shelf-life, packaging etc. R&D projects of Government organizations/ Institutions are eligible for 100% grant-in-aid for the cost of equipment, consumables and expenditure related to Research Fellows, etc.

In addition, National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship & Management (NIFTEM) Kundli, Haryana and NIFTEM, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu under administrative control of MoFPI, are also engaged in R&D activities in the sector.

The details of R&D projects approved by MoFPI in the field of high-technology for development of Food Processing Sector since 2016-17 under the R&D component scheme of PMKSY are at **Annexure.**

MoFPI provides subsidy/incentives to the eligible entities including startups and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) under schemes implemented by MoFPI.

(**e) & (f):** At times, the projects approved under schemes of MoFPI face delays in obtaining statutory clearances/ certificates from the State Govt. regarding Consent to Establish, Consent to Operate, building plan approval, electricity connection etc., have led to delay in completion of some of these projects.

MoFPI has taken various measures for timely implementation of these projects, which include (i) Dashboard for monitoring the progress of the projects; (ii) Regularly review with the promoters to help remove bottlenecks in implementation; (iii) Assessing the progress of projects though site visits to prevent delays in their completion; (iv) Issues taken up with the Banks/ Financial Institutions to expedite sanction and disbursement of term loan to the projects; (v) Penal provisions on the promotors in case of delayed completion of projects; (vi) MoFPI, on the request of project implementing agencies, also took up the matter with the concerned department of State Government and their agencies for smooth and timely implementation.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2289 FOR ANSWER ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2026 REGARDING "SETTING UP OF HIGH-TECH FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES"

List of R&D projects approved in the field of high-technology for development of Food Processing Sector under R&D component scheme of PMKSY since 2016-17 are as under:-

Sr No.	Name of the Project	Institute Name	Project Cost (In Lakh)	Approved GIA(In Lakh)	Released GIA (in Lakh)	Status
1.	3-D Printed Foods: Personalized Nutrition to Address Malnutrition in India	NIFTEM-Thanjavur	55.42	55.42	50.28	Completed
2.	Development of active intelligent packaging system with antimicrobial agent for fruits and vegetables	NIFTEM-Thanjavur	53.04	53.04	45.94	Completed
3.	Design and development of hot air assisted continuous Infrared drying system for high value fish and fishery products	ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin, Kerala	27.02	27.02	25.02	Completed
4	Waste of wealth: Extracting nutraceutical (polyphenols) from troical fruits residue by biorefinery approach	Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technique, Nagpur	32.79	32.79	32.79	Completed
5.	Monascus Purpureus CFR 410-11 fermented cowpea Tofu as functional food	Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	24.90	24.90	23.23	Completed
6.	Development of Blockchain-based Traceability Solution for Agri-Food Supply Chains	NIFTEM, Kundli, Sonepat, Haryana	18.73	18.731	16.19	Completed
7.	Phytochemical profiling and valorisation of Pomelo fruit of Northeast region	Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam	41.48	41.48	36.68	Completed

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