

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4373
ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2026

MEASURES ON FOOD LOSS AND WASTAGE

4373. SHRI VE VAITHILINGAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to address food loss and wastage along agricultural value chains in Andhra Pradesh given that global estimates show 13.2 per cent of food is lost between harvest and retail and country faces substantial post harvest losses across multiple crops;
- (b) if so, the details of initiatives supported for strengthening on farm storage, moisture proof silos, solar cold rooms, low cost cooling chambers and farmer training programmes to minimise spoilage along with measures taken to integrate Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and self help groups in food loss reduction; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to expand coordination among the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, State Governments/UTs including Puducherry and international agencies to integrate food loss reduction into agricultural policies, improve farmer incomes and ensure measurable outcomes in terms of reduced greenhouse gas emissions and enhanced food security nationwide and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) estimates post harvest losses from time to time for various agri-produces in the country through commissioning of studies based on primary surveys. Two studies were commissioned by the Ministry through (i) Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) - Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), 2015 with reference year 2012-14 and (ii) NABARD Consultancy Service Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS), 2022 with reference year 2020-22. As per the study conducted by NABCONS, crop-wise estimates of overall post harvest losses in India and the state of Andhra Pradesh is placed at **Annexure**.

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 component of the aforementioned schemes, the MoFPI provides financial assistance for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. The infrastructure created and assistance provided aims at providing better returns to farmers, creation of employment opportunities, reducing wastage, increasing the processing level, enhancing the export of the processed foods and efficient transport of raw & finished processed food products thereby reducing post harvest losses of farm produce.

MoFPI is implementing a Central Sector Umbrella Scheme- PMKSY since 2016-17 to create post harvest infrastructure and processing capacity. The component schemes under PMKSY are (i) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, (ii) Creation of

Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters, (iii) Creation / Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities (iv) Operation Greens (v) Food Safety and Quality Assurance - Food Testing Laboratories (FTL) (vi) Human Resource & Institutions- Research & Development (vii) Mega Food Parks (the component has been discontinued with effect from 01.04.2021 with provision for committed liabilities only) and (viii) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (the component has been discontinued from 1st April 2021). MoFPI provides credit linked financial assistance (capital subsidy) in the form of grants-in-aid to the eligible applicants as per the scheme guidelines and 1607 projects have been approved under PMKSY out of which 1196 projects have been completed as on December 2025.

MoFPI also provides financial, technical and business support for upgradation of existing micro food processing enterprises as well as setting up of new units under Prime Minister Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme. The scheme is operational from 2020-21 to 2025-26 with total outlay of Rs.10,000 crores. As on 31st December, 2025, 1,72,707 individual Micro Food Processing Enterprises approved for credit linked assistance amounting to Rs. 5009.61 Cr, 3,76,326 SHG members approved for Rs 1282.98 Cr and 76 Incubation centres with outlay of Rs 208.10 Cr.

Further, these scheme allows participation not only by government agencies, but also by private firms, companies, cooperatives, NGOs, FPOs, individuals etc. in setting up cold-chain/ processing/ storage units etc. provided they meet eligibility conditions.

(c): The MoFPI is coordinating with various Ministries/Departments and State Governments/UTs including Puducherry and relevant international agencies to strengthen efforts for reduction of food loss and wastage through various schemes and programmes of the Government focus on development of post harvest infrastructure, value addition, processing and supply chain efficiency, which contribute to reduction of food losses and improvement in farmers' income. The MoFPI also collaborates with international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization to adopt globally recognized methodologies and indicators for monitoring food loss and promoting sustainable food systems.

Further, MoFPI is coordinating with various Ministries/Departments and State Governments/UTs to promote the food processing sector including discussion on the reduction of food loss and wastage through the World Food India event which serves as a key platform for collaboration among the other Central Ministries, State Governments, industry stakeholders and international organizations. The event facilitates knowledge sharing, investment promotion and discussions on, interalia, strengthening post harvest management, improving processing infrastructure and integrating food loss reduction strategies within the broader agricultural and food processing ecosystem.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4373 FOR ANSWER ON 19TH MARCH, 2026 ON “MEASURES ON FOOD LOSS AND WASTAGE”

Post harvest losses of major crops and commodities in India:

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

Source: Report on Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and commodities in India, 2015 and NABCONS Study 2022

Post-harvest losses of major crops and commodities in the state of Andhra Pradesh

Percentage of Loss (%)	
Crops/Commodities	Overall Total Loss (%)
Bajra	5.07
Banana	9.33
Black gram	5.56
Cashew nut	4.82
Chickpea	5.71
Chilli	7.06
Citrus	7.97
Coconut	4.32
Cottonseed	3.03
Egg	5.47
Green gram	6.13
Groundnut	6.58
Inland fish	4.68
Maize	5.98
Mango	7.9
Marine fish	8.5
Milk	0.58
Muskmelon	7.42
Paddy	5.73
Papaya	6.58
Pomegranate	8.69
Poultry Meat	7.39
Sorghum	5.67
Tomato	12.36
Turmeric	4.97

Source: NABCONS Study 2022