

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1929
ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2026

MARKETING OF MAKHANA IN MITHILA REGION

1929. SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any special scheme for processing, storage, packaging, value addition and marketing of Makhana in the Mithila region of Bihar particularly in Darbhanga district;
- (b) if so, the details of the projects sanctioned along with the funds allocated and their present progress in Darbhanga district and Bihar during the last three years; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering to set up modern makhana processing units, testing laboratories, packaging centres and export-oriented infrastructure in Mithila region particularly in Darbhanga and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN)

(a) to (c): In order to ensure overall development of food processing sector, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of related infrastructure including processing of Makhana 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 scheme PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME). These schemes are demand driven and implemented across the country including Darbhanga district of Bihar.

To promote local industries, One District One Product (ODOP) approach under PMFME Scheme has been adopted to reap the benefit of scale in terms of procurement of inputs, availing common services and marketing of products. It provides the framework for value chain development and alignment of support infrastructure. Under PMFME Scheme, Makhana has been identified as ODOP for Darbhanga, Araria, Katihar, Madhubani, Saharsa & Supaul districts of Bihar. As on 30.06.2026, 315 micro food processing enterprises have been approved in Bihar for makhana processing, with approved subsidy of Rs 12.77 crore, out of which 97 micro food processing enterprises, with subsidy of Rs 2.71 crore are from Darbhanga district.

MoFPI does not setup any food processing Industries on its own. However, it incentivizes setting up of such industries including processing of Makhana through its schemes. One project related to processing of Makhana has been approved with approved grants in aid of Rs 5 crore in Araria district of Bihar under Creation / Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities Scheme (CEFPPC), a component scheme of PMKSY.
