

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1879  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2003  
PROMOTION OF FPI  
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SURESH CHANDEL

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

- (a) the details of fruits produced in the upper and lower parts of Himachal Pradesh separately;
- (b) whether the number of food processing industries is less in comparison to the production of fruits;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for the promotion of Food Processing Industry in Himachal Pradesh?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a): According to Indian Horticulture Database 2002 published by National Horticulture Board, production of fruits in Himachal Pradesh in 2000-01 was 4.38 lakhs MT. Separate break-up for fruits produced in upper and lower parts of Himachal Pradesh is not available.

(b) & (c): Food processing industries are both in organised and unorganised sector. However, as per FPO (Fruits Products Order, 1955) administered by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, there are 115 FPO Licensees in Himachal Pradesh. Number of food processing industries set up in the State depends on a number of factors including available marketable surplus, price of such raw material, availability of processable raw material, availability of trained manpower, demand for fresh and processed products, price of final products etc.

(d): For promotion of food processing industries, Government has taken up the tasks of strengthening infrastructure, providing assistance for technology upgradation, modernisation/expansion of existing units, providing support for Backward and Forward Linkages and through assistance in training human resources. Himachal Pradesh falls under the category of difficult area and is entitled to higher scale of assistance compared to the rest of the country.