

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1991
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
CREATION OF FOOD PARKS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved a Rs.250 crore infrastructure development scheme for the food processing industries to facilitate the creation of "Food Parks" to help small and medium units;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which this scheme would help small entrepreneurs in investing facilities like cold storage, warehousing, power and water supply;
- (d) the details of action plan to be considered in the Tenth Plan; and
- (e) the total amount so far spent in implementing the scheme ?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Scheme for Infrastructure Development with a total outlay of Rs. 250 crores is one of the six Plan Schemes being operated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during the 10th Plan Period with an overall outlay of Rs. 650 crores. Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided for the development of the processed food sector.

Under the Scheme for Infrastructure Development, financial assistance in the form of grant in aid is provided for setting up of common facilities in Food Parks. These common facilities include cold storage, food testing and analysis laboratory, effluent treatment plant, common processing facilities, power, water supply etc. The grant is up to 25% of the project cost in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 4 crores. Through the intervention of this scheme, small and medium enterprises are helped to improve their viability by defraying the cost of the major common facilities provided in the Food Parks.

During the first year of X Plan i.e. 2002-03, the Ministry released assistance to the tune of Rs. 28.93 crores under the scheme for setting up of food parks.