

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1855
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
IMPORT OF PACKED COOKED /SEMI COOKED FOOD
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

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

- (a) whether the Government has since revised the norms for import of packed cooked/semi cooked food;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the incentives being offered to foreign companies for setting up food processed industries in India; and
- (d) the other measures being adopted to promote import and sale of packed food in India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) & (b): The standards for various thermally processed fruits and vegetable products have been prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955 vide notification GSR 185(E) dated 21.3.2005 (effective 20.9.2005). The standards for other processed fruits and vegetables products have also been prescribed in the same notification. This notification has come into force on 20.9.2005 except standards for

- (i) Thermally Processed Fruit Juices (A.16.06),
- (ii) Thermally Processed Fruit Nectars (A.16.09),
- (iii) Thermally Processed Fruit Beverages/Fruit Drink/Ready-to-Serve Fruit Beverages (A.16.10),
- (iv) soup powders (A.16.15),
- (v) Carbonated Fruit Beverages or Fruit Drink (A.16.30),
- (vi) Fruit based beverages mix/powdered fruit based beverage (A.16.40) and
- (vii) Fruits and Vegetable Chutney (A.16.41), which will come into force on 20.3.2006.

(c) & (d): No measures are being taken to promote imported packed foods specifically, nor incentives are being specifically given to foreign companies for setting up food processing industries.

Annexure

No industrial license required for food and agro processing industries except for alcoholic beverages and some items reserved for small scale sector.

Automatic approval to FDI upto 100% equity excluding alcoholic beverages and items reserved for small scale sector.

Foreign equity ownership of upto 24% allowed even in items reserved for small scale sector.

Agro based units established in Special Economic Zones and 100% EOUs allowed:-

- (a) Sales upto 50% in domestic tariff area and
- (b) Import of capital goods and raw materials at zero duty.

Import of food processing machinery allowed freely with low level of duties.

Foreign technology agreement within norms made automatic.

Liberal corporate tax for export and domestic earnings