

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3164

ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007

SPECIAL POLICY PACKAGES FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

Bose Shri Subrata

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

(a) the details of the special policy packages announced by the Government to give a further boost to this industry in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the prospects of Food Processing Industry in the rural areas in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (b): A Vision Document 2015 on Food Processing Industries for the country as a whole has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. The Cabinet has approved the integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector, based on the recommendations made by the Group of Ministers (GOM) for growth of Food Processing Sector.

The thrust areas identified for strategic intervention cover establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages, creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure, modernization of abattoirs, upgradation of hygienic and quality street food and food streets, establishment and upgradation of quality control laboratories, restructuring and strengthening of MFPI, rationalizing tax structure, incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure, undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector, liberalized wine and beer policy, launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector and need for larger public investment for creation of critical rural infrastructure in food processing sector.

In the 11th Plan, the Ministry proposes to implement a revamped Scheme for Infrastructure Development under which, it will give financial assistance for setting up of Mega Food Parks, cold chain infrastructure, value added centres and packaging centres. The Mega Food Park Scheme will provide backward and forward linkages as well as reliable and sustainable supply chain. The Cluster based demand driven approach will provide linkages from farm to market with linkages from local to regional level through Primary Processing Centres, Collection Centres, Strategic Distribution Centre-cum-Cold Chain at critical locations – having Controlled Atmosphere storage and distribution centres where large quantities can be stored and supplied to distribution centres for fresh sale and to processing industries for processing. The emphasis will be on building strong linkages with agriculture and horticulture, enhancing project implementation capabilities, increased involvement of private sector investments and support for creation of rural infrastructure to ensure a steady supply of good quality agri horticulture produce.