

areas reduce post-harvest losses, establish productive linkages between industry and farmers, increase exports of processed foods and generally support productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities. This will be finalised after due consultation with all concerned.

Advantage from the Food Processing Policy Plan

1102. SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which indigenous units could take advantage from the Food Processing Policy Plan of the country, the details thereof;

(b) what is the total allocation of funds for file purpose;

(c) whether the allocation sufficient for the plan; and

(d) whether the policy had been suitably Updated and modified from time to time to suit indigenous units which are basically in the infancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Under the various Development Plan Schemes of this Ministry, assistance is available to various organisations for setting up/upgrading food processing facilities, post-harvest infrastructure, refrigerated transport, marketing, training, etc., development of mushrooms

and hops processing facilities, development of meat and poultry processing and fish processing units. Assistance extended is in the form of equity/grant/seed capital upto varying percentages of the project cost depending upon the nature of the scheme and project proposal, the type of organisation viability of the project, source of finance, etc.

(b) and (c) The Plan outlay of this Ministry for Eighth Five Year Plan is Rs. 146 crores against the Ministry's original proposal of Rs. 700 crores.

(d) Plan schemes and policies are reviewed from time to time in order to promote development of food processing industries in the country.

Schemes for Food Processing Industries in Assam

1103. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the number of schemes relating to food processing industries being implemented in Assam, District-wise with the assistance of the Central Government and alongwith the position as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Details of the Plan Schemes being implemented in Assam with the assistance from Ministry of Food Processing Industries are given in the enclosed Statement

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Position
1.	Setting up of a Sheep and Goat Meat Processing Plant at Guwahati by Assam Livestock and Poultry Corpn. Ltd., Guwahati with Goat Breeding Farm.	Feasibility Report prepared. Designs, Plans and estimates of the project including building, equipments and appliances have been completed. Land for the project have been acquired.
2.	Setting up of a Poultry Processing Plant by Assam Livestock and Poultry Corpn. Ltd., at Guwahati.	
3.	Setting up of a Pork Processing Plant by Assam Livestock and Poultry Corpn. Ltd., at Guwahati.	
4.	Scheme relating to strengthening of backward linkages for development of Poultry Processing.	Grant-in-aid released.

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| 5. Scheme for manpower development of meat industry. | Training courses have already been conducted. |
| 6. Schemes for development of marketing facility for meat & poultry processing. | Deep-freezers have already been purchased and installed at the retail outlets at Guwahati. |
| 7. Assistance for preparation of feasibility report for Pork Processing Plant at Nazira and sheep and goat meat processing plant at Tejpur. | The feasibility report is under preparation. |
| 8. Schemes relating to R&D scheme in Grain Processing Sector. | The Regional Research Lab. of the CSIR, Jorhat is operating a Research & Development Scheme for production of Zeolite based detergent from paddy husk ash. |

FAO assistance for sick deep sea Fishing Units

1104. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assistance has been sought from FAO to revive the sick deep sea fishing units;
- (b) what recommendations have been implemented on the FAO recommendation of 1992 for revival of deep sea fishing units; and
- (c) whether any financial assistance has been given for repair of deep sea vessels as recommended by FAO in their report of April, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made in the FAO report relate to Demonstration Commercial Fishing (DCF) for diversification of a part of the present fishing fleet; easier credit facilities; and incentives in the form of subsidy/grant-in-aid. The World Bank has communicated that deep sea fishing is not one of the priorities of their Agricultural Division pipeline. However, the Government is already giving assistance for diversified fishing under a Plan Scheme. Interest subsidy and diesel subsidy are also being provided to the deep sea fishing sector. However, in order to examine the problems of this sector as a whole, a Technical Committee has been constituted which will examine the issues involved and suggest remedial measures.

(c) No financial assistance is given by the Government for repair of deep sea fishing

vessels owned by private fishing companies. Financial assistance for diversified fishing is given by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under a Plan Scheme.

Test Fishing

1105. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Unstarred Question 1744 dated 12-5-93 and state:

- (a) whether Government have obtained results of Test Fishing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian vessels will be subsidised to go for Test Fishing; and
- (d) what steps Government propose to take to encourage Test Fishing by Indian vessels to locate new marine resources ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Out of three deep sea fishing vessels operated/being operated under Test Fishing Scheme, report on the result of test fishing in respect of one vessel operated by M/s. Sovin Sea Foods Pvt Ltd.; New Delhi has been received. It is indicated in the report that the result of test fishing operation is encouraging in so far as the size of the vessel is concerned. It has also been mentioned in the report that during the test fishing operations, the company faced marketing problems and problems relating to the performance of the crew.

(c) and (d) No subsidy is given by the Government for Test Fishing. Test Fishing is intended to establish commercial viability of deep sea fishing operations.