

1	2	3
Small Scale B	Upto 250 MT	390
Small Scale A	Upto 100 MT	435
Cottage Scale	Upto 50 MT	1153
Home Scale B	Upto 10 MT	1906
	Total	4540

Promotion of dairy processing activities

2172. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether milk is the backbone of rural household income of landless people, small and marginal farmers of the rural areas;

(b) if so, the measures taken to promote dairy processing activities; and

(c) the quantum of loan distributed for purchase of cows, goats, buffalos to poor persons to earn their livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) and (b) The milk and milk products processing in dairy sector plays a vital role in rural economy since dairying is a major source of income for farmers of rural India. To ensure maximum returns to farmers, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Food Processing Industries are implementing various plan schemes for strengthening and modernizing dairy processing activities.

The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme Intensive Dairy Development Programme in the country for dairy development with 100% grant-in-aid basis with a focus on increase in milk production, procurement and marketing. Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Central Sector Scheme Dairy Venture Capital Fund (DVCF) through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Under the scheme there is provision for interest free loans @ 50% of total cost within earmarked ceilings for various dairy activities including dairy processing equipments.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) is promoting organized dairy processing sector to accomplish upcoming demands of processed dairy products and helping to identify various areas of research for future product development, scalable efficient) technologies and quality improvement to revamp the Indian dairy processing sector for domestic as well as export market by way of providing financial assistance to the dairy processing units. MFPI provides financial assistance under its plan scheme "Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of food processing industries" which includes the milk and milk processing plants also. The financial assistance is 25% of the cost of plant and machineries and technical civil work subject to maximum Rs. 50.00 lakhs for general areas.

In case of difficult areas the financial assistance is 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 Lakhs. Under the Infrastructure Development of Cold Chain Scheme, integrated projects of Dairy processing with cold chain facilities are being considered with the financial assistance of 50% of the cost of plant and machineries and technical civil work subject to maximum Rs. 10.00 crores.

(c) Under Dairy Venture Capital Fund (DVCF) scheme of Ministry of Agriculture, an amount of Rs. 48.20 crores has been sanctioned as interest free loan for establishment of small dairy units of buffalo and crossbred cows till 31st March, 2008.

Wastage of fruits and vegetables

2173. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world, and 25 per cent of the produce gets damaged because of poor and unscientific storage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cold storages in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether each district in the country does not have adequate facility of cold storage and exorbitant charges are taken from farmers for using the cold storages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for setting up more cold storages in each district in our country?

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

(a) to (e) The level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 58,000/- crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, provisions in Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities *etc.* The loss due to wastages could be reduced by promoting the development of food processing industries, strengthening of post-harvest infrastructure and filling the gaps in the supply chain. However, the substantial rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 13.14 % in 2006-07 and the increase in total investment in food processing sector to Rs. 40,000 crore in 2006-07 has contributed to reduction of wastages and better value addition.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling 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. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government.