

- (a) whether Government has any proposal for establishment of food parks in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating their locations, estimated cost, etc.;
- (c) whether the Central Government has sanctioned any grants to the State during the last year for establishment of food processing industries in the State; and
- (d) whether any food processing industry was functioning in the State and if so, the details on their status?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Food Parks scheme has been discontinued by the Government after 10th Plan period. In the 11th Plan, the Government has approved a new scheme to establish 30 Mega Food Parks in the country with a view to provide farm proximate state-of-the-art infrastructure along the supply chain for food processing sector in the country on a pre-identified cluster basis with a strong backward and forward linkage and to provide value addition of agricultural commodities including poultry, meat, dairy, fisheries etc. in a demand driven manner. These Mega Food Parks will be owned, operated and maintained by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) which would be a body corporate consisting of individuals, firms, companies, Banks/Financial Institutions, farmer groups, NGOs, Govt. or Govt. undertakings etc. Govt. would provide financial assistance in the form of grant @ 50% of project cost excluding land component in general areas and 75% in difficult areas, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crore. Govt. has approved 10 such Mega Food Parks to be taken for assistance in the 1st phase in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

(c) During the Financial Year 2009-10, Government sanctioned Rs. 84.40 lakhs to six different Food Processing Units in the States.

(d) Details of Food Processing Industries functioning in the State have not been centrally maintained.

Review of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006

2504. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to review the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, in view of its severe criticism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is not aware of any criticism of the Act, the implementation of which is likely to start this year. There is no proposal to review Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Apple processing plant in Himachal Pradesh

2505. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a request from Himachal Pradesh to set up an apple processing plant;

(b) if so, Government's response thereon and by when the new processing plant is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the existing processing plant which was set up in 1980 and which has become obsolete and needs to be replaced; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereon and by when the obsolete plant is likely to be replaced in view of 6 to 7 lakh tonnes of fruit being produced in Himachal Pradesh annually and 25 to 30 per cent of the total fruit production do not find ready market and needs to be processed into value added products?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No Sir. The setting up of new plant units for food processing sector in the State comes under the purview of respective State Governments. However, under the plan scheme of setting up of technology upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends the financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas under the Scheme.

Generation of employment in food processing sector

2506. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state: