

challenged by COAI before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in Writ Petition (C) no. 9654 of 2007. Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, in its judgment dated 22.08.2008 and the Hon'ble TDSAT, in its judgment dated 31.03.2009 upheld the decision of the Government in the matter which were brought to the notice of Offices under the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) *vide* following communications:—

- (i) Dot Letter dated 24.07.2009 and dated 15.04.2010 in response to Audit Inspection memos dated 13.07.2009 and 21.03.2010 respectively.
- (ii) Dot letter dated 27.07.2010 in response to CAG's draft Performance Audit Report dated 15.07.2010 on 'the issue of License and Allocations of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications'.
- (iii) DoT letter dated 18.04.2011 in response to CAG's Performance Audit Report No. 19 of 2011 on 'the issue of License and Allocation of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications'.

#### **Assistance to Odisha for development of FPIs**

2715. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to Odisha for development of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in the State;
- (b) if so, the details of such assistance during last three years;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of food processing units established under the guidance and support of the Central Government in the State;
- (e) the position of the State in production of processed foods in the country;
- (f) whether Government proposes to initiate any steps to develop food processing industries which are specific to the State; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) The Government does not provide financial assistance to the State Governments for development of food processing industries in the State. But, Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance under its plan scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries in the country including that of Odisha in the form of *grant-in-aid* @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas and @33.33% subject to a

maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. All implementing agencies engaged in Setting Up/Expansion/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries covering all segments are eligible for financial assistance. The implementing agencies include Central/State Government Organisation/PSUs/NGOs/Cooperative Societies and Private Sector Units and Individuals. The details of the financial assistance provided for the State of Odisha under the Scheme is as below:—

(Rs in lakhs)

2009-10		2010-11		2011-12 (as on 30.11.2011)	
No. of units approved	Amount released	No. of units approved	Amount released	No. of units approved	Amount released
6	84.4	8	200.875	2	8.44

(d) The food processing units are not established in the States under the guidance of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, however, Ministry supports the existing food processing units for expansion/modernization by providing grant-in-aid in accordance to the guidelines under the scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries.

(e) The data on production of processed food in the country including the State of Odisha are not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

(f) and (g) Government has formulated and is implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for the establishment and modernization of Food Processing Units, Creation of Infrastructure, Support to R&D, Human Resources Development, Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Moreover, the Government has taken several steps like tax reduction, waiver/reduction of excise duty, reduction of custom duty on specific food items with a view to encourage the growth of Food Processing Industries and make them more competitive.

#### **Scheme for farmers**

2716. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether there is any initiative and programme to teach rural farmers of its various schemes and technology of which they can take benefit of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): Yes, Sir.