

Promoting FPIs

65. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a strategic plan and budget allocation to support and promote Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in the country; and

(b) the steps taken and amount sanctioned for the promotion and development of FPIs in Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has made a budget allocation of Rs. 660.00 crores during the year 2012-13 to implement the Schemes of Infrastructure Development; Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, R&D and other Promotional activities; Human Resource Development; National Mission on Food Processing and Strengthening of Institutions for promotion of food processing industries in the country.

(b) Financial assistance released under various Schemes to Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands during the financial year 2012-13 (upto December, 2012) is given in Statement.

Statement

Financial assistance released for promotion of food processing industries under various schemes during the year 2012-13 (upto 31.12.2012)

(Rs. in lakhs)					
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Odisha	Jharkhand	West Bengal	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Infrastructure Development	500.00	1000.00	2432.43	—
2.	Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries	97.22077	—	120.045	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, R&D and other Promotional activities	25.40	–	3.00	–
4.	Human Resource Development	25.89	3.85	10.16	-
5.	National Mission on Food Processing	693.00	531.75	795.00	198.00

Making food processing sector more farmer friendly

66. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has felt for the need to focus attention on the Research and Development of Food Processing Wing to make farmers earn more benefits;

(b) if so, the response of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to make food processing sector more farmer friendly;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has a focused approach towards R&D in the processed food sector to reduce wastage and spoilage of food and food products, develop technologies and methods for preservation of food products, their processing and value addition, improved packaging, storage and distribution. While the end product/ outcome/ finding of R&D work would benefit all stakeholders including farmers, industry, consumers, academic and research institutions and regulatory bodies, the R&D projects assisted by the Government are also aimed at enabling the scientific community to understand and work with the issues in the food science area with a view to evolving technological solutions and new products and processes. This in turn is expected to give momentum to adopt better and improved agri-farm practices and result in increase in the farm productivity thereby leading to enhancement of farmers' income and generation of employment opportunities.