

rice, jowar, bajra, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, moong dal, tuar dal and edible oils, milk and eggs;

2. Identification by State Governments of vulnerable areas prone to supply shortages for special monitoring;
3. Focus on adequate storage as well as quality of Coarse cereals like Jowar, Bajra and Maize to ensure availability. In this context States may also mobilise existing storage capacity utilizing the Government/private/Cooperative storage infrastructure to ensure decentralized stocks across cities/rural areas;
4. States may establish a revolving fund for buying products/produce in bulk and regulate their storage as well as distribution during peak demand *i.e.* festival season at reasonable prices and through PDS for BPL card holders; and
5. Facilitating sale of essential food items through PDS shops, cooperative societies etc. for coverage of economically weaker sections at reasonable prices.

Distribution of iodised salt through PDS

3309. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that still over 25 per cent of the population consume non-iodised salt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the data of the non-iodised salt consumption, State-wise;
- (d) the number of States that distribute iodised salt through Public Distribution System (PDS) enabling it to reach the poor people; and
- (e) the extent to which the iodised salt distributed through PDS is cheaper as compared to the ones sold in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Investment in food processing industry

3310. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) how much investment was made by the Central Government, various State

Governments and private sector, respectively, in the food processing industry during the last three years;

(b) whether in view of the quantum of wastage of perishable agricultural commodities such as fruits and vegetables, this investment is adequate; and

(c) if not, the steps Government proposes to take to boost up this investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Food processing units are set up by entrepreneurs in the private sector. Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the main source of annual data on food processing units registered under Factory Act, 1948. As per the latest Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), the investment in fixed capital in registered food processing units during three years ending 2011-12, is as under:

| Year | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | AAGR* |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| Fixed Capital# (₹ crore) | 99,482 | 1,20,705 | 1,45,038 | |
| Growth rate (%) | 22.58 | 21.33 | 20.16 | 21.35 |

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, CSO.

#: Depreciated value of Fixed Assets owned by factory.

*: Average Annual Growth Rate for 3 years.

(b) and (c) Estimated losses of agricultural produces as per the study conducted by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana published in 2010, is ₹ 44,143 crore per annum at 2009 wholesale prices. These losses can be minimized by augmenting storage and preservation in infrastructure and expansion of processing capacity in food processing sector.

Accordingly, Government has been strengthening supply-chain by extending financial support for creation of infrastructure viz. Cold Chain, Mega Food Park and setting up/ modernization of Abattoirs. Further, with a view to ensure reduction of wastage, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) - on 1st April, 2012 for implementation through State/UT Governments. The various schemes under the NMFP, *inter-alia*, include setting up/ modernisation of food processing units, setting up Cold Chain units for non-horticultural products, Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in Rural Areas, setting up/modernisation of meat shops, Reefer Vehicles, Human Resource Development and Promotional Activities. All these schemes are implemented with a view to boost investment for increasing level of food processing and minimize wastage.