

by the Ministry through Expression of Interest and projects are selected on merit based on the parameters laid down in the Scheme guidelines. State-wise targets for setting up Mega Food Parks are not fixed.

Losses in agricultural commodities

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an urgent need to bring down the percentage of losses in agricultural commodities particularly in fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, the annual loss of agriculture commodities; and

(c) the State-wise annual loss of agricultural commodities during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) As per a study conducted by the Central Institute for Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana (published in 2010), Post Harvest losses of major agricultural commodities including fruits and vegetables at national level was estimated to the tune of about ₹44,143 crore per annum at 2009 wholesale prices. The cumulative wastage in fruits and vegetables is estimated in the range of 5.8% to 18%. The percentage of losses estimated for major agricultural produces is given below :

Percentage of losses estimated for major produces

Crop	Cumulative wastage (per cent)
Cereals	3.9 – 6.0
Pulses	4.3-6.1
Oil seeds	2.8-10.1
Fruits and Vegetables	5.8-18.0
Milk	0.8
Fisheries (Inland)	6.9
Fisheries (Marine)	2.9
Meat	2.3
Poultry	3.7

Source: CIPHET Study on post-harvest losses, 2010

(c) The State-wise annual loss of agricultural commodities on yearly basis is not available. However, the Ministry has assigned a repeat study to CIPHET, Ludhiana on 29.02.2012 for assessing the present position of post-harvest losses, which is expected to be completed in January, 2015.

National Food Processing Policy

717. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is working on a National Food Processing Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the Policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Uniformity in appointment of Chairpersons and Members of Tribunals

718. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a lack of uniformity in terms of appointment and conditions of service of Chairpersons and Members of various Tribunals constituted under Central Acts; and

(b) whether Government proposes to bring in uniformity in this regard, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) In pursuance of observations of Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgments in the L. Chandra Kumar case (AIR 1997 SC 1125-1155), R. Gandhi case (CA 3067 of 2004) and Rajiv Garg case (CWP No. 120/2012), the Government decided to provide uniformity of conditions of service for Chairpersons and Members of Tribunals.

The Tribunals, Appellate Tribunals and Other Authorities (Conditions of Service) Bill, 2014 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 19 February, 2014 and has been referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report.