Mega Food Parks in Maharashtra

†1469.   SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a)   the quantum of foodgrains which goes waste annually in the country;

(b)   whether Government proposes to set up Mega Food Parks in order to check the wastage of foodgrains and to shorten the distance between farm and plate;

(c)   the number of Food Parks proposed to bet set up in Maharashtra, including Pune, inthe first phase of the scheme; and

(d)   the district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) As per the report (released in 2010) of nation-wide study on quantitative assessment of harvest and post-harvest losses carried out by CIPHET, Ludhiana, the cumulative wastage of Cereals in the country ranges from 3.9 – 6.0 per cent and Pulses from 4.3-6.1 per cent.

(b)   The primary objective of the Scheme of Mega Food Parks is to provide modern infrastructure facilities for the food processing along the value chain from the farm to the market with a cluster based approach based on a hub and spokes model. It includes creation of infrastructure for primary processing and storage near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centres (PPCs) and Collection Centres (CCs) and common facilities and enabling infrastructure at Central Processing Centre (CPC). Mega Food Parks provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agriculture production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income.

(c) and (d) In the first phase of the Mega Food Park scheme implementation, Final approval has been given by the Ministry on 08.03.2013 for setting up a Mega Food Park at Village Wahegaon and Dhangaon, Taluka: Paithan, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra by M/s Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd. in 110 acres at total project cost of ₹ 124.56 crore.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.