

duty on food grade hexane used in edible oil industry has been reduced from 32% to 16%. These tax incentives are likely to generate significant entrepreneurial activities resulting in substantial increase in employment opportunities in food processing sector. As food processing industries are both in the organized and unorganized sectors, it is difficult to indicate precise information regarding employment provided or generated.

Statutory body on integrating food laws

1093. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up or have set up a statutory body to integrate food laws and make them more stringent and prepare a new set of food laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the composition of the statutory body;

(d) whether this new body will also be responsible for accrediting and certifying labs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (e) A Group of Ministers (GOM) has been constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other changes for preparing a Modern Integrated Food Law and related regulations. As such, no details could be furnished.

Food Processing Projects

1094. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing projects in the country in respect of products from milk-resources, fish-resources, flesh-resources, foodgrain-resources, fruit-resources and vegetable resources;

(b) the break-up of the food processing projects State-wise; and

(c) the number of projects forwarded by different State Governments