

but also help in providing better prices to farmers and is a big step towards doubling of farmers' income, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas, reducing wastage of agricultural produce, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

The PMKSY is expected to leverage investment of ₹ 31400 crores, handling of 334 lakh MT agro-produce valuing ₹ 1,04,125 crores, benefit 20 lakh farmers and generate 5,30,500 direct/indirect employments in the country by the year 2019-20.

**Capital infusion to exploit favourable scenario in food processing sector**

402. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the world's second largest producer of rice, wheat, fish, fruits and vegetables and the largest producer of milk;

(b) if so, how Government has taken advantage of this favourable scenario in the Food Processing sector; and

(c) whether Government has been infusing the necessary capital to exploit the favourable situation or depending on private partnerships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government is seized of the agricultural production level in the country and taking all out measures to promote food processing and value addition activities with the major objectives to increase processing level of agricultural produces, reduce harvest and post-harvest losses, increase employment opportunities and raise income level of farmers. For overall growth and development of food processing sector, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been providing capital subsidy under its central sector scheme, "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)" to create robust modern infrastructure and logistic network along the entire value/supply chain of food processing. Besides, capital subsidy is also provided for setting up of food processing units and/or expansion thereof. Under the scheme components of PMKSY viz. (i) Mega Food Park; (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure; (iii) Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters; (iv) Creation of Forward and Backward Linkages; (v) Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation

Capacities; (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure; and (vii) Human Resources and institutions, capital subsidy ranging from 35% to 75% of the eligible project cost subject to a maximum subsidy ranging from ₹5 crore to ₹50 crore (under most of the schemes) in the form of grants-in-aid are provided. Farmers, Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), Entrepreneurs, Co-operatives Societies, Self Help Groups, Private Companies and State PSUs are eligible to avail grant to set up food processing projects.

To attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into the food processing sector, Government has permitted 100% FDI through automatic route in manufacturing of food products. Also, 100% FDI in food retail, including through e-commerce, under Government approval route has been permitted for retail trading of food products produced and/or manufactured in India.

Besides, to further give leverage to investment in the sector, a special food processing fund of ₹ 2,000/- crore has been created with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for availability of hassle-free and affordable bank credit to set up different food processing projects. Also, Loans to food and agro-based processing units and Cold Chain have been classified under agriculture activities for Priority Sector Lending as per the revised RBI Guidelines issued on 23/04/2015 which facilitates availing of affordable credit under these activities.

#### **Contribution of PMKSY in doubling of farmers' income**

403. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) has helped in providing better prices to farmers and contributed to doubling of their income and if so, to what extent;

(b) whether it has led to generation of employment opportunities, especially in the rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it has led to reduction in wastage of agricultural produces and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) A Central Sector Scheme -