

District	Number of Startups
Jaipur	467
Jalore	2
Jhalawar	2
Jhunjhunu	5
Jodhpur	45
Karauli	2
Kota	52
Nagaur	8
Pali	7
Rajsamand	5
Sawai Madhopur	1
Sikar	6
Sirohi	1
Tonk	5
Udaipur	67
TOTAL	800

**Decline in growth rate in food and
grocery retail sector**

711. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the growth rate of food and grocery retail sector in recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to avoid such situations in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) As per NAS 2019 estimates, the food processing sector (NIC 10 and 11) is growing at the

annual average rate of 8.19% during the last five years ending 2017-18. Data on growth rate specific to retail (food and grocery) sector is not available.

(c) For promoting growth in food processing sector, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing an Umbrella Scheme-Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with an outlay of ₹6,000 crore for its implementation during 2016-17 to 2019-20.

MoFPI is also implementing the scheme "Operation Greens" under the PMKSY since November, 2018 for integrated development of value/supply chain exclusively of tomato, onion and potato (TOP) crops in selected States on pilot basis.

Government has taken a number of policy initiatives/measures/steps to promote food processing sector like permitting 100% FDI through automatic route in manufacturing of food products and 100% FDI under Government approval route for trading, including through ecommerce, in respect of food products produced and/or manufactured in India, creation of a special fund of ₹ 2000 crores in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide affordable credit to food processing industries, classification of food and agro-based processing units and cold chain as agricultural activity for Priority Sector Lending (PSL), 100% exemption of income tax on profit for new food processing units, 100 per cent income tax exemption from profit derived by FPOs having annual turnover up to ₹ 100 crore for activities such as post-harvest value addition to agriculture, 100% deduction of expenditure incurred on investment on establishment and operation of cold chain/warehousing facility for storage of agricultural produce, concessional import duty for plant and machinery under project imports benefit scheme, import duty exemption on import of raw material under advance authorization scheme.

Distress sale of foodgrains by farmers

712. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers were forced to sell their foodgrain below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) in the grain markets all over the country in the last two years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?