

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI): (a) This Ministry is currently implementing Research and Development Scheme which is a part of Human Resource and Institutions Scheme under the umbrella scheme of the Ministry i.e. Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY). The scheme is being implemented with an allocation of ₹ 50 crores to meet the committed liability of on-going projects and taking up of new projects for the period coterminous with the Fourteenth Finance Commission. Under the scheme, financial assistance as grant- in-aid is given to various Universities, IITs, Central/ State Government Institutions, Government funded organizations, R&D laboratories and CSIR recognized R&D units in private sector to promote and undertake demand driven R&D work in food processing sector for product and process development, design and development of equipment, improved storage, shelf-life, packaging etc.

R&D projects of Government organizations/ Institutions are eligible for 100% grant-in-aid for the cost of equipment, consumables and expenditure related to Research Fellows, etc. while private Organizations/ Institutions/ Universities are eligible for 50% grant-in-aid for the equipment cost in general areas and 70% grant in-aid in difficult areas.

(b) Under the scheme Ministry has approved 57 Research and Development projects since 2017-18 with approved grant-in-aid of ₹ 21.20 crores.

Capacity of food processing industries

1531. SHRI JYOTIRADITYAM SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of food processing industries in the country, particularly in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the existing food processing units in the country have sufficient capacity to process the fruits and vegetables; and

(c) if not, the steps Government proposes to take to increase the processing capacity by establishing more food processing units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI): (a) As per latest Annual Survey of Industries

(ASI) 2017-18 estimates, a total of 34562 Food Processing factories/units are operational across the country in Food and Beverages sector, with 883 Food Processing factories/units operational in Madhya Pradesh State.

(b) and (c) In order to increase the level of Food Processing in the country, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been implementing Central sector umbrella scheme, 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)' with component schemes *viz*: (i) Mega Food Parks, (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, (iii) Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters, (iv) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages, (v) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities, (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure, (vii) Human Resources and Institutions, (viii) Operation Greens. PMKSY is a comprehensive package, which will result in creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. It will, *inter alia*, help increase the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods. PMKSY envisages to leverage investment of ₹ 31,400 crore, handling of 334 lakh MT agro-produce valuing ₹ 1,04,125 crore, benefit 20 lakh farmers and generate 5,30,500 direct/ indirect employment in the country on completion of sanctioned projects.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has also launched a new centrally sponsored scheme "PM Formalization of Micro food-processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme" for providing financial, technical and business support for upgradation of existing micro food processing enterprises. It is to be implemented for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of ₹ 10,000 crore. Two lakh micro food processing units are to be directly assisted with credit linked subsidy under the scheme. A total of 10500 units is targeted to be supported in Madhya Pradesh under the scheme.

Setting-up of food processing plant in the Marathwada region

1532. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the proposal for setting up any new food processing plant in the Marathwada Region and Aurangabad district of Maharashtra;