

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2362
ANSWERED ON- 05.08.2022

FUND ALLOCATED AND UTILISED FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

2362. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR:

Will the Minister of *FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES* be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise details of funds allocated and utilised for the research and development in food processing sector in the last five years;
- (b) whether the funds allocated for research and development in food processing sector have come down during the last five years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) the status of implementation of research and development in this sector and targets set and achievement in this regard during last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to improve the research and development in this sector?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a): The year-wise details of funds allocated and utilised during the last five years under the Research and Development scheme is as under:

F. Y.	Fund allocation (Rs. in crore)	Fund Utilised (Rs. in crore)
2017-18	3.50	1.67
2018-19	8.45	8.08
2019-20	8.77	4.89
2020-21	6.20	6.02
2021-22	3.40	2.06

(b) & (c): There has been no set trend in allocation or utilization of funds under the Research & Development scheme. As this is a demand driven scheme, actual approval of projects and consequent sanctioning of grants-in-aid is dependent on the receipt of eligible proposals.

(d): While no specific target has been set, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has approved 37 new projects under the scheme during last three years with approved grants-in-aid of Rs.11.48 crores, out of which Rs.8.57 crore has been released.

(e): MoFPI is implementing the Research and Development scheme with objective that the end product/findings should benefit food processing industry in terms of product and process development, efficient technologies, improved packaging, etc. along with standardization of various factors viz. additives, colouring agents, preservatives, pesticide residues, etc. In order to improve the research and development in this sector, the scheme guidelines are amended from time to time. Some of the provisions in the present scheme guidelines for better outcome of research and development are:

- Preference is given to those proposals which are beneficial for small & medium enterprises and farmers and are intended toward commercialization of the said technology.
- The R&D projects would be carried out in collaboration with the industrial partner, which can take up/ purchase/ commercialize outcome technology developed through the project.
- Project Investigators are encouraged to seek legal/patent protection for the outcome of research/ technology developed.
