

1. Fish curing
2. Development of ready-to-serve products like fish cutlets, fish wafers etc.

The CFTRI had developed a mini dal mill as well as technologies for ready-to-serve products and for increasing the shelf-life.

The IVRI had developed technology to be adopted by small scale entrepreneurs with considerable manual input for meat products. Preparation of chicken nuggets and chicken patties on cottage scale basis are some of the technologies developed, which are labour intensive.

(d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its' Plan Schemes gives 100% assistance for R&D projects for developing technology as also for HRD component for training the entrepreneurs. During the last three years the total expenditure on the R&D scheme works out to Rs. 18.07 crores.

Integrated Food Law for commodity boards

3392. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of moving commodity boards from the Ministry of Commerce to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, to prepare a modern integrated food law, and to meet related requirements; and

(b) if so, what is the progress made so far in this regard and what is the time-frame by when such a law would come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) and (b) The issue of attaching the Commodity Boards which are presently under Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce etc. with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been taken up. In order to formulate a modern integrated food law and to meet related requirements, a Group of Ministers has been constituted. Since the process of consultation among different Ministries of the Government of India is involved, no time frame could be indicated.

Investment in FPIs

3393. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have any proposal for investment in FPIs sector during the current year;

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(d) the details of FPIs that are able to export their products, alongwith the foreign exchange earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) As food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganized sectors, the information is not centrally maintained. However, as on 01.01.2002, there were 5,569 units licensed under the Fruit Products Order (FPO) administered by the Ministry, in the country.

(b) and (c) Government does not directly invest in food processing industries in any State. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes, which envisage provision of financial assistance in the form of grant to cooperatives, non-Governmental organisations, public sector undertakings, private sector industries, R&D institutions etc., for the development of food processing industries. These schemes are project oriented and not State/area specific.

(d) During 2000-2001, processed food items like processed fruits and vegetables, animal products, other processed foods, marine products etc., accounted for export earnings of Rs. 14,277 crores.

FPIs of MNCs

†3394. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of MNCs have established their commercial units in the food processing industries sector in the country;

(b) if so, which are those MNCs; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.