

Popularising fortification of processed food products

3786. SHRI R. P. GOENKA :

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

(a) the processed food products which are fortified with minerals and Vitamins;

(b) how many processing units have opted for and are actually fortifying the food products;

(c) whether the Ministry has organised any workshops/conferences to motivate industry to fortify its products; and

(d) what efforts are made by the Ministry to popularise the fortified food ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI T. N. SHANMUGAM) : (a) and (b) Food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sector. It is also a delicensed sector. As such comprehensive data on units manufacturing fortified foods is not centrally maintained. As per information available, some units manufacturing flour, biscuits, vegetable oil, infant milk food, salt, bread etc. are fortifying their food products.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has assisted/co-sponsored workshops/conferences for promotion of fortification with industry. Five such workshops have been held in the last 3 years. Promotional campaigns have also been mounted in different sections of media.

Assistance for setting up of laboratories for controlling quality of processed food

3787. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by Government during the last three years for setting up laboratories to check the quality of processed food and the places where such laboratories have been set up, year-wise;

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RAJYA SABHA

(b) the amount given as subsidy to the existing laboratories during the same period; and

(c) whether a procedure has been evolved to ensure that the amount of subsidy granted is actually utilised for the purpose; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI T. N. SHANMUGAM) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up laboratories for testing of food products of its own but provides assistance for setting up the same by IITs, Universities, Agricultural Universities, Research Institutions, Veterinary Colleges, Cooperatives, Industry Associations, NGOs, voluntary agencies, public sector, joint sector, assisted sector and private sector industries etc. During the last 3 years Ministry has provided Rs. 780 lakhs for setting up and modernisation of 15 laboratories for checking Quality of processed foods. These laboratories are located at Bangalore and Mysore (Karnataka), Udaipur (Rajasthan), Lucknow, Izzatnagar and Pratapgarh (UP), Ludhiana (Punjab), Hisar (Haryana), Pantnagar (Uttaranchal), Pune (Maharashtra), Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir), Chittoor (Andhra Pradesh), Kolkata (West Bengal) and New Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir. To ensure that the amount of grant is actually utilised for the purpose it has been given, Ministry obtains Utilisation Certificate and Statement of Account containing details of expenditure duly certified by Chartered Accountant. A high level Steering Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Joint Secretary to monitor the projects. Officer of the Ministry and the State Government Officers (Nodal Agency) visit the laboratory to assess progress at site. Laboratories are also required to submit details regarding achievements to the Ministry.

Processing technology for banana based soft Drink

3788. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed processing technology for a banana based soft drink;

(b) if so, what are its details; and