



Infrastructure and Technological Improvement to Check Post-Harvest Losses

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As per the study by ICAR – Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana (Punjab), annual value of harvest and post-harvest losses of major agricultural produces at national level was of the order of Rs.92, 651 Crore based on production data of 2012-13 and wholesale prices of 2014.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Central Sector Schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country like (i) Scheme of Mega Food Parks; (ii) Scheme of Modern Abattoirs; (iii) Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure; (iv) Scheme for Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation; (v) Scheme for Quality Assurance; and (vi) Scheme for Human Resource and Institutions. The detailed guidelines of these schemes, explaining the pattern of financial assistance, eligibility criteria, procedure for approval of projects, timelines and release of grant-in-aid etc. are available on the Ministry's website at www.mofpi.nic.in. The Farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations, Entrepreneurs, Cooperatives, Societies, Self Help Groups, Private Companies and State PSUs, etc. are eligible to avail financial assistance under these schemes for setting up food processing industries in the country.

Ministry is implementing a scheme of Research and Development (R&D) under the 'Scheme of Human Resources and Institutions' to develop new products and processes and technologies, improved packaging, value addition, etc. The two institutions of this Ministry i.e. National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) at Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana) and Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT) at Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu) are also undertaking Research and Development in food processing sector.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Food Processing Industries Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

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