

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2743**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/03/2023

**POST HARVEST LOSS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

2743. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of post harvest losses in case of fruits and vegetables in India;
- (b) the steps being taken to minimize the same; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure end to end cold storage facilities for farmers?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) As per study commissioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries and carried out by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), published in 2015, the economic value of quantitative losses of 45 major crops/commodities (cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, plantation crops, spices, livestock and fisheries produce) was found to be in the tune of Rs. 92,651 crores. The details are as under:

- i. Rs. 32,853 crores in case of 15 Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds
- ii. Rs. 16,644 crores from 7 fruits
- iii. Rs. 14,842 crores from 8 vegetables
- iv. Rs. 9,325 crores in case of 9 Spices and Plantation crops
- v. Rs. 18,987 crores in case of 6 Livestock produces.

(b) & (c) Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is available for various horticulture activities including setting up of cold storage to prevent post harvest losses of fruits and vegetables in the country.

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including construction/Expansion/ Modernization of cold

storages of capacity up to 5000 MT in the country. The component is demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% of the project cost in hilly and scheduled areas through respective State Horticulture Missions.

Besides, National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing a scheme namely “Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion /Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Products”. Under the scheme, credit linked back-ended subsidy at the rate of 35% of the capital cost of the project in general areas and 50% in case of North East, hilly & scheduled areas for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storage and Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage of capacity above 5000 MT and up to 10000 MT is available. In case of North East region, the units with capacity above 1000 MT are also eligible for assistance.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI) is implementing a Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure as one of the component of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana with the objective of reducing post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce. Under the scheme, Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid at the rate of 35% for general areas and 50% for North East and Himalayan States, ITDP areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure and at the rate of 50% and 75% respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of Rs. 10 crore per project for setting up of integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facility. Standalone cold storages are not covered under the Scheme.

Further, to strengthen agriculture infrastructure in the country, Government has launched Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF) of Rs. 1.00 lakh crore. Under AIF, there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs. 2.00 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages.

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