



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
PRESS RELEASE

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Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav, M.P. and Chairman Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) presented the Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2014-15) pertaining to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to Lok Sabha today, the 19 December, 2014.

Some of the important recommendations of the Committee are as under :-

Clearing of spillover liabilities of XIth Plan in the current year - emphasized	<p>The Committee having noted that in some of the schemes such as 'Scheme for Technology Upgradation' the targets were spill-over liabilities of the XIth Plan, opined that these liabilities should have been cleared within a year of the XIIth Plan. The Committee have recommended that the Ministry should seek more funds at RE level and on receiving additional funds priority be given on completion of the targets of such schemes which have been subsumed in National Mission on Food Processing in the XIIth Plan. The Committee have emphasized that all the liabilities of such schemes should be cleared in the current year itself.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 4)</p>
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<p>Identification of potential area for FD investment in the Sector - recommended.</p>	<p>While appreciating the trend of increasing FDI in FPI sector the Committee have desired that the Ministry make all efforts so that this trend continues in the coming years. The Committee have also recommended that the Ministry, keeping in view the safeguards required for protecting our Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in this sector, should identify the potential areas where the FD investment would be beneficial, regularly review the extent to which the automatic FDI could be permissible in this sector and suggest the same to the Ministry of Finance for incorporation in the FDI policy of the country.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 5)</p>
<p>Promotion of gender equality and quantifying benefits to women - recommended.</p>	<p>Observing the efforts that are being made by the Ministry to ensure that the benefits of the schemes of the Ministry could reach the woman stakeholders of the sector, the Committee have found it strange that the benefits accruing to women from these schemes have not been quantified even after a decade of introduction of gender budgeting in the Union Budget. The Committee recommended the Ministry to show the seriousness which the concept of gender budgeting deserves and urgently quantify the benefits accrued to women from the various schemes of Government.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 7)</p>
<p>Ensure timely completion of projects - recommended .</p>	<p>Concerned to find that out of 40 Mega Food Park projects sanctioned since 2008, as many as 15 projects were cancelled the Committee desired that the Ministry analyze the reasons for cancellation of so many projects threadbare and accordingly, if need be, make necessary changes in the guidelines of this scheme. The Committee have recommended that all pre-requisites in regard to setting up the Mega Food Park Projects should be fulfilled before granting final approvals and release of grants promptly so as to minimize cancellation. The Committee have also recommended that all the pending projects to adhere to</p>

	<p>their schedule and be completed promptly by pursuing the stakeholders to monitor the project at each stage.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 8)</p>
<p>The State Governments / agencies to have a single window clearance for speedy implementation of cold storage projects – desired.</p>	<p>The Committee were concerned with the status of cold storage projects under implementation and felt that there is an urgent need for coordination between the centre and state agencies to ensure speedy implementation of the projects. The Committee have recommended the Ministry to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to avoid delay in execution of the projects. They have also desired to be apprised of the punitive provisions/penalties in the MoUs for those cold chain private players who do not comply with the clause relating to purchasing of raw material from the farmers on the farm gate.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 11)</p>
<p>Incentives be extended to projects based on other non-conventional sources of energy other than solar energy - recommended.</p>	<p>The Committee have observed that the Ministry is providing 90% grant for solar energy based cold storage projects and felt that use of non-conventional sources of energy need to be encouraged and hence recommend that this grant be extended to projects based on other non-conventional sources such as wind and hydro energy as well. The Committee further recommended that projects based on these non-conventional sources and also those utilizing the natural ambience of the region such as building tunnels in North-east regions or cold areas, which provides optimum temperature for preservation, be encouraged.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 12)</p>
<p>Popularisation and propagation of village adoption programme of NIFTEM- recommended</p>	<p>Appreciating the village adoption programme of NIFTEM the Committee have emphasized that traditional know how should be modified upgraded and modernized by NIFTEM through this scheme so as to develop technology or methods of food processing which are in accordance with the economic and intellectual capacity of the farmers. The Committee have recommended that NIFTEM should</p>

	<p>popularise and propagate this programme so as to involve more and more students and adopt more villages throughout the length and breadth of the country.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation – Para No. 14)</p>
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