

Human Resources and Institutions

- **Research & Development**

Under the scheme, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been extending financial assistance to undertake demand driven R&D work for the benefit food processing industry in terms of product and process development, efficient technologies, improved packaging, value addition etc. with commercial value along with standardization of various factors viz. additives, colouring agents, preservatives, pesticide residues, chemical contaminants, microbiological contaminants and naturally occurring toxic substances within permissible limits.

- **Promotional Activities**

OBJECTIVES OF SCHEMES

To organize, co-sponsor, participate in all India level seminars, workshops, fairs and exhibitions for food processing sector to encourage investment in food processing and to create awareness of the schemes being implemented by the ministry. To commission studies/ surveys to assess, evaluate various aspects of food processing sectors and allied activities. To create awareness about schemes of the ministry through print/ audio-visual media through advertisements and publicity materials. To organize road shows, development of software and investor facilitation activities to promote food processing sector.

- **Skill Development**

- To provide sector specific skilled workforce from floor level workers, operators, packaging and assembly line workers to quality control supervisor etc in the various segments of food processing industries.
- To contribute towards achieving the projected skilled human resources requirement as envisaged by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in food processing sector i.e 17.8 million persons by the year 2022.

Apart from implementation of the Skill component under PMKSY, a number of initiatives have been taken by GOI to address the skill gap in the food processing sector. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is working in close collaboration with other related agencies to augment skilled manpower in the food processing sector. The Ministry is collaborating with the Food Industry Capacity and Skill Initiative (FICSI), the sector Skill Council (SSC) in food processing, for the validation of the Qualification Packs (QPs) for identified job roles and developing course curriculum for food processing sector through the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM).

- **Strengthening of Institutions**

(a) National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) :

- The Ministry has established the NIFTEM at Kundli, District Sonapat, Haryana in May, 2012. NIFTEM has been declared a Deemed University under de novo category. NIFTEM is running the B. Tech., M. Tech. & Ph.D courses and undertakes R&D projects in the area of food technology. Under the scheme, funds will be provided to NIFTEM for creation of academic and administrative infrastructure like foreign student's hostel, sports facilities, hazardous chemical storage, effluent treatment plant, solid waste management system, residential units etc. Funds will also be provided to promote research activities, expand Village Adoption

Program (VAP) and skill development in the food processing sector. An allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been made during the period of scheme.

- **(b) Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT):**
- The Ministry has upgraded IIFPT, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu to a National level institute in February, 2008. IIFPT is running the B. Tech., M. Tech. & Ph.D courses and undertaking R&D projects in the area of food processing. Under the scheme, funds will be provided to IIFPT for creation of infrastructure facilities including purchase of additional land (22.7 acres) for expanding campus and creation of academic and administrative infrastructure like machine fabrication and testing centre, sport complex, auditorium, opening training cum incubation centres and residential units etc. To enable the institute to expand its activities and programmes to meet the ever expanding need of food processing sector in the country, an allocation of Rs. 75 crore has been made during the period of scheme.

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