

**International Fund for Agricultural Development
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Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT)

&

Government of Maharashtra

Assisted



**Report on Opportunities in Food Processing
in Maharashtra State Meeting**

May, 2010

CONVERGENCE OF AGRICULTURAL INTERVENTIONS IN MAHARASHTRA (CAIM)

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Opportunities in Food Processing in Maharashtra State

At

Amravati.

On 10th May, 2010.

The event "Opportunities in food processing in Maharashtra State" was jointly organized by The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India and Government of Maharashtra. The event was presides over by Shri. Rajendra Jawaharlal Darda, Guardian Minister and Minister for Employment and Self Employment, Industries, Govt. of Maharashtra in the presence of Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai, Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Govt. of India, Dr. Nitin Kashinath Raut, Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries, Govt. of Maharashtra, Shri. Anandrao Adsul, Member of Parliament, MLAs, Shri. Raosaheb Shekawat, Ms. Yashomati Thakur, Mr. Nilesh Parwekar, Cap. Adsul, Shri. Shivkumar Rao, Chairman, CII Vidarbha Zonal Council & Director R & Y Logistics Pvt Ltd, Shri Ashok Sinha, Secretary MOFPI, Govt. of India, Shri. Amrit Lal Meena, Joint Secretary-MOFPI, Govt. of India, Shri. Pandurang Watharkar, Managing Director, Maharashtra Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium, Mr. K. J. Anthony, Dy. Director, MPEDA, Mr. R. V. Meshram, Regional Manager, Central Bank of India, Representatives of Industries and community.

The purpose of this event and the way forward for food processing industries was discussed in detail by Shri Shivakumar Rao. Thereafter, Mr. Amrit Lal Meena made an exhaustive presentation on schemes and programs of Ministry of Food Processing Industries i.e. Scheme for infrastructure Development which includes Setting up of Mega Food Park, Cold Chain infrastructure, Modernization of Abattoirs, Scheme for Technology up Gradation, Establishment and Modernization of Food Processing Industries, Scheme for up gradation of quality of street food, Scheme For Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development And Other Promotional Activities, Scheme for Human Resource Development, Scheme For Strengthening Of Institutions etc.

Thereafter Mr Pandurang Watharkar, MD-SFAC explained the roles of Maharashtra Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium and Scheme of Venture Capital.

Shri A.K. Anthony made a detailed presentation on roles and work done by The Marine Products Export Development Authority, Govt. of India. Mr. Meshram explained how banking sector is inclined towards financing small and micro enterprises over a period of time. The same can be observed in District Credit Plan.

Thereafter Shri N. Nawin Sona, (IAS), Project Director CAIM and Additional Divisional Commissioner, Amravati made a detailed presentation on Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts (CAIM). And requested to meet Shri Sudam Pawar, Additional Project Director, CAIM for any further assistance is required.

Shri. Nirmal Deshmukh, MIDC Amravati had a detailed discussion on the progress of MIDC.

Thereafter Shri. Ashok Sinha, Secretary MOFPI made detailed presentation on MOFPI's schemes and programs. He told that he try to put few more personnel on job to study how MOFPI will get converged with CAIM for distressed districts. The schemes and programs can be linked with sub projects of CAIM.

Mr. Anandrao Adusl, Member of Parliament, Govt. of India, MLAs, Ms. Yashomati Thakur, Cap. Adsul, Mr. Ravi Rana, Mr. Nilesh Parwekar, Mr. Raosaheb Shekawat put forward the plans for the development of Vidarbha Region and requested to Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai, Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Govt. of India, to form new projects like Mega Food Park at Amravati.

Shri. Rajendra Darda, Guardian Minister and Minister for Employment and Self Employment, Industries, Govt. of Maharashtra briefed about the launch of CAIM programme for development of six distressed districts. Minister also announced that Maharashtra Government is going to declare the Agro-Industry Policy very soon with the amendments. It is fact that Vidarbha region has full potential to sustain food processing industries. He briefed about the proposed Soya processing plant at Dhamangaon Rly. Ministry will ensure that enough land (at Nandgaon MIDC) for food processing park is reserve and will be made available. He declared the Food Processing Park for Vidarbha Region.

Thereafter Shri. Subodh Kant Sahai, Union Minister-MOFPI, Govt. of India shared his experiences about his Ministry's progress over the period of time including identity crisis as well. Minister said that without new technology there will not second green revolution.

Highlights of the speech

- All food processing units will get 25% grant once their proposal is approved and same will be routed through only one channel which is hassle free
- Assistance of Rs. 10 Crore for cold chain for milk processing
- Assistance for Quality Testing Labs: 100% if Govt. of Maharashtra undertakes and 50% if any private company
- All processing units of which CAIM will propose through their subprojects will get grant for the same.
- MOFPI will work very closely with CAIM Team for forming new food processing units
- Fodder production should be connected with CAIM for sustainable livestock development
- MOFPI will take care of all post-harvest for increased production through the intervention of CAIM
- Industry, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and MOFPI should converge through CAIM programme
- MOFPI will provide all technical and financial assistance to CAIM for all subprojects.
- Minister also ensured that if required he will discuss with Hon'ble Prime Minister, Republic of India for further convergence through CAIM.
- Joint Committee will be formed to solve the problems related to food processing through one window
- 100% tax benefit for cold storage for initial 5 yrs. FDI, FII are also encouraged

Shri. Shivkumar Rao, Chairman, CII Vidarbha Zonal Council & Director R & Y Logistics Pvt Ltd expressed vote of thanks to all dignitaries.