

Organic Food Manufacturing Industries

**¹Prof. Rajendra Jarad, ²Dr. Mahendra Yadav,
³Dr. Praveen Suryavanshi, ⁴Prof. Nilambari Moholkar, ⁵Dr. Dhananjay
Bhavsar, ⁶Ashish Madhukar Babar**

^{1,2,3,4,5,6}Dr. D. Y Patil Institute of Technology, Pimpri, Pune, For Partial Fulfillments of
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1. INTRODUCTION

India is the world's second largest producer of food next to China and has the potential of being the biggest in the World. Food and food products are the biggest consumption category in India, with spending on food accounting for nearly 21% of India's GDP and with a market size of \$181 billion. The Indian domestic food market is expected to grow by nearly 40% of the current market size to \$344 billion by 2025. India's agricultural base is quite strong but wastage is very high and processing of food products is very low. While processing of food to consumable standards are at levels of up to 80% in some developed countries, the overall processing level in India has recently reached 10%.

India has made vast progress overtime in providing food security for its people and has become largely self-reliant in agriculture. Accordingly, the policy focus has shifted from attaining self-sufficiency to generating higher and stable income for the farming population. Food processing industry (FPI) is one area which has the potential to add value to farm output, create alternate employment opportunities, improve exports and strengthen the domestic supply chain. India, with about 11.2 % of total arable land in the world, is ranked first in the production of milk, pulses and jute, second in fruits and vegetables and third in cereals (Government of India, 2019). It is also the sixth largest food and grocery market. In 2017-18, the food processing industry accounted for 7.9 % of manufacturing Gross value added and 9.5 % in agricultural value added. It is also a major employment provider, contributing to 11.4 % of organized manufacturing employment.

Recognizing the immense potential of FPI in promoting inclusive growth, it has been identified as one of the key thrust areas under the 'Make in India' Program. The scope for higher growth in this sector in the medium run challenges. Therefore, India's food processing sector comparatively is small and its share in exports of processed food in world trade has remained at about 1.5%. Generally, in developing country markets, higher incomes result in diet upgrades, with increased demand for meats, dairy products, and other high value products. In India also sustained economic growth and increasing urbanization are fueling rapid growth in demand for high value food commodities like fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, eggs and fish.

Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats analysis (SWOT) is used to highlight opportunities and threats facing the food processing industry and consider strategies to develop markets worldwide for processed food products. Food processing sector in India is poised to be one of the largest in terms of

production, consumption, export and growth prospects. Unprocessed foods are susceptible to spoilage by biochemical processes, microbial attack and infestation. The right post harvest practices, such as good processing techniques and proper packaging, transportation and storage can play a significant role in reducing spoilage and extending shelf life. The market for processed foods in India is growing significantly with its increased consumption by the present-day consumers. Easy marketing and distribution tasks, consumer's convenience, hygiene, increased food consistency, around the year availability of product, foods' shelf life, etc. are the key factors, which are attracting the food processing technology to be geared up. The food processing sector comprises of two segments- Primary processed food and Value added food. Primary segment comprises of packaged fruit and vegetables, milk, flour, rice, spices etc and constitutes around 62% in value terms of the processed foods. Value added segment includes processed fruits and vegetables, juices, jam & jelly etc. and holds around 38 % share in the total processed food. In an emerging country like India, where growth with equity is a primary policy thrust, the optimum development of the food processing sector will contribute significantly in tackling several developmental concerns such as disguised unemployment in agriculture, rural poverty, food security, food inflation, improved nutrition, prevention of wastage of food etc. By serving as a bridge between agriculture and manufacturing and by dealing with a basic need of all Indian citizens— the assured supply of healthy and affordable food at all locations in the country, this sector has the potential to be a major driver in India's growth in the coming years. In fact the food processing sector has been growing faster than the agriculture sector.



Fig-1– sectors in India

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

The Demand For Organic Food Products Has Been Growing Rapidly In Recent Years, Driven By Increasing Consumer Concerns About Food Safety, Environmental Sustainability, And Health. The Manufacturing Of Organic Food Products Presents Unique Challenges And Opportunities Compared To Conventional Food Manufacturing. This Literature Review Seeks To Explore The Current State Of The Art In The Manufacturing Of Organic Food Products, Including The Key Considerations, Challenges, And Best Practices In This Growing Industry.

Consumer Demand For Organic Food Products

Consumer Demand For Organic Food Products Has Been On The Rise, Driven By Various Factors Such As A Growing Awareness Of The Health And Environmental Benefits Of Organic Foods, Concerns About Agrochemical Residues In Conventional Foods, And A Desire To Support Sustainable Agricultural Practices. Studies Have Shown That Consumers Perceive Organic Products As Healthier, Safer, And More Environmentally Friendly Than Their Conventional Counterparts (Hughner Et Al., 2007). As A Result, Food Manufacturers Are Adapting To This Changing Landscape And Are Increasingly Focusing On The Production Of Organic Food Products.

Organic Certification And Standards

One Of The Key Considerations In The Manufacturing Of Organic Food Products Is Compliance With Organic Certification And Standards. Organic Food Products Must Adhere To Strict Regulations And Standards Set Forth By Regulatory Bodies Such As The USDA National Organic Program (NOP) In The United States, The European Union Organic Regulation, And Various Other National And International Organic Certification Bodies. These Standards Encompass Various Aspects Of Production, Including Soil And Water Management, Pest And Disease Control, Livestock Management, And Processing Practices. Meeting These Standards Is Essential For Organic Food Manufacturers To Gain Consumer Trust And Access Organic Food Markets.

Challenges In Sourcing Organic Ingredients

Sourcing Organic Ingredients Can Be A Significant Challenge For Manufacturers Of Organic Food Products. Organic Ingredients May Be Limited In Supply And More Costly Than Conventionally Produced Ingredients. Additionally, Ensuring A Consistent Supply Of Organic Ingredients That Meet Quality And Certification Requirements Can Be A Logistical Challenge. As A Result, Organic Food Manufacturers Must Establish Robust Supply Chain Relationships With Organic Ingredient Suppliers To Ensure A Reliable And Sustainable Source Of Raw Materials.

Ingredient Handling And Processing

The Handling And Processing Of Organic Ingredients Present Unique Challenges Compared To Conventional Ingredients. Organic Ingredients Are More Susceptible To Spoilage And Contamination Due To The Absence Of Synthetic Preservatives, And They May Require Special Handling To Maintain Their Organic Integrity.

Processing Methods For Organic Food Products Must Also Adhere To Organic Standards, Which May Limit The Use Of Certain Processing Aids And Techniques. Therefore, Organic Food Manufacturers Must Carefully Consider The Selection Of Processing Equipment, Packaging Materials, And Storage Practices To Maintain The Organic Integrity Of Their Products Throughout The Manufacturing Process.

Quality Assurance And Food Safety Maintaining Quality Assurance And Food Safety Is Paramount In The Manufacturing Of Organic Food Products. Organic Certifications Require Rigorous Quality Control Measures To Ensure That Organic Integrity Is Preserved Throughout The Production Process. Additionally, Organic Food Products Must Meet The Same Food Safety Standards As Conventional Products To Ensure Consumer Safety.

Implementing Stringent Quality Control Checks, Sanitation Protocols, And Traceability Systems Is Essential To Guarantee The Safety And Quality Of Organic Food Products.

Packaging And Labeling Considerations

Packaging And Labeling Play A Critical Role In The Marketing And Sale Of Organic Food Products. Organic Food Packaging Must Conform To Organic Standards And May Need To Be Sourced From Specific Organic-Certified Suppliers. Furthermore, Accurate And Transparent Labeling Is Essential To Communicate The Organic Certification, Ingredients, And Nutritional Information To Consumers.

Packaging And Labeling Considerations For Organic Food Products Require Careful Attention To Detail To Ensure Compliance With Organic Standards And To Effectively Communicate The Organic Attributes Of The Products To Consumers.

Sustainability And Environmental Impact

A Key Driver Of Organic Food Production Is Its Potential To Reduce Environmental Impact And Promote Sustainability. Organic Farming Practices Emphasize Soil Health, Biodiversity, And Natural Resource Conservation, And These Principles Extend To The Manufacturing Of Organic Food Products. Integrating Sustainable Practices Into The Production Process, Such As Energy-Efficient Manufacturing, Waste Reduction, And Eco-Friendly Packaging, Is Essential For Aligning With The Ethos Of Organic Food Production And Meeting Consumer Expectations For Sustainable Products.

Innovation And New Technologies

Advancements In Manufacturing Technologies And Processes Continue To Drive Innovation In The Organic Food Industry. From Novel Processing Techniques To Advances In Packaging Materials, Organic Food Manufacturers Are Exploring New Technologies To Enhance The Quality, Shelf-Life, And Sustainability Of Organic Food Products. For Instance, Advancements In Non-Thermal Food Processing

Technologies, Such As High-Pressure Processing And Pulsed Electric Field Technology, Offer Alternatives To Conventional Thermal Processing Methods, Enabling The Preservation Of Organoleptic And Nutritional Qualities Of Organic Foods While Meeting Organic Standards.

Several Key Areas Are Typically Covered In Literature Related To Manufacturing Food Products:

1. **FOOD PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES:** Literature Often Delves Into The Various Techniques And Technologies Used In Food Processing, Including Methods For Converting Raw Agricultural Materials Into Consumable Products. This May Include Discussions On Thermal Processing, Extrusion, Dehydration, Fermentation, And Other Advanced Processing Techniques.
2. **FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE:** Quality Control And Food Safety Are Paramount In Food Manufacturing. Literature In This Area May Cover Topics Such As Hazard Analysis And Critical Control Points (HACCP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Food Safety Management Systems, And Quality Assurance Protocols To Ensure That Food Products Meet Regulatory And Consumer Standards.
3. **INGREDIENTS AND FORMULATION:** Literature May Explore The Selection, Sourcing, And Utilization Of Ingredients In Food Manufacturing. This Includes Discussions On Ingredient Functionality, Formulation Considerations, And The Role Of Additives, Preservatives, And Flavorings In Food Product Development.
4. **PACKAGING AND PRESERVATION:** The Role Of Packaging In Preserving And Safeguarding Food Products Is A Critical Aspect Of The Manufacturing Process. Literature May Focus On Packaging Materials, Technologies, And Strategies For Extending Shelf Life, Ensuring Product Integrity, And Meeting Sustainability Goals.
5. **MANUFACTURING EFFICIENCY AND PROCESS OPTIMIZATION:** Literature Often Addresses Strategies For Optimizing Manufacturing Processes, Maximizing Efficiency, Reducing Waste, And Minimizing Environmental Impact. This May Include Discussions On Automation, Lean Manufacturing Principles, And Continuous Improvement Methodologies In Food Production.
6. **REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND STANDARDS:** Given The Highly Regulated Nature Of The Food Industry, Literature Often Explores The Legal And Regulatory Frameworks That Govern Food Manufacturing, Including Food Labeling Requirements, Industry Standards, And Compliance With Government Regulations Pertaining To Food Safety And Quality.
7. **EMERGING TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS:** Literature On Food Manufacturing May Also Encompass Emerging Trends And Innovations In The Industry, Such As Novel Processing Technologies, Sustainable Practices, Clean Label Initiatives, Plant-Based Food Production, And The Integration Of Digital Technologies In Manufacturing Operations.

Researchers, Industry Professionals, And Students Interested In The Field Of Manufacturing Food Products Can Explore A Rich Body Of Literature Encompassing These And Other Related Topics. From Academic Publications And Textbooks To Industry Reports, White Papers, And Research Papers, There Is A Vast Array Of Resources Available To Support A Comprehensive Understanding Of Food Manufacturing Processes And Practice.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Food processing dates back to the prehistoric ages when crude processing incorporated slaughtering, fermenting, sun drying, preserving with salt, and various types of cooking. Salt-preservation was especially common for foods that constituted warrior and sailors' diets, until the introduction of canning methods. Evidence for the existence of these methods can be found in the writings of the ancient Greek, Chaldean, Egyptian and Roman civilizations as well as archaeological evidence from Europe, North and South America and Asia. These tried and tested processing techniques remained essentially the same until the advent of the industrial revolution. Examples of ready-meals also exist from preindustrial revolution times such as the Cornish pasty and Haggis. During ancient times and today these are considered processing foods.

Food processing has also helped create quick, nutritious meals to give to busy families.

Modern food processing technology in the 19th and 20th century was largely developed to serve military needs. In 1809 Nicolas Appert invented a vacuum bottling technique that would supply food for French troops, and this contributed to the development of tinning and then canning by Peter Durand in 1810. Although initially expensive and somewhat hazardous due to the lead used in cans, canned goods would later become a staple around the world.

In the 20th century, World War II, the space race and the rising consumer society in developed countries (including the United States) contributed to the growth of food processing with such advances as spray drying, juice, freeze drying, concentrates and the introduction of artificial sweeteners, coloring agents, and preservatives such as sodium benzoate.

In Western Europe and North America, the second half of the 20th century witnessed arise in the pursuit of convenience. Food processing companies marketed their products especially towards middle-class working wives and mothers. Frozen foods (often credited to Clarence Birdseye) found their success in sales of juice concentrates and "TV dinners". Processors utilized the perceived value of time to appeal to the postwar population, and this same appeal contributes to the success of convenience foods today.

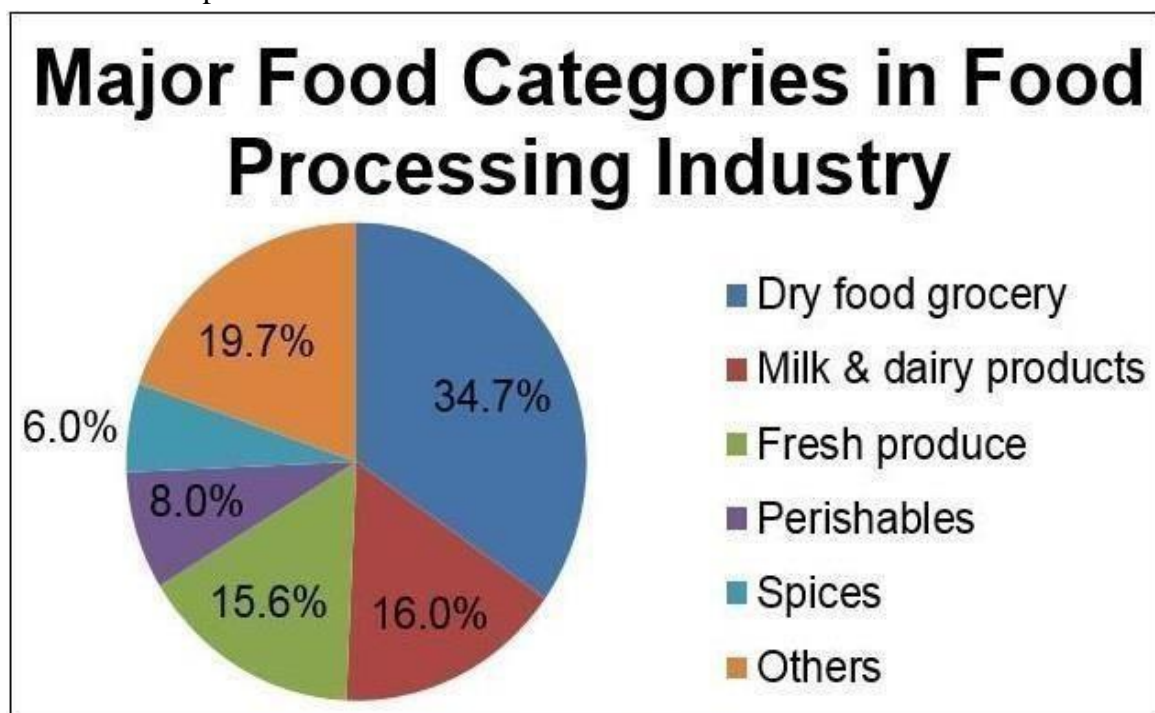
THE 20TH CENTURY: READY-TO-EAT MEALS

Throughout the 1900s, a number of rapid, important developments led to food processing as we know it today. Just as WWI popularized the tin can at the start of the century, WWII and the space race in the middle of the century helped to speed up the development of ready-to-eat packaged meals. During this time, the working middle class also began to expand around the world, bringing increased demand for fast meals with a long shelf-life. Food processing in the 20th century. Spray drying, evaporation, freeze drying and the use of preservatives made it easier to package different types of foods and keep them on the shelf. Artificial sweeteners and colors helped to make these preserved foods more palatable. The home

oven, microwave, blender and other appliances provided an easy way to quickly prepare these meals. Factories and New processes as well as new ingredients and new appliances contributed to the history of mass production techniques made it possible to quickly produce and package foods. These developments paved the way for globally popular foods like frozen dinners, instant noodle cups, baking mixes, and more.

21ST CENTURY: FOOD SAFETY AND REGULATION

Though processed foods were fast and affordable, concerns began to rise about their nutritional value in the late 20th and early 21st century. Many preservation processes reduce the vitamin and mineral content of otherwise healthy foods. Added fat, sugar and oil increases calorie content without increasing nutritional value. Concerns about preservatives and their long-term health effects began to rise. The toll of disposable plastic packaging also began to rise. Though food processing made many foods easier to buy and prepare, there were trade-offs that had, so far, not been addressed. In 2004, the USDA studied the nutrient content of foods prepared in varying ways. In 2010, First Lady Michelle Obama spearheaded the Let's Move! Campaign designed to reduce childhood obesity and reduce sugar and salt levels in processed foods, particularly those targeted towards children. A number of food manufacturers agreed to reduce salt levels in response.



Fig– 2– Major food categories in food processing industries

4. DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The Indian food processing industry stands at \$135 billion and is estimated to grow with a CAGR of 10 per cent to reach \$200 billion by 2015. The food processing industry contributed 7% to India's GDP. The industry employs around 13 million workers directly and about 35 million indirectly. The industry is segmented into sectors namely, milk and allied products (dairy), meat and poultry, seafood, bakery and confectionery, fruit and vegetables, grain, pulses and oil seeds (staple) products, alcoholic and non-alcoholic products (beverages), and packaged foods. The classification is not distinct as many processed products overlap different segments.

India ranks No. 1 in the world in production of Milk (Fresh, whole, buffalo), Pulses, Ginger, Chick Peas, Bananas Guavas, Papayas and Mangoes. Further, India ranks No.2 in the world in production of Rice, Wheat, Potatoes, Garlic, Cashew Nuts, Groundnuts, Dry Onion, Green Peas, Pumpkins, Gourds, and cauliflowers. With the huge production base India can easily become the leading food supplier to the world and at the same time serving its vast growing domestic market with over a billion people.

Investments in the registered food processing units have been growing in the recent years. In 2007-08 the fixed capital of registered food processing units have increased by 18.93% over the previous year.

Food processing industry in India is increasingly seen as a potential source for driving rural economy as it brings synergy between industry and agriculture. A developed food processing industry is expected to lead increase in farm gate prices translating into increased rural incomes, reduce wastages, ensure value addition, promote crop diversification, generate employment opportunities as well as export earnings. With such a large and diversified production base coupled with low manpower cost and modern technology, the Indian food processing sector is poised for growth, if the advantages are leveraged optimally. The growth is driven by the fact that the central government has given a priority status to all agro-processing businesses. Government incentives in the field of mega food parks, cold chain and exports benefits are also playing an important role in promoting food processing.

The major challenges are investments at different points of the supply and value chain, proper research, farm and lab connectivity, upgradation of technology, increase in farm holding, skill and manpower training, backend and front-end integration and cold chain integration. India has the second largest arable land of 161 million hectares and has the highest acreage under irrigation. Next to China, India ranks second largest food producer in the world and has the potential to immerse the biggest with its food and agricultural sector. India accounts for less than 1.5% of international food trade despite being one of the world's major food producers, which indicates huge potential.

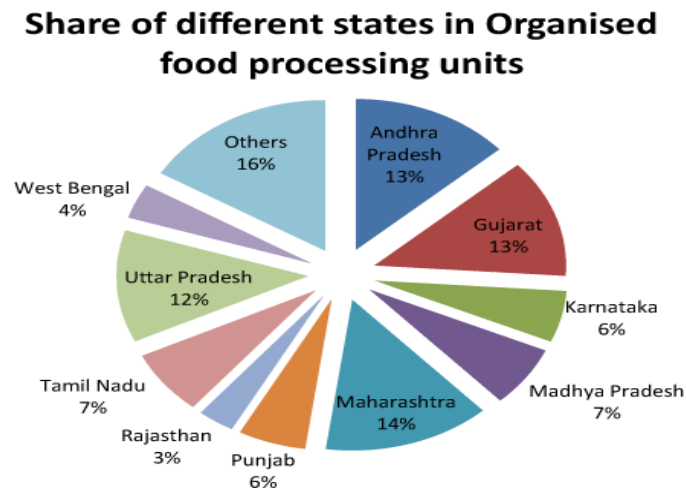


Fig- 3- Share of different states in organized food processing unit

Key growth drivers of Food Processing Sector in India-

- a. Increasing spending on health and nutritional foods.
- b. Increasing number of nuclear families and working women
- c. Changing lifestyle
- d. Functional foods, fresh or processed foods
- e. Organized retail and private label penetration
- f. Changing demographics and rising disposable incomes

Key opportunities in Food Processing Sector-

- g. Processable varieties of crop
- h. Contract farming
- i. Investments in infrastructure through Public Private partnership (PPP)
- j. Mega Food parks
- k. Logistics and cold chain infrastructure

MAJOR AREAS OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The sector comprises of the following major areas –

1- Fruits & Vegetables

Beverages, Juices, Concentrates, Pulps, Slices, Frozen & Dehydrated products, Wine Potato Wafers/Chips Banana, mango, citrus, papaya, guava and grape account for major share in total fruit production. Potato, tomato, onion, brinjal, cabbage, cauliflower and tapioca account for maximum share in vegetable production

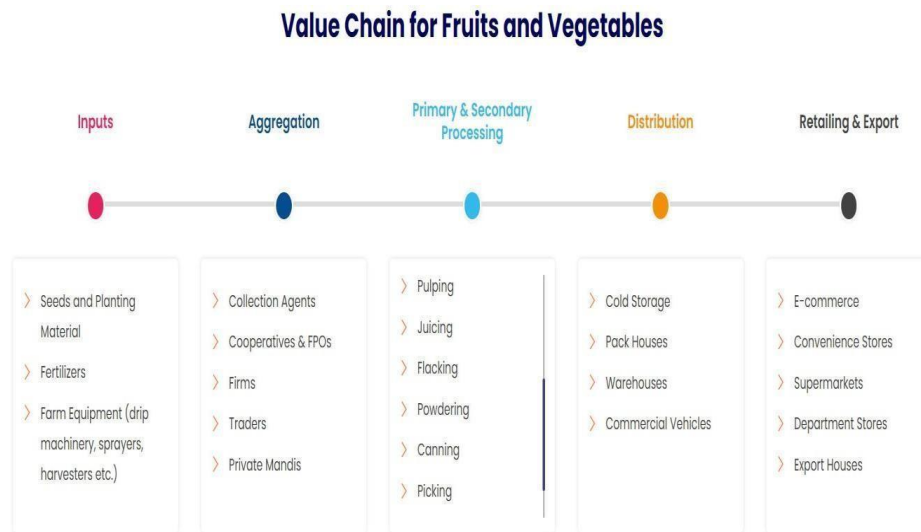


Fig- 4- value chain for fruit and vegetable

2- Fisheries

Frozen & Canned products mainly in fresh form

- Inland sector 7.10 MT
- Marine sector 6.35 MT
- Contributes 1 per cent to overall GDP and 4.6 per cent of agriculture GDP Production offisheris



Fig 5: Value Chain for Fisheries & Marine Sector

3- Meat & Poultry

Frozen and packed mainly in fresh form, Egg Powder. World's largest population of livestock and world's 5th largest producer of meat. Ninth- largest producer of poultry meat, fifth largest egg producer and the eighteenth largest producer of broilers in the world. Egg production – around 66.45 billion in, about 5% over the previous year Poultry meat production estimated about 2.47 million tones.

Value Chain for Poultry and Meat

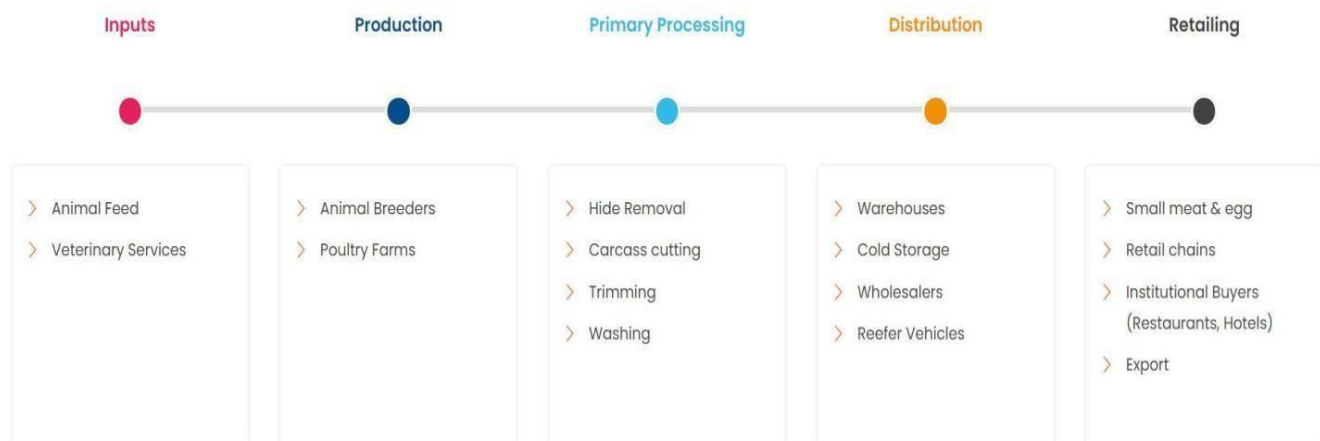


Fig- 6- value chain for poultry and meat

4- Milk & Dairy

Whole Milk Powder, Skimmed milk powder, Condensed milk, Ice cream, Butter and Ghee.

OPPORTUNITIES OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN DIFFERENT SECTOR IN INDIA

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has undertaken 10 major schemes to boost up the food processing sector in India by spending Rs- 591.38 Crores under them. The government is trying to create a congenial environment for the food processing sector to grow and flourish; now the private enterprises should *also* come forward in food processing and tap this new avenue. The major schemes that have been undertaken by MoFPI.

Untapped market with strong growth potential

- Fragmented market leads to lower processing levels and value addition
- The government plans to raise value addition to 35 per cent by 2015 from 20 percent in 2005

- PPP modules ideal for the private sector
- Strong demand growth; household consumption set to double by 2022

Potential global outsourcing hub

- Global supermarket majors looking at India as a major outsourcing hub
- India enjoys favourable supply-side fundamentals (abundant raw material supply, cost advantages)
- The government has helped by investing in AEZs, mega food parks, easier credit
- The establishment of food parks – a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs, including foreign investors to enter in the Indian food processing sector.

Supply chain infrastructure and contract farming

- Both firms and the government are eager to boost efficiency and access to markets
- Investment potential of USD22 billion in food processing infrastructure; 100 percent FDI in this area
- Firms increasingly taking recourse to contract farming in order to secure supply
- Supply chain infrastructure – this niche has investment potential in food processing infrastructure, the government's main focus is on supply chain related infrastructure like cold storage, abattoirs and food parks.

Sl.No.	Zaire of the Scheme	2019-2020(in crore)		
		BE	RR	A E
1.	Scheme for Mega Food Parks	390.00	182.86	181.47
2.	Scheme for Infrastructure for Agro Processing Clusters	20.00	30.00	22.65
3.	Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition infrastructure	400.00	271.59	244.74
4.	Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation	395.00	90.00	74.BS
5.	Scheme for Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages	20.00	18.80	11.50

Table-1– Statement of Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure during 2018–19

1- Fruits and Vegetables Sector

- India witnesses 4.58%- 15.88% wastage in fruits and vegetables thus, opportunity lies in investing in initiatives that help reducing wastage levels including infrastructure (cold chain, processing infrastructure)
- New Technology in F&V Processing.
- Cold Chain and Pack houses- Farm level, logistics, end product storage and point of retail.
- Packaging Technology
- Food Testing Labs with latest equipment and technology

2- Dairy Sector

- Advanced technology equipment for increasing milk procurement efficiency, value addition for dairy products etc.
- Innovation in packaging solutions
- New product development for cattle feed
- New veterinary care technology & cattle diagnostics services

3- Poultry & Meat Sector

- New technologies for meat & poultry processing
- Innovations in cold chain for better utilisation efficiency
- New veterinary technology/services
- Food Testing Labs
- New products value added products frozen/chilled products, RTC/RTE, Indian ethnic products/snacks
- Egg powder plants
- New feed formulations and manufacturing

Fisheries & Marine Sector

- Upgradation and capacity expansion for cold chain.
- Innovations in packaging for increased shelf life and product differentiation.
- Infrastructure development for fishing harbours/landing centers/wholesale markets as per international standards.
- Value addition and product development, especially RTE/RTC products for the domestic as well as export market

- Potential to process value added products with Indian taste like fish/shrimppickle, fish/shrimp curry, skewers, marinated fish with Indian spices etc.

The major factors that are responsible for the growth of food processing are:

1. Increased spending on food products:
2. Increase in the number of nuclear families and working women.
3. Increase in the demand for functional foods.
4. Change in demographics has led to a rise in disposable income.
5. Increasing urbanization: changing lifestyle and aspirations.
6. Growth in organized retailing and penetration of private labels/brand names.

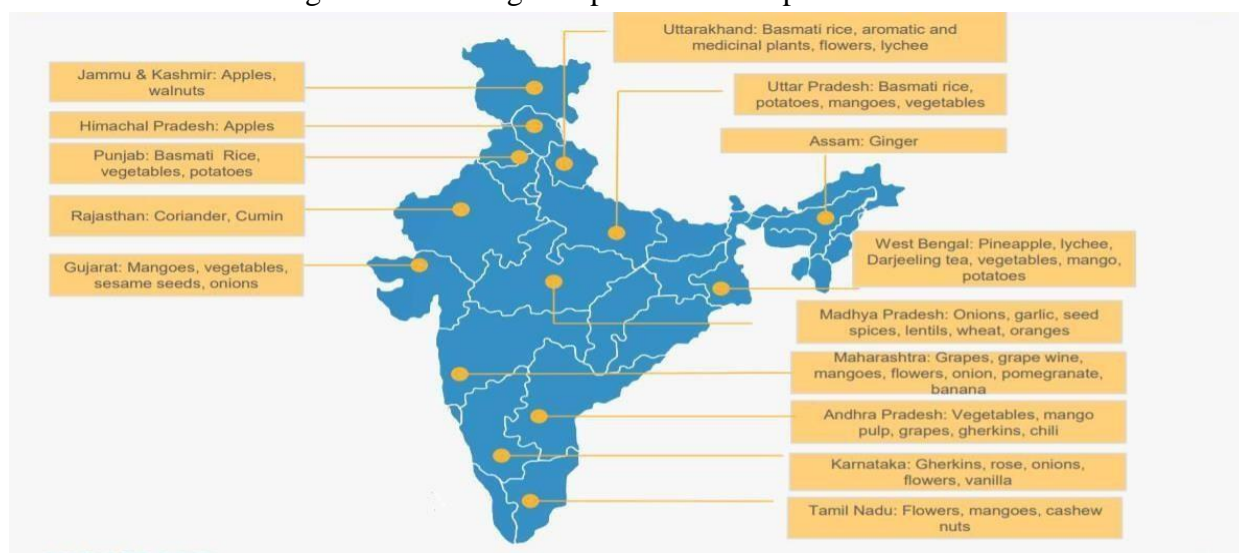


Fig – 7– figure showing famous crops and vegetable across india

Item	Value added to output	Share in output	Share employment	Share exports
Manufacture of macaroni, noodles, couscous and similar farinaceous products	35.9	0.2	0.3	0.1
Manufacture of prepared meals and dishes	30.1	0.4	0.6	-
Manufacture of cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	25.5	1.5	1.8	0.6
Processing and preserving of fruits and vegetables	20.9	1.5	3.3	3.7

Manufacture of bakery products	18.9	2.8	4.6	1.0
Manufacture of other food products <i>n.e.c.*</i>	16.6	9.8	28.4	5.1
Manufacture of sugar	16.1	14.1	18.1	6.4
Manufacture of starches and starch products	16.0	1	1.4	0.6
Processing and Preserving of Meat	12.7	1.7	1.2	13.1
Manufacture of dairy products	9.9	13.1	7.4	1.6
Manufacture of prepared animal Feeds	9.8	3.9	2.3	0.5
Processing and preserving of fish	9.1	2.8	2.8	22.8
Manufacture of grain mill Products	7.4	22.8	21.0	26.2
Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils & fats	5.7	24.6	6.7	17.2
Total	10.7	100	100	100.0

Table -2- STATUS OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN INDIA

CHALLENGES FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

The food processing industry in India is at a nascent stage, accounting for less than 10per cent of total food in India (Government of India). It is expected that improvement in food processing would reduce wastages in agricultural produce. At present food wastages are very high. According to the report of Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), wastages in major crops, in general, remained at high level during 2010-2017. The FPI accounts for a prominent place among sectors in terms of share in employment in the manufacturing sector and because of its labour- intensive nature it has higher multiplier effect on the overall economy. As per ASI data, FPI has emerged as the highest employment provider among the industry groups². However, its share in manufacturing and total GVA declined reflecting slower growth compared with other sectors of the economy. The exports of processed food in proportion to exports of raw food, on the other hand, have significantly increased during this period.

There is no common data set available for comparing FPI units in organized and unorganized sectors. However, a comparison can be made using ASI data, which provide information on the organized sector and National Sample Survey Organization's Unincorporated Non-Agricultural Enterprises Survey data provide information on the unorganized sector. A comparison of these two data sets for 2016-17 and 2015-16, respectively, showed abysmally low percentage of FPI enterprises in organized sector, even

though the organized sector accounts for more than 80 per cent of gross value added in overall FPI. As per ASI data, there were 39,748 food processing enterprises in the organized sector in 2016-17 while the number of unincorporated enterprises as per NSSO data stood at 24,59,929 in 2015-16. Nearly half of 23 organized enterprises were in three states – Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana – while Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal had the highest number of unincorporated food processing units. In terms of employment also, the unorganized sector dominates. As per ASI 2017-18, total number of persons engaged in registered food processing entities was 17.7 lakhs accounting for 11.4 per cent of total employment generated in the registered manufacturing sector. The unorganized food processing sector in turn, provided employment to 51.1 lakh workers constituting 14.26 % of employment in the unregistered manufacturing sector. In terms of value generated in the organized sector, three states, Maharashtra (17.3 %), Uttar Pradesh (11.6%) and Karnataka (11.3 %) together contributed around 40%.

	As per CIPHET Report 2010	As per CIPHET Report 2015
Cereals	3.9 – 6.0	4.65 – 5.99
Pulses	4.3 – 6.1	6.36 – 8.41
Oil seeds	2.8 – 10.1	3.08 – 9.96
Fruits & Vegetables	5.8 – 18.0	4.58 – 15.88
Milk	0.8	0.92
Fisheries (Inland)	6.9	5.23
Fisheries (Marine)	2.9	10.52
Meat	2.3	2.71
Poultry	3.7	6.74
Horticultural Crops		
Guava	18.0	15.9
Mango	12.7	9.2
Apple	12.3	10.4
Grapes	8.3	8.6
Papaya	7.4	6.7
Banana	6.6	7.8
Cereal Crops		
Wheat	6.0	4.9
Paddy	5.2	5.5
Bajra	4.8	5.2
Maize	4.1	4.7

Table 3– Wastages in Key Horticulture and Cereal Crops

1. Seasonality of processing operations and low capacity utilization: The agricultural produce is seasonal and perishable in nature, therefore, its availability is limited to a certain period of time. The lack of adequate cold-house storage structure/warehouse storage structures makes the situation even worse for the processing operations to carry during the off-season.
2. Inadequate focus on quality and safety standards: The FSSAI and HACCP standards are widely accepted by the consumers. It is easy for a factory/ start-up to acquire these certifications but the follow-up procedures that whether the same standard protocol is followed or not for processing is still under question. The consumers have still not forgotten about the Maggi incident, wherein harmful levels of MSG were found in it and the stand lost in trust amongst the consumers.
3. Lack of product development and innovation: There is a lack of private or public-funded research and development (R and D) in the food processing sector.
4. Supply chain institutional gaps: The procurement of food grains primarily depends upon the APMC markets wherein the PCI procures food grains for maintaining its buffer stock on behalf of the government. These food grains are further allocated under targeted public distribution system (TPDS) to reach the under-deprived section of the society. But there are certain leaky pipes and constraints in this system also.
5. Supply chain infrastructural gaps: The six stages through which the inputs are transformed into end product by undergoing processing activities for final consumption. Lack of primary processing storage and distribution facilities leads to additional post-harvest losses of food items.
6. Inadequate and inefficient link between production and processing.

	Productions	Output Trading	Processing	Distribution / Retailing
Skill	Traditional methods of farming	Trading by whose skills sets are Traditional	Exposure to low scale operations. Limitations in retail management purchase skill & management of large operations	Skills required for modern retail formats relatively unknown

Technology	No/low use of low levels of mechanization. Low use of hybrids, biotechnonolgy	Very low investment in storage & handling technology few upcoming commodity ex – changes	Outdated technology due to small scale operations low capacity units	Use of technology is low barcoding, supply chain linkages & use of IT is low
Regulations	Coporates not allowed in non plantation farming enforceability in contract farming	Procurement intervention by govt. agencies. MSP policy restriction on storage & movement	Favorable to small scale investments. Scope for large processors limited.	Foreign direct investment allowed land cost high due to inaction on land development
Capital	Funds availability to farmers is poor 80% borrow from adthivas at very high rates	Controlled by small trader financiers	High cost finance	Flow of capital is restricted due to ban on FDI

Table 4- Factors Affecting Production, Processing, and Distribution in India

SWOT ANALYSIS OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Though there are many promising dynamics which support good growth of this industry, there are still some significant constraints which, if not addressed sooner, can impede the growth prospects of the Food Processing Industry in India. One of the biggest constraints is that this industry is capital intensive. It creates a strong entry barrier and allows limited number of players to enter the market. Players mean competition which reduces efforts to improve quality standards. Major challenges faced by the Indian food processing industry include: educating consumers that processed foods can be more nutritious; dealing with low price elasticity for processed food products; need for distribution network; development of marketing channels; streamlining of food laws; improving food quality standards and strengthening food testing network; strengthening institutional framework to develop manpower for improving R&D capabilities to address global challenges. These challenges must be addressed to achieve full potential

of the Indian food processing industry.

STRENGTHS

Round the year availability of raw materials. Social acceptability of agro- processing as important area and support from the central government. Vast network of manufacturing facilities all over the country vast domestic market.

- Easy availability of raw materials as per the industry requirements
- Vast network of manufacturing facilities
- Wide spread domestic market
- Widened international market
- Social recognition to this industry as a source of livelihood
- Various government initiatives from time to time

WEAKNESSES

High requirement of working capital low availability of new reliable and better accuracy instruments and equipment's inadequate automation w.r.t. information management. Remuneration less attractive for talent in comparison to contemporary disciplines. Inadequately developed linkages between R&D labs and industry.

- Requirement of investment
- Low technological equipment
- Inadequate automation with respect to information management
- Low salary/wage in comparison to other industry

OPPORTUNITIES

Large crop and material base in the country due to agro ecological variability offers vast potential for agro processing activities. Integration of developments in contemporary technologies such as electronics, material science, computer, biotechnology etc. offer vast scope for rapid improvement and progress. Opening of global markets may lead to export of our developed technologies and facilitate generation of additional income and employment opportunities.

- Large population of the country
- Increase in level of living of the individuals

- Increase in both earning concept among the new generation
- Opening of the global market
- Development of supportive industries like electronics, computer science etc.

THREATS

Competition from global players Loss of trained manpower to other industries and other professions due to better working conditions prevailing there may lead to further shortage of manpower. Rapid developments in contemporary and requirements of the industry may lead to fast obsolescence.

- Huge competition from global leaders
- Frequent changing nature of global laws on food production
- Non availability of adequate land for the raw materials and land
- Reduce in interest among the works for this sector



Fig 8 : SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide basic food grains at subsidised price to the poor To guarantee minimum support to farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sufficient funds are not being planned in the budget 2013 to cover the 2/3rd of poor population Weak policy with regard to implementation of the same at ground level The implementations are left to state which may vary across India. The procurement, transportation storage and distribution from fair price shops are not defined Lack of infrastructure may lead to leakage and spoilage during storage and transportation. Adequate quantity and availability of food grains with public authorities Weak agricultural practices to ensure sufficient quantity and quality of the produce
<i>Opportunity</i>	<i>Threats</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of current Public Distribution System both at central level and at the state level Use of technological advancements in agricultural practices to meet the requirements of food grains in the countries Exploring new science of biotechnology and nanotechnology to develop improved crop varieties and production. Use of Information and Communications Technology in distribution and supply chain Effective communication system is required to create awareness about the scientific principle, available policies etc. Appropriate information sharing mechanism with regard to agricultural practice, geographical and climatic conditions for sustainable production Dynamic Policy initiatives to integrate different ministries involved in Ministry of Agricultural, Ministry of Environment and forest, ministry of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Railways and various state authorities. Reaching out to people for equal participation to achieve Food Security in India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huge size of population widely distributed across the country It is a challenge to identify right target consumer as the distribution is both in rural and urban area Enforcing the implementation without prior risk assessment Non-availability of appropriate tools to deliver the desired production and distribution at all levels Wastage of food grains due to lack of access to correct, clear and complete information Lack of coordination between various Ministries and decision makers Loop hole is the existing system and flow of Inappropriate use of the scheme by non-needy person

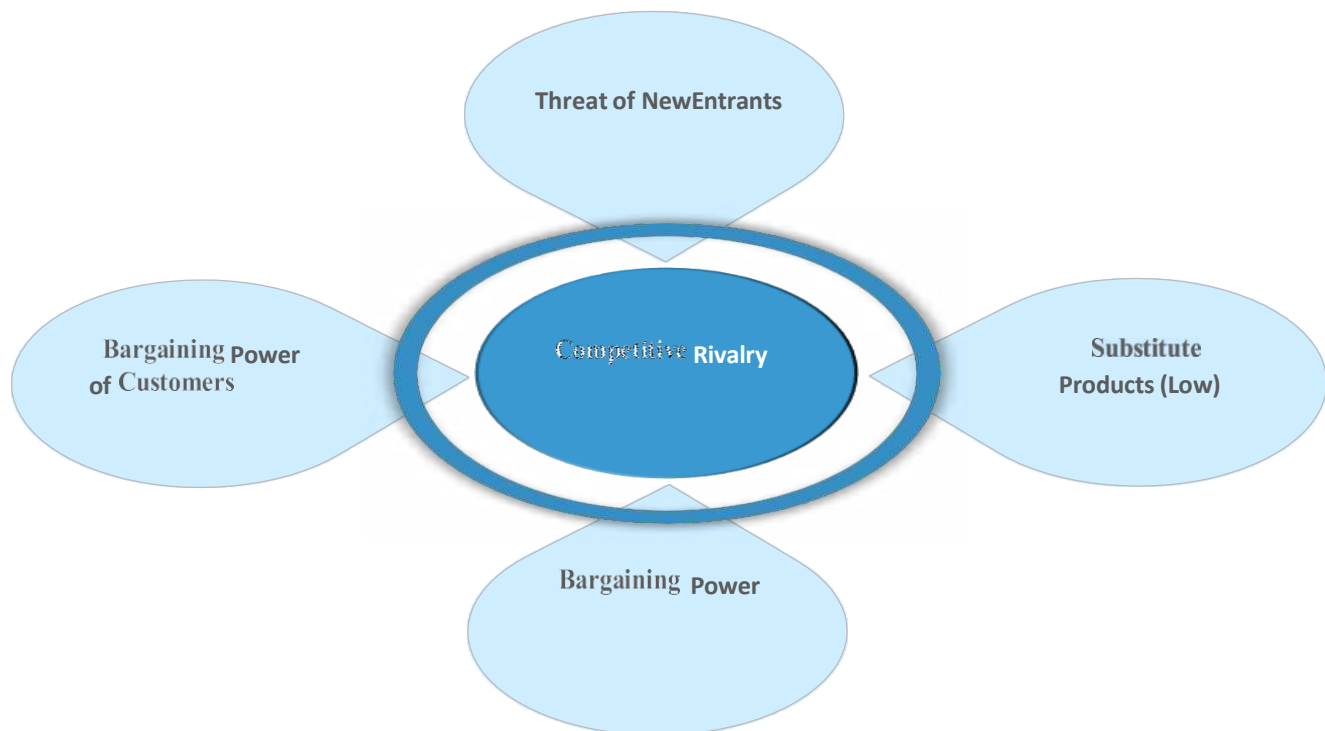
PORTER FIVE FORCES ANALYSIS

Fig 9: Competitive Rivalry

COMPETITIVE RIVALRY

- Due to a large influence of unorganized sector in the industry, the competition is intense.
- Existence of brand loyalty in certain products towards existing firms such as Amul in case of butter limits competition in these products.

THREAT OF NEW ENTRANCE

- Capital Intensive - High investments are required to set up processing units; this acts as an entry barrier for new players.
- Possibilities of wastages in processing.

SUBSTITUTE PRODUCTS

- No close substitutes of products such as milk, fresh fruits and vegetables are available in the market

BARGAINING POWER OF CUSTOMERS

- Tastes and preferences of consumers in certain products change and hence brand loyalty is low in these products
- Low switching cost makes consumers switch from one supplier to another

BARGAINING POWER OF SUPPLIERS

- Low bargaining power of suppliers as the population largely relies on unorganized sector for products such as milk and vegetables.

STRATEGIES ADOPTED TO OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES**Rising business and product innovation**

- Companies have been moving up the value chain; for example, cooperatives are transitioning from being pure producers of milk to offering a wide range of dairy products
- Both domestic and global firms have been focusing on product innovation to cater to domestic tastes, while also introducing international flavours; for example Ruchi Soya is innovating by entering into the ready-to-cook segment to meet the needs of people with significant time constraint to provide a rich source of protein in the breakfast category

Low - cost price strategy

- Low-cost price strategy is adopted so as to make the product affordable to the consumers by guaranteeing them value for money. The main aim is to provide quality products to the consumers at minimum cost, e.g., Amul Milk
- Parle and Sunfeast works on their pricing and costs so as to make the products available at economical prices

Joint Ventures

- Many global and Indian companies are getting into joint ventures to make global products available in India.
- Starbucks and TATA Alliance is one of the largest joint ventures

- Bharti Enterprises and Delmonte Pacific Ltd is the largest fresh baby corn exporter in India.

Encouragement to private sector

- 100 per cent export-oriented units allowed to sell up to 50 per cent of their produce in the domestic market
- Export earnings exempt from corporate taxes

Tax incentives and other SOPs

- Import duty scrapped on capital goods and raw materials for 100 per cent export-oriented units
- 100 per cent tax exemption for five years, followed by 25 per cent tax exemption for the next five years for new agro-processing industries
- Full excise duty exemption for goods that are used in installation of cold storage facilities

Focus on infrastructure

- The sector has been assigned priority status for bank credit.
- 60 Agri Export Zones (AEZ) have been set up across the country
- According to Vision 2015 formulated by MOFPI, the government plans to establish 30 mega food parks in public-private partnership mode across the country; out of these, 10 have already been approved in the first phase

Incentives for development of storage facilities

- Investment-linked tax incentive of 100 per cent deduction of capital expenditure for setting up and operating cold chain facilities (for specified products), and for setting up and operating warehousing facilities (for storage of agricultural produce)

Relaxed FDI norms

- 100 per cent FDI permitted under automatic route (except for alcohol, beer, and sectors reserved for small scale industries)
- Repatriation of capital and profits permitted

Mega Food Parks

- The scheme based on “Cluster” approach, which creates a well-defined agriculture/horticulture processing zone with better support of infrastructure and well-established supply chain
- Aims at providing mechanisms to link agricultural production to the market by bringing

- farmers, processors and retailers together
- Out of 10 projects planned in phase 1, 9 have been given final approval. CCEA further approved 15 new projects in 2011 by allocating USD 0.4 billion

Focus on R&D and modernization

- The government launched initiatives such as for the Setting Up/Upgradation of Quality Control/Food Testing Laboratory, R&D and Promotional Activity scheme and the Technology Upgradation/Setting Up/Modernisation/Expansion of Food Processing Industries Scheme

National Mission on Food Processing

- MOFPI launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) National Mission on Food Processing to promote facilities for post-harvest operations, including setting up of food processing industries in India.

TECHNOLOGY IMPROVISATION

In Indian food processing technology, refinement of traditional equipment and processes for production of different foods, feeds, fibers and fuel materials for best quality, higher capacity, energy efficiency and reduced drudgery to workers have taken place steadily. The conventional dryers found throughout the food industry are spray dryers, freeze dryers, vacuum dryers, rotary dryers, fixed bed dryers, fluidised bed dryers, etc. The low temperature and better control in the heat pump assisted driers shows several advantages over others. Over the past decade, advances in hardware and software for digital image processing have motivated several studies in the development of these systems to evaluate the quality of diverse and processed foods.

Computer vision has long been recognised as a potential technique for the guidance or control of agricultural and food processes. Traditionally, quality inspection of agricultural and food products has been performed by human graders. However, in most cases, these manual inspections are time-consuming and labor-intensive, tedious, repetitive and subjective task. Moreover, the accuracy of the tests cannot be guaranteed. It has been found by contrast that, the computer vision inspection of food products was more consistent, efficient and cost effective.

CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE (CA) TECHNOLOGY

For long-term storage of food grains: The chemical fumigation that is widely used for storage, although effective to an extent, is not environment friendly. As an alternative, a Pressure Swing Adsorption N₂ generator was designed and established at IIT Bombay. This aids the creation of nitrogen and carbon dioxide-rich and oxygen-depleted atmosphere in a storage unit. Bag-stacked items such as, cereal grains, seeds and black tea have been successfully stored without any infestation, moisture pick-up and with superior quality maintains in terms of taste, colour and aroma.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Biotechnology is a systematic science which utilises the benefits of micro-organisms or components produced by micro-organisms, in agricultural or industrial process.

There are evidences from history for usage of micro-organisms in food preparation preservation and transformation of raw agricultural commodities into edible products for human consumption. Biotechnology is a combination of diverse technologies that can be applied in different food and agriculture sectors. It includes technologies such as gene modification (manipulation) and transfer to achieve desired characteristics in plants, development of recombinant vaccines and DNA-based methods of disease characterisation/diagnosis. Biotechnology can be utilised in reproductive techniques like in-vitro vegetative propagation, embryo transfer etc. for increased production. The science and art of biotechnology can be utilised in plant and animal origin food products to achieve higher yields. This area requires relatively more focused research to achieve the goal of food security in developing countries. There are cases of development of transgenic plants with commercially useful traits such as resistance to herbicides, insects and viruses. In the year 1990s transgenic plants were approved by regulatory agencies in the USA for commercial use after evaluation and testing, thereafter, the commercial production of transgenic plants as genetically modified (GM) crops started in the USA. The research must ensure the food safety and lethality aspect for usage of such bioengineered crops. The bioengineered crops require less usage of pesticide and in turn result in reduce cost to farmer, crop protection and benefit both environment and public health. GE helps to achieve better productivity by providing grains with increased yields and reduced inputs costs, which is required to feed a growing global population, introduce resistance to pests and disease without high cost purchased inputs, increased crop's tolerance to adverse weather and soil conditions, improve the nutritional aspects of some foods and enhance the durability of products during harvesting or shipping.

The application of molecular biology-based science to agriculture has been focused mainly on large farm in developed countries. An area of concern in exploitation of biological science in agriculture is with regard to Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and the allocation of benefits between developed and developing countries' farmers and Agribusiness Corporation that provide the GM seeds. However, there are questions and concerns regarding health impacts especially related to the role of allergens in crop biotechnology. An alternative approach with enhanced policy initiatives all around the world for better investments in agricultural biotechnological research is required. Further, there are instances of opposition to GM food in some countries like India, resulting in serve setback to the research in agricultural sector. Also, it may be important to understand the implications due to over use of such technologies and their hazardous impact, if any to living organism.

There should be motivation for private sector to develop technologies for poor people by offering to buy exclusive right to newly developed technology and make it available either for free or for a nominal charge to small farmers. A more comprehensive public and private sector involvement can lead to research. This can be achieved by converting some social advantages to the private gains.

NANOTECHNOLOGY

Nanotechnology is a new subset of science, dealing with nanoparticles which are of the tenth magnitude. Nanotechnology is not yet widely exploited to achieve food security. However, it is progressing rapidly by usage of interdisciplinary research. Nanotechnology is the science which helps scientist to understand the structure at molecular level and relate the same to microscopic level. This technology has the potential to improve the efficiency of crop production, improve food processing and food safety, minimise environmental impact of crop production and food products and increase storage and distribution capabilities. Nanotechnology can be applied in agricultural food system for reproductive methods for conversion of agricultural and food wastes to energy and other useful by-products using enzymatic Nano-bio processing, disease prevention and health protection of plants and animals. The combination of nanotechnology with available technology like genomic and micro-electronics can be utilised in development diagnostic kits to detect and monitor the spread of plant and animal diseases. Nanotechnology can be utilised in the area of packaging and storage to increase the shelf life. However, it is equally important to establish the safety aspect while exploiting any of these technologies. Some of the plastic wraps can be developed to prevent food from spoiling by inhibiting the growth of bacteria and even edible coating can be developed using nanotechnology application.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT can be utilised as a strategic tool for agricultural development and welfare especially in rural India. The potential of IT can be explored for direct contribution to agricultural productivity by empowering farmers to take relevant information and timely quality decision which will have positive impact on the agriculture and allied activities. Precision farming extensively uses IT to make direct contribution to agricultural productivity. Other techniques such as remote sensing using satellite technologies, GIS and agronomy, soil science help to increase the agricultural output. These techniques provide useful information where large scale agriculture production is practiced. With the advent of corporate in agricultural retail sector these technologies are explored to the benefits of retailers. Agricultural production in India is primarily at small scale farms owned by small farmers generally less than 1 acre. Mobile enable information sharing will be useful for India as it provides timely and reliable sources of information for decisions making to individual farm owners. At present, the farmer depends on trickling down of decision inputs from conventional sources which are slow and unreliable. The changing environment faced by Indian farmers makes information not only useful, but necessary to remain competitive. Consideration must be given to generating investment in IT and communications in the developing countries including India and parts of African countries so farmers can gain benefits of communication and technology.

METEOROLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT

The biggest threat to food security comes from the current imbalances caused by the climate change. With every 1°C increase in temperature, there is an estimated decrease in crop production by 5%. Technology, including computers, advanced radars and the weather satellites, are keys to collecting data needed for weather forecasting for decision making. The correct weather forecasting helps the farmers to sow the seeds and harvest the plants at right time and locations.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRI-FOODSYSTEMS

Digital transformation has the potential to deliver significant economic, social and environmental benefits. The following examples demonstrate how digital technologies can be applied to improve the efficiency and functioning of agrifood systems:

- The use of mobile applications providing price information to farmers can reduce market distortions and help farmers to plan production processes. For example, the M-Farm application in Kenya led to farmers changing their cropping patterns and some reported receiving higher prices at market as a result (Bau-müller, 2015).
- Agricultural robots ('agro bots') are seen as a key trend that will deeply influence agriculture in the future. Field agro bots are already being deployed to help farmers measure, map and optimize water and irrigation use. Fleets of small lightweight robots are now seen as a replacement for traditional heavy tractors, allowing a gradual reduction of compaction, re-aeration of the soil and benefits to soil function.
- Technologies can also support farmers to anticipate and respond to pest attacks, crop failures and climatic changes through timely weather-based agro-advisory messages.
- Precision Agriculture (PA) is an example of an application of the Internet of Things (IoT) in agriculture. The use of Guidance Systems during planting and fertilizer application can lead to cost savings in terms of seed, fertilizer and tractor fuel, and can reduce working hours in the field. Variable Rate Technologies (VRT) and drones (UAV) can also reduce water and pesticide use and reduce labour and resource costs.
- The importance of ERP software in agriculture is high, as it has the potential to help streamline every process, from procurement to production to and distribution. ERP can enable a farm (or related business) to respond more organically to environmental challenges, adjust systems accordingly, and grow into more cost-efficient businesses.
- Over the last few years, the growth in Artificial Intelligence technology (AI) has strengthened agro-based businesses to run more efficiently. Companies that use AI help farmers to scan their fields and monitor every stage of the production cycle. AI technology is transforming the agricultural sector, as farmers can depend on the data that satellite or UAV record to determine the state of the farm rather than walking all the distance. AI can improve resource use, support early decision making through predictive models and maintain 24/7 monitoring systems.

EXAMPLE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

1- EMA-I App Animal Health System Support by FAO

EMA-I is an early warning app developed by FAO to facilitate quality and real time livestock disease reporting captured by animal health workers in the field. EMA-i is integrated in the FAO's Global Animal Disease Information System (EMPRES-i) where data are safely stored and used by countries. EMA-i is easily adaptable to countries existing livestock disease reporting system. By supporting surveillance and real time reporting capacities at country level and improving communication between stakeholders,

EMA-i contributes to enhance early warning and response to animal disease occurrence with high impact to food security and livelihood. EMA-i is currently used in six countries in Africa (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Lesotho, Tanzania and Zimbabwe).

2- Dino Agrobot For Agriculture And Viticulture

The Nano Technologies team developed agricultural robot to improve working conditions and profitability for farmers. To help farmers tackle the increasing regulations on phyto sanitary products, the growing concerns with pesticides, and the lack of workers in the agricultural sector, Dino provides a new and effective solution. The Dino weeding robot allows vegetable farmers to manage crop weeding with a high level of precision, while helping them save time all through the season. Dino is highly effective to weed vegetables that are grown in the field, both in raised vegetable beds and in rows, such as lettuce, carrots, onions, etc.



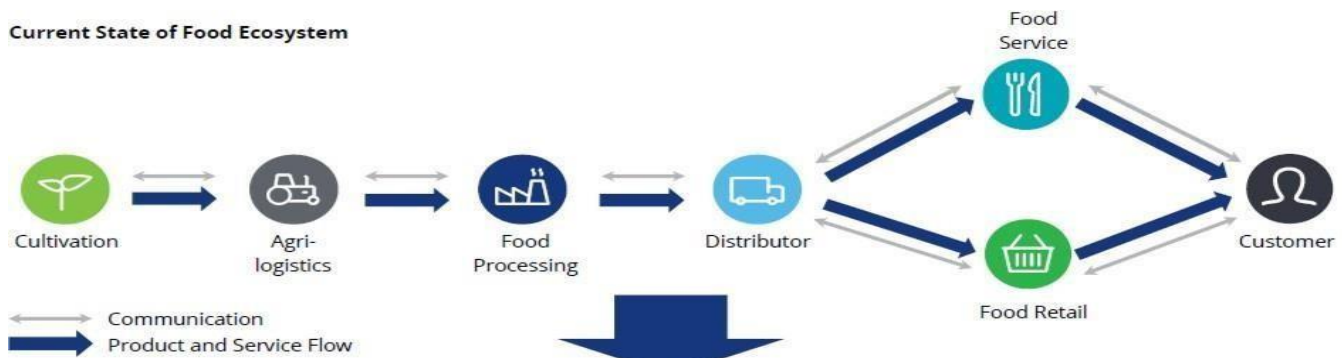
Fig 10: value chain in food processing sector & key players

MYCROP COMPLETE FARM AND FARMER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

My Crop a technology-enabled initiative for farmers, which empowers them through delivering information, expertise and resources, to increase productivity and profitability, hence improving standard of living. It is a collaborative platform that strives to combine cutting edge technology (Big Data, machine learning, smartphones/tablets, etc.), innovative business model (agriculture platform as a service), and focused human efforts (agriculture insights, products, and services) to serve smallholder farmers. My Crop facilitates farmers in taking and executing optimum decisions by providing geo- mapping, crop planning, individual farm plans and farm automation customized for each farmer based on weather, soil, pest and crop data on an almost real-time basis. My Crop is a sustainable data- driven, scalable, intelligent, self-learning, real-time collaborative Agrifood system, which serves as a farm as well as farmer management solution.

VALUE CHAIN IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR AND KEY PLAYERS

Current State of Food Ecosystem



Future State of Food Ecosystem

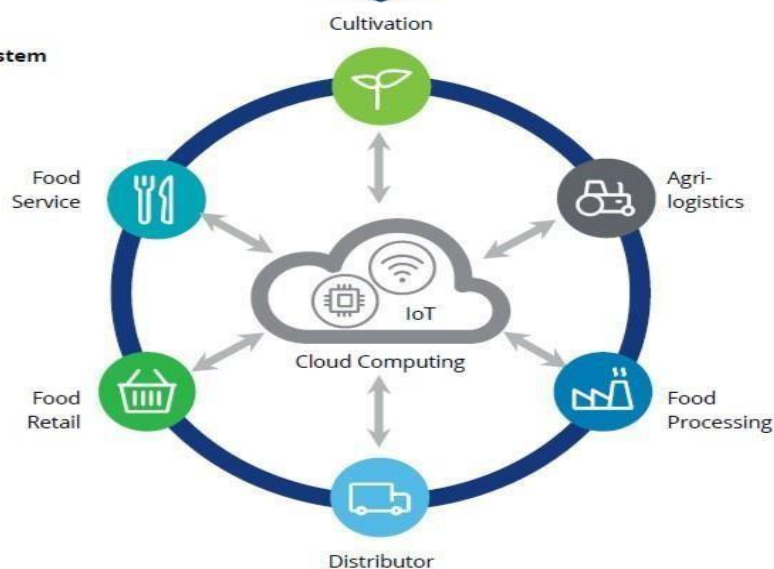


Fig 11– current state of food ecosystem

5. CONCLUSION

The Food Processing Industry sector in India is one of the largest in terms of production, consumption, export and growth prospects. The government has accorded it a high priority, with a number of fiscal reliefs and incentives, to encourage commercialization and value addition to agricultural produce. This sector is having ample scope to prosper in future years ahead. This sector could be a good potential for the Company Secretary professionals who want to start their own enterprises.

In spite of the problems, agro-processing technology in India has continued to make steady progress towards modernization. For future growth, new initiatives need to be called for. The main focus should be directed towards minimizing pre and post-harvest wastage, employment generation and export growth. Furthermore, there is a need in the growth of accurate, fast methodologies of food processing technologies for the ever increasing population and the increased expectation of food products of high-quality standards. It has been noticed in the study that plenty of good research is being carried out in biotechnological area and IT; however the same is not available at the point of use. One of the ways to achieve effective information update is through mobile application. It is recommended that more user-friendly ways to implement these researches may be explored in future research. A reinvention of the

global food security system is recommended. The research and development activities should be shared globally in order to avoid drainage of resources in reinventing the same technology. This paper recommends that involvement of Public Private Partnership in research, production practices and supply can provide solutions to the increasing concern on food security globally. New policies and incentives should be available for investment in this sector.

The important areas identified from the study where technological research needs to be focused include:

- crop improvement by development of new and better quality of seeds and agriculture extension facility.
- usage of water and fertilizers which are low cost and environment-friendly
- crop protection and effective management to avoid resistance problems by use of biodegradable ways
- sustainable livestock farming and aquaculture with improved veterinary drugs usage practices
- Reduction of post-harvest losses at storage and distribution.
- coordinated information sharing among the various stakeholder of the food chain
- Effective strategies to communicate risk and reduce the gaps created by delayed access to information

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