India can become one of the largest fruit and vegetable exporters in the world and can equally be a large importer given its demographic diversity. This strong footing in agriculture provides a large and varied raw material base for food processing.

There should be technology upgradation, quality management, firm adherence to export commitments and acquisition of appropriate negotiation skills. Many non-traditional vegetables mainly processed & gherkins and others like asparagus, celery, bell pepper, sweet corn, green and lime beans and organically grown vegetables are also being increasingly exported.

India’s exports of Processed Fruit and Vegetable has increased from Rs. 2454.61 Crores (USD Million 554.46) in 2005-06 to Rs. 2502.28 Crores (USD Million 555.07) in 2006-07. Which including the share of products like Mango Pulp (Rs. 505.83 Crores) (USD Million 112.21), Dried and Preserved Vegetable (Rs. 424.06 Crores) (USD Million 94.07), Pickles and Chutneys (Rs. 293.59 Crores) (USD Million 65.03), Other Processed Fruit and Vegetable (Rs. 508.15 Crores) (USD Million 112.72), and Pulses (Rs. 770.65 Crores) (USD Million 170.95)

The Indian food –processing industry is primarily export oriented. India’s geographical situation gives it the unique advantage of connectivity to Europe, the Middle East, Japan, Singapore, Thiland, Malaysia and Korea. One such example indicating India’s location advantage is the value of trade in agriculture and processed food between India and Gulf region.

**DRIED AND PRESERVED VEGETABLES**

India is the major producer of dried & preserved vegetable like preserved onions, cucumber & gherkins, provisionally preserved, mushrooms of the genus agaricus, other mushrooms and truffles, green pepper in brine, dried truffles, asparagus dried, dehydrated garlic powder, dehydrated garlic flakes, garlic dried, potatoes dried, grams, grams dal, onion prepared/preserved etc. India’s Export of Dried & Preserved Vegetables has Increased from Rs. 364.11 Crores (USD Million 82.25) in 2005-06 to Rs.424.06 Crores (USD Million 94.07) in 2006-07. The major Importer of Indian Dried & Preserved Vegetables are Russia, France, U.S.A, Germany and Spain.

**MANGO PULP**

India is the largest mango producer in the world, and has the range of varieties in (*talle) Mango and Processing Mangoes of this fruit. Export of mango pulp is significant. Two main clusters of Mango Pulp are there in the country which has around 65 processing units with a good backward linkage of Alphanso and Totapuri variety of mangoes. These clusters are Chittoor in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Krishnagiri in the state of Tamilnadu. Most of these processing units are HACCP certified and conforms to required standard. India’s Export of Mango Pulp has increased from Rs. 364.24 Crores (USD
Million 82.28) to Rs. 505.82 Crores (USD Million 112.21) in 2006-07. Saudi Arabia, Netherlands, UAE, Yemen and Kuwait are the major market of Mango Pulp.

### PICKLE & CHUTNEY

Pickles & chutney are the traditional specialties product of India and has gained an important position in the Indian cuisine. They are eaten along with main course and provide tempting tastes. Pickles are prepared from Fruits and Vegetables and they supplement the food with vitamins and minerals. There are many types of pickles available in India like Chilly Pickles, Green Pickles, Lemon Chutney, Mango chutney, Gherkins, Mango Pickles, Onion Prpd/Prsvd and Tomato chutney etc. India’s Export of Pickles & chutney has increased from Rs. 260.98 Crores (USD Million 58.95) in 2005-06 to Rs. 293.59 Crores (USD Million 65.13) in 2006-07. The major market for Indian Pickles & chutney are Russia, U.S.A, Belgium, Netherlands and France.

### OTHER PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The Processed Fruits & Vegetables industry in India is one of the largest in term of production, domestic consumption, export has tremendous growth potential. Important products in Processed Fruits and Vegetables are Apple Juice, Asparagus, Beans Shelled, Cashew nuts/Roasted and Salted, Cherries, Chips Fried, Dried Apples, Dried Apricots, Fruit & Nuts, Uncooked or Cooked, Grape Juice, Grapefruit Juice, Jam Jellies of Apple, Jam Jellies of Other Fruits, Mango Juice, Lemon Juice, Olives, Pineapple Juice, Sweet corn, Tomato Juice, tomato Prepared of Preserved etc. India’s Export of other processed Fruits & Vegetables has increased from Rs. 370.21 Crores (USD Million 83.63) in 2005-06 to Rs. 508.14 Crores (USD Million 112.72) in 2006-07. Major destination of export for Indian processed fruit and vegetable products are U.S.A, Netherlands, U.K, U.A.E and Saudi Arabia.

### PULSES

Pulses are one of the important food crops globally due to higher protein content. Pulses are 20 to 25 per cent protein by weight which is double the protein content of wheat and three times that of rice. For this reason, pulses are sometimes called "poor man’s meat". Major Pulses grown in India are Dry Beans, Dry Peas, Chick pea, Lentil etc. The total area covered under Pulses cultivation is 22.39 Million Ha with a production of 13.38 Million tones. India’s Export of Pulses has increased from Rs. 589.85 Crores (USD Million 131.46) in 2004-05 to Rs. 770.64 Crores (USD Million 170.95) in 2006-07. The importing countries in India are Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, U.A.E and Nepal.

### Other Processed Foods

The Indian food processing industry has seen significant growth and changes over the past few years. The sector include in the other food processing industry are Groundnuts,
Guargum, Jaggery & Confectionery, cocoa products, cereal preparations and alcoholic & Non Alcoholic Beverages. Export of other processed foods like groundnuts, jaggery & confectionery, cocoa product, cereal preparations, miscellaneous preparation etc has increased from Rs. 2629.94 Crores (USD Million 594.07) in 2005-06 to Rs. 3635.77 Crores (USD Million 806.51) in 2006-07.

Groundnut is the 13th most important food crop of the world. It is the world's 4th most important source of edible oil and 3rd most important source of vegetable protein. Groundnut seeds contain high quality edible oil (~ 50%), easily digestible protein (~ 25%) and carbohydrates (~ 20%). In India, groundnut is grown on 6.74 million ha with a production of 7.99 million tons, with an average productivity of 1.18 metric tons hectare during the year 2005-06.

India is the major producer of Guar Seed followed by Pakistan and US. In India, Guar seed is grown on 6.93 million ha with a production of 5.60 million tons, with an average productivity of 0.81 metric tons per hectare during the year 2005-06. India’s accounts for 80% of the total guar produced in the world. 70% of India’s production comes from Rajasthan. The other producers are Gujarat, Haryana, Uttar Pardesh and Madhye Pradesh.

India is the third largest market for alcoholic beverages in the world. The demand for spirits and beer is estimated to be around 373 million cases. There are 12 joint venture companies having a licensed capacity of 33919 kilo litres per annum for production of grain based alcoholic beverages. About 56 units are manufacturing beer under license from Government of India. The wine industry in India provides considerable opportunities for value addition and employment generation in the agro processing sector.

GROUNDNUTS

Groundnut is the 13th most important food crop of the world. It is the world's 4th most important source of edible oil and 3rd most important source of vegetable protein. Groundnut seeds contain high quality edible oil (~ 50%), easily digestible protein (~ 25%) and carbohydrates (~ 20%). Groundnut is grown in nearly 100 countries. India is one of the major exporting country of groundnuts after china and its export has increased from Rs. 513.68 Crores (USD Million 116.03) in 2005-06 to Rs. 798.46 Crores (USD Million 177.12) in 2006-07. The Major Markets for Indian groundnuts are Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, U.K and Singapore.

GUAR GUM

India is the single largest producer of Guar in the world, having 85% of global market share. India produces around 1.1 to 1.2 million tones of Guar Gum annually. It exports various forms of Guar products to a large number of countries. Pakistan is the competition to India, but it has only 10% market share. Other countries like Australia, South Africa, Sudan, Brazil and Malawi are growing Guar in small quantities. China at present is a major importer from India. But it is reportedly increasing the area under this
crop in a big way. India’s export of Guar Gum was Rs.1125.79 Crores (USD Million 249.73) with the Quantity of 189304.36 MT in 2006-07. The international demand is increasing even in Europe and America, which are traditional importers of this valuable product.

**JAGGERY AND CONFECTIONERY**

India’s export of Jaggery & confectionery product like Chewing Gum, Other Cane Jaggery, Palmyra Jaggery, Raw Cane Jaggery, Sugar Confectioner and Sweet Meat has increased from Rs. 264.97 Crores (USD Million 59.85) in 2005-06 to Rs 873.46 Crores (USD Million 193.76) in 2006-07. The major destinations for export of Indian Jaggery & confectionery products are Portugal, U.S.A, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal.

**COCOA PRODUCTS**

Cocoa being a tropical crop, India offers considerable scope for the development. Cocoa is mainly grown in state of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Internationally it is an item largely consumed in developed countries. India’s Export of Cocoa products has increased from Rs. 21.83 Crores (USD Million 4.93) in 2005-06 to Rs. 35.07 Crores (USD Million 7.78) in 2006-07. The global market for Indian cocoa products are Nepal, Netherlands, Malaysia, Yamen Arab Repu. and U.A.E.

**CEREAL PREPARATIONS**

India has increased it’s share in the cereal and cereal preparation products in the international market. India’s export of Cereal Preparation products has increased from Rs. 393.95 Crores (USD Million 88.99) in 2005-06 to Rs. 462.71 Crores (USD Million 102.64) in 2006-07. The major destinations for Indian Cereal Preparations are U.S.A, U.K, Nepal, Sri Lanka and U.A.E.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

An alcoholic beverage is a drink containing ethanol, commonly known as alcohol. Alcoholic beverages are divided into three general classes: beers, wines and spirits. Today, Indian beer is brewed at various places in the country and is mainly top-fermented. Indian rums have developed a reputation for smoothness and flavors. The demand of India’s Alcoholic Beverages products like Beer Made From Malt, Wine, White Wine, Other Wine Included Grapes, Other Alcoholic Beverages, Brandy, Whiskies, Rum, gin and other Gin etc. has increased in global market. The international market for Indian alcoholic Beverages products is Jamaica, Thailand, U.A.E, Angola and Bhutan.

**MISCELLANEOUS PREPARATIONS**

Miscellaneous Preparations products in Processed Food includes Bakers Wares, biscuits,
corn Flakes, Couscous, Crisp Bread, Ginger Bread, Malted Milk Food, Other Bakery products, Other Pasta, Papads, Stuffed Paste cooked and Uncooked Paste etc. India’s export of Miscellaneous Preparations products has increased from 49606.69 MT in 2005-06 to 57696.80 MT in 2006-07. The major destination for Indian Miscellaneous Preparations products of processed food are U.A.E, Iran, U.S.A, U.K, Indonesia.

**MILLED PRODUCTS**

Indian milled products include the products like Wheat/Meslin Flour, Rya Flour, Maize (corn) Flour, Rice Flour, Cereal Flour other than of Wheat (Meslin, Rye, Maize, Rice), Groats of Wheat, Meal of Wheat, Pellets of wheat etc. India’s Export of milled products has increased from Rs. 64.68 Crores (USD Million 14.61) in 2005-06 to Rs. 95.89 Crores (USD Million 21.27) in 2006-07. The major destination for Indian Milled Products is U.S.A, U.K, Indonesia, Maldives and U.A.E.