

*Other:* machinery for cleaning containers; preparation of meat and poultry; filling and closing bottles; aerating beverages; brewery; milling; cereals; molding machines for plastic and thermoplastic; container labelling; packing/wrapping; can sealing.

*Pepsico has a new joint venture in Madras to manufacture the pellets for PET bottles in Europe.*

## POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Post-harvest losses are very high (roughly 30-40% of total production) due to a variety of reasons as previously mentioned. Improved post-harvest technology is key to decreasing this wastage. Current techniques must be upgraded with up-to-date machinery, increasing know-how and the expanded use of contract farming. Quality management programs must involve the training of specialists and growers. The role of extension education in production and post-harvest management of onion and garlic was studied in India. The results showed that effective technology transfer resulted in increased production and productivity and reduced microbiological spoilage during storage. Sensitive varieties of mangoes such as Dashehari and Chausa in particular suffer from high post-harvest losses. There is also a lack of adequate storage facilities for mangoes and potatoes and appropriate packaging must be developed to prevent losses during transit. Canadian firms can investigate opportunities existing in this sector.

*British Columbia and India have agreements for mutual cooperation in the agricultural sector. The Department of Agricultural Research and Education (India) is involved in joint research and development of a Modified Atmosphere Package (MAP) system with assistance and technology transfer from British Columbia. This includes development of new functional types of barrier and permeable polymeric films for effective MAP systems, and training of Indian scientists on post-harvest process technology of fruits at the Department of Food Sciences of the Universities of Alberta and British Columbia in Vancouver.*

## POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK

India has:

- the largest cattle population in the world, but comparatively low meat production
- a ban on cow slaughter in most states and a national ban on exports of beef and beef products
- few large corporate players in this sector
- an absence of meat growing farms
- a large potential for organized, scientific facilities (including cold chains) for rearing and slaughtering meat producing animals
- the potential for developing a market for ready-to-cook and ready-to-eat products