

# J'khand frozen veg unit goes on stream

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**RANCHI:** Now, farmers will not have to dump their surplus vegetables in absence of buyers, as Jharkhand's first frozen vegetable processing plant is all set to start commercial production from Tuesday.

Mother Dairy has set up the plant on 27 acres of land with an investment of Rs 82.77 crore at Ranchi's Tikratoli area under Nagri block. Chief minister Raghubar Das will inaugurate the processing plant, which will process vegetables including green peas, jackfruit, beans, cauliflower, ginger and litchi.



■ **The state's first frozen vegetable processing plant at Nagri in Ranchi.** HT PHOTO

Mother Dairy, a subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), markets its vegetable and fruit products under

the brand name of Safal, which has been exporting processed food products to 38 countries.

The trial run for pea and jackfruit processing, which was started in February this year, has been successful and the plant is ready for commercial production. The plant of second phase, which will extend the processing of tomato, mango, guava, amla and other fruits, is expected to begin functioning from November this year, said officials on Monday.

"This will be the eastern region's first high-tech integrated automated processing plants," said Dilip Rath, chairman of NDDB.