

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:994
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
SETTING UP OF A NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to set up a National Institute for organic Agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received willingness from the State of Kerala to extend all necessary assistance and facilities for setting up of the proposed Institute in Kerala; and
- (d) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): During the Tenth Plan, a proposal for a new scheme, 'National Project on Organic Farming' is under process for approval which includes setting up of a National Institute of Organic Farming, whose function will be to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming in the country. The components include the following:

- ? Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce including prescribing National Standards of organic farming.
- ? Capacity building for organic farming.
- ? Support to commercial production units of organic inputs like fruits and vegetables waste compost units, bio-fertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture etc.
- ? Promotion and extension of organic farming.

(c)&(d): The State Government of Kerala is one of the States, who have requested for setting up of National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF) in their State. Their request along with similar requests received from other States will be considered at appropriate time.