

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1015
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003
AGRO BASED VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are planning to introduce an agro-based vocational education system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when this proposal is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir. The Government have been implementing a scheme 'Establishment of Agri- Clinics and Agri-Business Centres by Agriculture Graduates' under which the graduates in agriculture are given training for two months.

(b): The Scheme for the Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres by Agriculture graduates was launched in the last year of the IXth Five Year Plan throughout the country. The main objective of the Scheme is to provide extension services to farmers through trained agriculture graduates on payment basis. The Scheme also helps to provide employment to agriculture graduates. An illustrative list of about 20 activities have been identified which could be taken up by the agriculture graduates individually or in a group of 5 persons. This Scheme is being implemented through Small Farmers Agri. Consortium (SFAC), National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Till now 20,450 number of applications have been received from the agriculture graduates from across the country and 4,043 graduates have been given training for two months, out of them, 757 graduates have set up agriclincs/agribusiness centres in different activities.

(c): Does not arise.