

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:832
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
ONION PRODUCTION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of onion production and area under onion cultivation in the country, State-wise including Odisha;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production and quality of onion in various States including Odisha;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Onion Research Centre in Odisha; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): The details of onion production and area under onion cultivation in the country, State-wise including Odisha is annexed.

(b): Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the remaining States of the country for enhancing production and productivity of horticulture crops including onion. Under these missions, assistance is provided for establishment of nurseries, seed production of vegetables, enhancing quality production and productivity of horticulture crops through area expansion, protected cultivation, integrated nutrient, pest and water management, mechanization, Human Resource Development, etc.

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a new programme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) during 2011-12 under the aegis of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for addressing all concerns of vegetable sector in selected cities including onion. The scheme is being implemented in one city covering each of 29 States which either has a population of one million and above or is a Capital City of the State with the exception of Jammu & Kashmir, where two cities are covered under VIUC.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has initiated necessary steps and consequently production technologies for different states including Odisha through All India Networking Project (AINP) have been developed. Two varieties of onion viz. Bhim Shakti and Bhim Shweta are recommended for Odisha and farmers have been adopting these varieties for cultivation. New initiatives have been taken through AINP for the development of hybrids.

(c) & (d): To address location and situation specific problems of onion cultivation, ICAR's All India Networking Project (AINP) on Onion is already in operation under Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology Research Centre at Chiplima. Since AINP is already in operation, there is no proposal for setting up of another centre in Odisha.