To,
Director,
Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture (CITH),
Old Airport Road, Rangreth,
Srinagar- 190007.

Subject: Nodal Institute for Olive-reg.

Secretary & Director General, ICAR vide DO letter dated 27.05.2016 (copy enclosed) has informed that Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture(CITH), Srinagar(J&K) may be considered as nodal agency for research on olive.

2. This Department is providing support to state government for nursery raising and plantation of olive under Mini Mission-III (TBOs) of the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil palm (NMOOP). States like Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram and Jammu & Kashmir have shown interest in taking up olive plantation under NMOOP. Support is also available for need based R&D projects on 100% funding basis. A copy of the operational guidelines of NMOOP is enclosed for your perusal.

3. In view of the above, you are requested to advise DAC&FW on issues relating to cultivation of olive in India. A number of states including Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya and Tripura have taken up olive cultivation. The State of Chhattisgarh and Mizoram have planned to start olive plantation from current year. You are requested to analyze their olive development plans and give your recommendations on the best way forward. On receipt of your recommendations, DAC&FW proposes to hold a workshop on olive cultivation in September, 2016 under your technical guidance.

Encl. As above.

(Dr. Anupam Barik)
Additional Commissioner (Oilseeds)
Tele-fax: 011-23384618

Copy to:
1. The Principal Secretary (Agriculture/Horticulture), all MM-III States under NMOOP.
2. DDG (Horticulture)/ADG (Horticulture), ICAR.
3. All concerned officers, Oilseeds Division, DAC&FW.
Dear Shri Pattanayak,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No. 2-1/2015-MM-III (TBO)/OS dated 11.05.2016 regarding identification of a Nodal Institute for technical backstopping on Olive research and development in the country.

I have got the matter examined and would like to inform you that Olive is a crop of Mediterranean region. It is a subtropical, evergreen tree but requires chilling for successful fruiting.

The prospects for Olive cultivation in India exist in areas lying between 30 – 35° North Latitude. The areas spread over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh in India could be explored for Olive cultivation. At ICAR-Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Srinagar, introduction and evaluation of 18 exotic cultivars of Olive has shown encouraging results in the preliminary trials with respect to growth and fruiting (5 to 25 kg/tree) in 12-13 years old trees.

Hence, CITH, Srinagar (J&K) may be considered as Nodal Institute for research on Olive. This is for your kind information.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(T. Mohapatra) 27/05/16

Shri S.K. Pattanayak
Secretary,
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare,
Govt. of India, Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110001