

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4499
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a genetically modified strain of sunflower-yellow, vitamin-enriched rice has been developed by the British scientists for transfer to countries like India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether agricultural experts and scientists have expressed doubts over this new variety; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

- (a) & (b): British scientists have been reported to have developed a new genetically modified strain of sunflower-yellow, vitamin-enriched rice by introducing genes for production of high levels of beta-carotene. No proposal has been received for its transfer to India.
- (c) & (d): It is a recent report. Testing/evaluation is yet to be carried out.