

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3885
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
BIO- TECH DRUGS
Muqueem Shri Mohammed

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) is responsible for giving clearance for Bio-tech drugs;
- (b) if so, the composition of GEAC alongwith the frequency of its meetings; and
- (c) the time it generally takes to grant the approval for a bio-technology drug?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The GEAC constituted under the 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use /Import /Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms / Genetically Engineering Organisms or Cells, 1989 is the competent authority responsible for giving environmental clearances to recombinant biotech drugs.

(b) The present composition of the GEAC is enclosed at Annexure I. The meeting of the GEAC is held every month.

(c) The time taken for granting GEAC approval for a recombinant bio-technology drug in general is about 2 - 3 months.

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3885 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22.8.05 REGARDING BIO-TECH DRUGS.

Composition of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) Constituted under 'The Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells of Environmental Protection Act, 1986.

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