

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3510
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2005
TRANSGENIC RESEARCH IN RICE
Kathiria Dr. Vallabhbhai

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether transgenic research in basmati rice is being discontinued;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) steps and measures being taken by the Government to prevent accidental contamination of non-genetically engineered rice grains with genetically engineered rice grains?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBA)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Research for developing transgenic basmati rice for commercialization has been discontinued. However, Pusa basmati is allowed strictly for research purposes for generation of proof of principle.
- (c) In India, no transgenic rice has been commercialized so far. Hence, the threat of non-transgenic rice getting contaminated with transgenic rice does not rise at this state.