

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2148  
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006  
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to announce National Biodiversity Development Policy to chalk out a road map for the future growth of bio- technology industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any target to achieve US\$ 5 billion revenue by 2010 in the bio-technology sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) There is no proposal to announce a National Biodiversity Development Policy. A Draft National Biotechnology Development Strategy has been formulated to chalk out a road map for the future growth of bio-technology industry in the country.

(c) & (d) Under the Draft National Biotechnology Development Strategy proposed by the Government, special measures have been taken to promote the Biotechnology industry and to facilitate increase in turnover of biotech sector. The turnover of biotech sector in India is expected to exceed US\$ 5 billion by 2010. Initiatives have been taken to provide an enabling environment for industrial growth such as exemption of biotech sector from compulsory licensing; permitting 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the sector; reducing the area of Special Economic Zones to bring it at par with Information Technology sector; providing fiscal incentives to in-house R&D recognized industries in terms of exemption of custom duty on capital goods, reduction in import duty and 150% weighted deduction against expenditure incurred on in-house R&D.