

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:815
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
DATA ON GM VARIETIES
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether the data relating to environmental and health safety of Genetically Modified (GM) plants has not been provided to the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) for field trials by the companies which have developed GM varieties;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has also issued notices to the Ministry in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a & b) No Sir, Submission of data related to environmental and health safety of genetically modified (GM) plants to the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) is a pre-requisite for consideration of the GM crop for large scale open field trials in farmers field.
- c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 15.02.2007 has directed the Uoi to file a report within a period of six weeks stating therein as to what would be the implications and biological results of ongoing GM field trials.
- (d) The Ministry is in the process of filing its response.