

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:407

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005

RESEARCH BY DELHI UNIVERSITY ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the research conducted by Delhi University in regard to genetically modified crops cultivation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has sought any report from the State Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh in regard to cultivation of these crops; and

(d) if so, the details of the report submitted by each State and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Transgenic mustard hybrid, reportedly giving high yield, has been experimentally developed. The transgenic is under evaluation by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and is yet to be approved for release. In addition, experimental transgenics in other crops under a multi-institutional project supported by DBT are under different stages of development.

(c) & (d): No such details regarding cultivation have been sought from the states mentioned regarding the mustard hybrid developed by the Delhi University as the transgenic hybrid is still under biosafety and contained field trial by DBT.