

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
GENETIC ENGINEERING TESTS .

3428

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR

Will the Minister of COALCOALENVIROMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

(a) the number of crops and their varieties that have been approved for conducting genetic engineering tests in the country; and

(b) the details of the agencies/organizations/research institutions which have been permitted to carry the experiments and the results of the experiments conducted, so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee the apex body notified under the 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989' of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has accorded approval for conducting genetic engineering tests with GM crops namely; cotton, rice, okra, brinjal, potato, groundnut, tomato, corn, cabbage, cauliflower, mustard and sorghum for generation of biosafety data.

(b) The public and private institutions which have been permitted to conduct biosafety tests include; Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla, National Research Centre for Sorghum, Hyderabad; National Research Centre for Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi; Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore; University of Agriculture, Dharwad; International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics, Hyderabad; M/s Bejo Sheetal Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Jalna; M/s Pioneer Overseas Corporation; Hyderabad; M/s Dow Agro Science, Mumbai; M/s Monsanto India Limited, New Delhi; M/s Bayer BioSciences Pvt., Hyderabad; M/s J. K. Agri Genetics Limited, Hyderabad; M/s Nunhems India Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon; M/s Avesthagen Ltd., Bangalore, M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Mumbai; M/s Sungro Seeds Research Ltd., M/s Metahelix Life Sciences, Bangalore and Delhi University. The results of the biosafety studies conducted in respect of Bt cotton and Bt Brinjal are available in the public domain (<http://www.envfor.nic.in>)