

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 06.12.2010
ANSWERED ON
EFFECT OF MORATORIUM ON Bt. BRINJAL ON RESEARCH

2840

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDEY

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

(a) the reaction of the Ministry to the statement made by Co-Chairman of GEAC that, in view of India putting moratorium on genetically modified brinjal, there is every possibility that it may creep into India through Bangladesh and Philippines; and

(b) to what extent the ban on Bt. Brinjal hamper the progress of research on bhindi, tomato, cabbage and other Bt. vegetables?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Bangladesh and Philippines have not been approved commercial cultivation of Bt brinjal. Therefore the possibility of its entry through these countries is very remote. The Co-Chairman of GEAC may have made the statement in his personal capacity.

(b) The Government has imposed moratorium only on commercial release of Bt brinjal event-EE-I. The moratorium does not hamper research on other GM Crops as it is not applicable to other GM food or food crops.