

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 782**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023

**HERBICIDE-TOLERANT CROPS**

782. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH SOLANKY:  
SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:  
SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is cognizant of harmful ecological and environmental effects of herbicide-tolerant crops in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to address the issue;
- (c) whether the Government is aware on long term effects upon the approval of Genetically Engineered (GE) mustard ("DMH-11 hybrid") in the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps that the Government is planning to take to assess the long-term effects of the issue?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

**(a) and (b):** The Government of India has not approved any herbicide tolerant crop in the country so far.

**(c) and (d):** Genetically Engineered (GE) mustard has been cultivated for more than two decades in Canada and USA, where no adverse effects have been reported. The Government has approved the environmental release of Genetically Modified (GM) Mustard hybrid DMH-11 and its parental lines during 147<sup>th</sup> meeting of Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) on 18 October, 2022 for its seed production and testing as per existing ICAR guidelines, conditions imposed by the GEAC while recommending the environmental release of GM mustard hybrid DMH-11 and its parental lines; and other extant rules/regulations prior to commercial release.

For close monitoring of the effect of GE mustard hybrid DMH 11, a Post Release Monitoring Committee (PRMC) for GM Mustard has been constituted by the MoEF&CC, Govt. of India.

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