

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2655
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH DECEMBER, 2021

BAN ON GM SEEDS

2655: SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND

Will the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has imposed any ban on the use of Genetically Modified (GM) seeds of various crops including pulses, food grains, cotton and other agro products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's stand on banning of GM seeds in the country; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by the Government to impose ban on Multi-National companies selling GM seeds and cultivation of GM Crops to ensure the growth and production of indigenous varieties of food grains, pulses and other agro produce in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Bt. cotton is the only Genetically Modified crop approved in 2002 by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for commercial cultivation in the Country.

(c): In order to ensure the growth and production of indigenous varieties of food grains, pulses and other agro produce in the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research developing high yielding and multi stress tolerant varieties of different crop including cereals, millet, pulses, oilseeds and fruits suited to different agro-climatic condition. In the last seven years, 1656 improved varieties have been developed out of which 798 of cereals, 252 of oilseeds, 250 of pulses, 189 of fiber crops, 104 of forage crops, 54 of sugarcane and 10 of under-utilized crops.

In addition, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare provides assistance/subsidy for seed production and distribution under various existing Schemes/Programmes viz. Sub- Mission on Seeds and Planting Materials, National Food Security Mission, National Food Security Mission - Oilseeds and Oil palm and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.
