

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: 117
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30th JULY, 2024

RELEASE OF TOLERANT VARIETIES OF RICE, COTTON AND MUSTARD

*117. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal or planning to notify and release DRR Dhan 60 – a low phosphorus tolerant rice variety, BG2 RRF – a herbicide tolerant and insect resistant variety of BT cotton, and DMH11 – a high yielding and drought resistant variant of mustard in the country, especially in the State of Madhya Pradesh, at earliest, so as to immensely benefit common farmers of the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2024 REGARDING “RELEASE OF TOLERANT VARIETIES OF RICE, COTTON AND MUSTARD”

(a) to (c): DRR Dhan 60 has been released and notified in 2021 for medium–low soil phosphorous regions and bacterial blight endemic areas of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bihar.

Proposal for environmental release of insect resistant and herbicide tolerant Bollgard II Roundup Ready Flex (BGII RRF) cotton carrying cry1Ac, cry2Ab and cp4 epsps genes is presently with the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) under Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for consideration as per extant rules/ guidelines/ standard operating procedures.

On the environmental release of transgenic mustard hybrid DMH-11 by the MoEF&CC, the matter was under adjudication before the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India since November, 2022. The two judges bench has pronounced the judgment on 23 July, 2024 directing the Registry to place the matter before Hon’ble Chief Justice of India for constituting an appropriate Bench to consider the said aspect afresh.
