

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2560
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH AUGUST, 2025

APPROVAL FOR COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION OF HERBICIDE TOLERANT BT COTTON

2560. COM. SELVARAJ V:
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government is considering a proposal to issue mandatory approval by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) for the commercial cultivation of Herbicide tolerant Bt (HTBt) cotton in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b): A proposal for environmental release of Bollgard II Roundup Ready Flex (BG-II RRF), also referred to as HTBt Cotton, is presently under consideration with Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). As per Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989, notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, GEAC is the competent authority for appraisal of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.
