

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2828  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16/12/2015

REGULATORY POLICY FOR RESEARCH

2828. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री

- (a) whether the country does not have any clear regulatory policy for research and technology in biotechnology, nanotechnology and clinical research; and  
(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(Y. S. Chowdary)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान राज्य मंत्री

(वाई. एस. चौधरी)

(a)&(b) The Department of Biotechnology and Department of Science & Technology, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology; Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Information Technology and Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research, Government of India are all engaged in Research and Development relevant to their mandate in the areas of application of biotechnology and nanotechnology in agriculture and health care. All biotechnology research involving genetic engineering is already regulated under Rules 1989 of Environmental Protection Act, 1986. In case of all other technologies in agriculture, regulations imposed by Seed Act, 1966 and Insecticides Act, 1968 are applicable with a clearcut regulatory policy and the amendments of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. In case of health care products the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has put in place the required regulatory policy for drugs, vaccines etc. under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act. In recent years, nanotechnology applications are examined for their potential to cause toxicity in humans and animals. Several reforms have also been initiated to streamline the regulations from time to time through various amendments to address needs of safety testing of new generation technologies and products.

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