

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4268

ANSWERED ON:21.08.2001

SETTING UP OF A NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has suggested for setting up of a National Biotechnology Commission and appointment of an independent regulator for the fast emerging biotechnology industry in the country;

(b) if so, the main points suggested by the CII in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a), (b) & (c) A White Paper brought out by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on Biotechnology on the fast track: Realizing Regulatory Reform does not suggest the setting up of a National Biotechnology Commission. The White Paper however, has recommended that a Single Window application processing cell headed by a competent officer with full time responsibility be set up. Setting up a dedicated web site, end-product characterization, some changes in the existing proforma and expeditious clearance of the proposals are some of the other recommendations. The White Paper is presently under discussion for further consideration by the government.