

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:612  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002  
BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL .  
N.T. SHANMUGAM

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have negotiated a draft protocol on biosafety under the aegis of Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the stand taken by us in the international negotiations for biosafety protocol?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) & (b) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was negotiated and adopted under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity. India actively participated in these negotiations.

The protocol provides for protection in the field of safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity taking also into account risks to human health and specifically focussing on transboundary movement.

(c) During the negotiations, India alongwith the other developing countries insisted for inclusion of provisions related to precautionary principle, advance informed agreement, capacity building etc.