

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3713  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004  
TASK FORCE ON APPLICATION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY  
Ramadass Prof. M

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient recommendations of the task force on agricultural related applications of Biotechnology;
- (b) the action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the task force; and
- (c) the tikely effect of the implementation of these recommendation on agriculture development in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

- (a) The main features of the report inter-alia, include recommendations providing directions to research and development, application of bio-technotogy in agriculture, animal husbandry and fishery sector, capacity building in biotechnology, conservation and protection of centres of genetic diversity, promotion of organic farming zones, creation of biotechnology parks in various states and streamlining of regulatory/approval mechanism with a view to expedite the process of evaluation and release of products, liability and compensation, establishing National Biotechnology-Regulatory Authority (NBRA) and promoting public awareness on matters relating bio-technology.
- (b) Inter-ministerial consultations are on at present in respect of the recommendations of the Task Force on Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture.
- (c) Implementation of the recommendation of the Task Force will streamline the Regulatory/Approval mechanism with a view to expedite the process of evaluation and release of products and offering wider choice of better quality seeds to farmers for different agro-climatic regions.