

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1823

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007

NATIONAL POLICY FOR AGRI-BIOTECHNOLOGY

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;McLeod Smt. Ingrid;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Inter-Ministerial consultations on the recommendations on Swaminathan Committee on National Policy for Agri-Biotechnology has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations accepted and the action so far taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Commission has submitted its recommendation on the new National Agriculture Policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Inter-Ministerial consultations on the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan on Applications of Agricultural Biotechnology have been completed. The Task Force has made various long and short term recommendations. One of the main recommendations relates to establishment of national Biotechnology Regulatory Authority (NBRA) for streamlining and improving regulatory procedures in development and release of Genetically Modified crops, which is being handled by the Government in Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology.

(c) to (e): The Commission on Farmers under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended a revised draft National Policy for Farmers. Government has taken all possible steps for expeditious examination of the recommendations.