

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2511  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008  
IMPACT OF GM CROPS ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
Khandelwal Shri Hemant

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

- (a) whether genetic crops have an impact on climate change;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether any study/research has been undertaken to assess the impact of genetically modified (GM) foods on climate change;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard and the action taken by the Government to tackle the problem; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES(KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. There is no direct impact of GM crops on climate change. However, some GM crops require less tillage, which emit less CO<sub>2</sub>, hence they may have positive impact to some extent on climate change.
- (c) No study/research has been undertaken to assess the impact of GM foods on climate change.
- (d) & (e) Since no GM food has been commercialized in the country so far, the question of any problem with GM food does not arise.