

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1276
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009
GENETICALLY MODIFIED VEGETABLES
Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Genetically Modified (GM) vegetables are not produced in sufficient quantities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the farmers to produce more quantities of GM vegetables;
- (d) the targets fixed for production of the same for the next three years; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a) & (b): The production of Genetically Modified (GM) vegetables has not yet been commercialized in the country. The Research and Development work is in progress for developing Genetically Modified vegetables.
- (c): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Bio-technology has approved several projects for developing Genetically Modified varieties in tomato, brinjal and cauliflower. The transgenic lines are in various stages of development at different institutes and will be released for cultivation after clearance by Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) and Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC).
- (d) & (e): The target for next three years has been fixed primarily to release and popularize the GM varieties in some of the major vegetable crops.