

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2104

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010

BT. BRINJAL

Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal, put forward by green activists, to introduce a liability clause to make responsible the crop developer for any potential leakage and contamination during moratorium;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to constitute an independent regulatory body to test and prove safety of the Bt. Brinjal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said body is likely to be constituted and submits its report?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in its meeting held on 9.2.2010 has decided that the seed stock of Bt brinjal available with the developers should be deposited with the National Bureau of Plant Genetics Resources to prevent any potential leakage and contamination during moratorium. There is no proposal to invoke a liability clause as provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made therein provide for punitive action in case of non-compliance or violation of statutory provisions.
- (c) & (d) The Government has decided that the GEAC in consultation with eminent scientists would draw up fresh protocols for specific tests to establish the safety of Bt. Brinjal.
- (e) Does not arise.