GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2254 ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010 BIO-DIVERSITY ACT Shanayas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the Government intends to take strict regulatory measures to ensure that the mandatory legal aspects included in the Bio-Diversity Act are adhered upon in all international collaborative research projects in genetic engineering in agriculture produce; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) In accordance with Section 5 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002,in respect of collaborative research projects, the exchange of biological resources or information relating thereto between institutions, including Government sponsored institutions in India, and such institutions in other countries, do not require prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority, provided these projects conform to the guidelines issued by the Central Government. Accordingly, the Central Government has already issued guidelines vide notification dated 8.11.2006, which are required to be adhered to in case of collaborative research projects.