

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5141
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
CULTIVATION OF GM CROPS
Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is danger of agricultural land turning barren on account of cultivation of Genetically Modified (GM) crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to ban the cultivation of such crops;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) There is no such reported danger nor any scientific evidence.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) GM crops have the advantage of various beneficial traits such as insect pest resistance, herbicide tolerance, virus resistance, tolerance to drought, cold and salinity conditions, nutritional enhancement, improved nitrogen use efficiency etc. All GM crops are required to undergo prescribed tests to establish that they are safe for human health and environment.