

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5089
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
MONOPOLY FOR PRODUCING GM SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given monopoly to the Seed Giant Monsanto for producing GM seeds for varieties of crops in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise;
- (c) whether there are reports of reaction against the company due to over charging of royalty and trait fees;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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) : No, Madam. Does not arise.

(c) to (e): The Government of Andhra Pradesh filed a complaint before the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Commission in January, 2006 that M/s MAHYCO Monsanto Biotech India Ltd. (MMBL), was charging higher trait value of Bt. Cotton seeds. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission vide its Interim Order date 11th May, 2006 had directed the company not to charge trait value of Rs. 900 per packet during the pendency of the case and to fix a reasonable trait value in line with what the parent company charges in China. Subsequently, based on the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 05th July, 2006 and directions dated 29th May, 2006 issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Company was directed to sell Bt. Cotton Seeds (Bollgard-1) at Rs. 750 per packet including the trait value. The Government of Gujarat and Maharashtra also promulgated ordinances to regulate the supply, distribution, sale and fixation of sale prices of cotton seeds. Currently Bollgard -1 and II seeds are being sold at Rs. 750 to Rs. 925 per packet in the country.