

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5452

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

BT. BRINJAL

Rajendran Shri C.;Singh Chaudhary Lal

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a final decision on commercial cultivation/consumption of Bt. Brinjal in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the body or agency which have been entrusted to evaluate the safety of Bt. Brinjal; and
- (d) the time by which a final decision will be taken by the Government in this regard?;

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The Government has imposed a moratorium on commercialization of Bt brinjal event EE-I till such time independent scientific studies establish, to the satisfaction of both the public and professionals, the safety of the product from the point of view of its long-term impact on human health and environment, including the rich genetic wealth existing in brinjal in our country.
- c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee, established under MoEF is the apex body notified under the 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms (HMOs) / Genetically Engineered Organisms (GMOs) or Cells, 1989 of the 'Environment (Protection) Act', 1986, in consultation with eminent scientists would draw up fresh protocols for specific tests to evaluate the safety of Bt. Brinjal.
- d) The moratorium on commercial release of Bt brinjal event-EE-I will last till such time independent scientific studies establish that Bt brinjal is safe for the human health and environment.