

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6995
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2010
LABELLING OF GM FOODS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has drafted a set of guidelines for Genetically Modified (GM) foods in consultation with a Canadian company funded by the private corporations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for choosing this company;
- (c) whether the Government proposes mandatory labelling of GM foods in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any assessment has been made regarding the impact of GM food/crops on the efficacy of Indian medicinal system; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

(a) to (g) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has formulated the " Guidelines for the safety assessment of foods derived from genetically engineered plants" taking into consideration the international Guideline for the conduct of Food Safety assessment of Foods Derived from Recombinant-DNA Plants. The document was finalized after receiving inputs from different agencies including AgBIOS, Canada. Till date the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has not proposed labeling of GM Foods in this country. It has not conducted any assessment regarding the impact of GM food/crops on the efficacy of Indian medicinal system.