

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2312
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
BIO TECHNOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up Bio-technology Regulatory Authority of India(BRAI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its proposed functions; and
- (c) the time by which the said Authority is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP, MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (KAIPL SIBAL)

(a) & (b): No Madam. However, the Government of India has prepared a draft Bill to establish Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India. According to the Bill, the Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) will be an autonomous and statutory agency to regulate the research, transport, import, manufacture and use of organisms and products of modern biotechnology. The Authority shall consist of a Chairperson, two whole-time Members and two part-time members, each with expertise in life sciences and biotechnology applications in agriculture, health care, environment and general biology. The Bill provides for setting up of Inter-ministerial Governing Board to oversee the performance of the Authority; National Biotechnology Advisory Council of stakeholders to provide feedback on use of organisms and products of biotechnology in society and elaborate risk assessment process involving scientific panels of experts and representatives of concerned ministries including a special public review system for evaluation of applications before final approvals.

(c): No time frame can be given at this stage.