

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4488

ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011

GM FREE FOOD CROPS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian food products are popular world wide as they are not genetically modified;
- (b) if so, whether the demands of Indian food items are likely to plunge due to introduction of genetically modified seeds for production of foodgrains;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (d): As reflected in the growth trends of exports, the Indian Food products are getting popular in the world markets. The export of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) monitored products during 2010-11 has been at Rs.40243 crore.

No GM Food Crops have been released for commercial cultivation in India so far. Bt. Brinjal has been approved for commercial cultivation by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), who is the nodal agency responsible for approving commercial cultivation of GM crops under the provision of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules, 1989 but the decision has now been placed under moratorium by order dated 09.02.2010.