

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2536
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
AWARENESS OF GM FOODS
Balram Shri P.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the level of awareness about Genetically Modified foods among the people in the country is very low;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to create awareness in this regard among the people particularly in the rural areas of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The level of awareness about GM foods among the people in the country is very low. The reason for this is possibly that GM is a totally new invention and has not been widely experimented.

(c) : Government has made it mandatory to mention on every package, containing the Genetically Modified Food, at the top of its principal display panel, the words "GM" vide GSR 427(E) dated 5th June, 2012. The said rule shall be applicable w.e.f. 1st January, 2013. The officers of the Department has participated in many seminars and conferences arranged by the Industries Associations and State Governments to create awareness among the industries, enforcement officers and common people.