

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:805
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
STUDY ON BT. COTTON SEEDS OIL
Das Shri Khagen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scientific study has been carried out by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/any other agency on Bt. Cotton Seeds Oil;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome of the study; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A scientific study was carried out by Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur of Indian Council of Agricultural Research to examine the presence of Bt (Cry1Ac) gene, and Bt (Cry1Ac) protein in oil extracted from Bt cotton seeds. Immunological studies with Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for Cry1Ac detection and quantification showed that the Cry1Ac protein was not detectable in refined oil extracted from Bt cotton seeds. Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) was performed with cry1Ac gene specific primers using DNA isolated from oil extracted from Bt cotton seeds. The study clearly showed that refined oil which is used for consumption also did not contain any detectable cry1Ac gene.

(c) Does not arise at this stage.