GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6491 ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013 GM CROPS Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the area under cultivation of Genetically Modified (GM) crops in the country, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (b) whether usage of genetically modified seeds and crops poses any danger to human life, livestock and environment; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Bt Cotton is the only Genetically Modified (GM) crop approved for commercial cultivation in the country. It is cultivated in nine major cotton growing States of the country. The State-wise and year-wise area under Bt Cotton are given in Annexure-I.
- (b) No, Madam.
- (c) There are no scientific evidences to indicate that use of genetically modified seeds and crops pose any kind of threat to the life of human being, livestock and environment. The approval for cultivation of GM crops is accorded only after satisfactory results are obtained through the standard protocols of biosafety experiments.