

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1182
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
USE OF GM SEEDS
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to provide financial assistance for promoting the use of Genetically Modified (GM) seeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the multi-national companies are testing the GM seeds without taking the State Governments into confidence and without the permission of the Union Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government of India does not provide any financial assistance in the form of subsidy for promoting the use of Genetically Modified (GM) seeds.

(c) to (e): The Multinational companies/research organizations involved in any kind of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and products thereof including GM Seeds are required to seek prior approval of the Committees constituted under the 'Rules for the manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells' notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests through their Notification No. 621 in official Gazette of Govt. of India on December 5, 1989 under the provisions of the 'Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 before undertaking any such activity.

Further, recognizing the important role of State Governments in monitoring of GM crops, the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) in its 111th meeting held on 06.07.2011 decided that the No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the State Government will be essential in the first instance before issuance of the approval letter for conducting trials so as to avoid disruption of ongoing research trials.