

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2988  
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014  
PRODUCTION OF GM CROP  
Ananth Kumar Shri

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to lift the moratorium on production and sale of Bt. Brinjal a Genetically Modified (GM) crop in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has held any consultation or proposes to consult the stakeholders and State Governments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Dr. M.VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a to e) The Government imposed a moratorium on 09.02.2010 on commercialization of Bt. Brinjal event EE-I a genetically modified crop in the country till such time independent scientific studies establish that Bt. Brinjal is safe for the environment and human health. As a follow up to the moratorium, a meeting of the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) to consult with experts and scientists on the safety of Bt. Brinjal was held on April.27, 2011. While several of the experts recommended limited release of Bt. Brinjal seeds to evaluate its performance under strict supervision, some experts suggested additional biosafety studies with respect to long term impacts on biodiversity and human health before limited release is permitted. In the absence of consensus a final view is yet to emerge.