

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION, AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2493
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH MARCH, 2021

IMPORT OF PROHIBITED GM SEEDS

2493: SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL

Will the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any monitoring system has been set up to ban the import of prohibited genetically modified seeds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether hundreds of tonnes of prohibited genetically modified seeds are being imported for farming; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Monitoring system to ban of prohibited genetically modified seeds is available in the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986. The Seed Inspector notified under Section, 13 of the Seeds Act, 1966 and under Clause 12 of the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 are empowered under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to draw the seed samples of GM seeds and to test in the notified seed testing laboratories in case of sale of prohibited GM seeds. DNA fingerprinting and Transgenic Crop Monitoring Lab, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, Export Inspection Agency, Kochi and Punjab Biotechnology Incubator, Mohali notified as a National referral Laboratory for detecting GM seeds and ICAR - Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur declared as referral laboratory for detecting Bt. Cotton.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare issued advisory to State Governments to curb the illegal movement of prohibited GM seeds and take stringent action against the person who is producing/selling the prohibited GM seeds as per the extant provisions of the seed legislations.

(c) & (d): No Sir.
