

5. Critically Analyse the various issues involved in the Introduction of Genetically Modified Mustard in the country.

Genetical Engineered appraisal committee approved for environmental release & field trials of Genetically Modified - Mustard Dhara-II [DMH1]. Earlier, it was similarly approved in 2017, but turned down by M/O EFCC.

concerns raised on Genetically Modified Mustard.

1. BioSafety data - effect on human health, soil health, environment degradation, extinction of species [eg: Honeybee]
2. 'precautionary principle' - no cross scientific consensus on agriculture and inadequate information on its effect on human health.

Actual ground reality.

1. precautionary principle cannot be sole factor in decision making - affecting Scientific progress

2. World Level - >10% Genetically Modified crops are being cultivated.

25 countries globally including India cultivating Genetically Modified crops for more than 2 decades.
Eg: Bt. cotton in India - fared well - without much harm, than anticipated.

Actually most of Edible oil imported are of Genetic variety. Hence we are already consuming such crops without any harm.

National Academy on Agriculture Sciences (NAAS) - says most of the apprehension are due to distorted Scientific data appearing in eg: Newspaper - negative effects of Genetically Modified Mustard.

These crops are tested in Intensive testing facility. There may be little risks, but that can't be used solely to ban the whole crop cultivation way forward.

Edible oil imports is 15 MMt, costing ₹11bn annually in India. If allowed, to cultivate, Edible huge forex reserves can be saved. on other hand, such transgenic technology is need to have better seeds to mitigate climate changes