

Vidya Bhawan Balika Vidyapeeth Lakhisarai

Arun Kumar Gupta

Sub. Biology

Class 12th

Date:- 06.01.21

Ethical Issues:

The Indian Government has set up organizations such as **GEAC (Genetic Engineering Approval Committee)**, which will make decisions regarding the validity of GM research and the safety of introducing GM-organisms for public services.

Biopatent:

A patent is the right granted by a government to an inventor to prevent others from making commercial use of his invention. Now, patents are granted for biological entities and for products derived from biological resources.

Biopiracy:

It is the term used to refer to the use of bio-resources by multinational companies and other organizations without proper authorization from the countries and people concerned without compensatory payment.

In 1997, an American company got patent rights on Basmati rice through the US Patent and Trademark Office. This allowed the company to sell a 'new variety of Basmati, in the US and abroad. This 'new' variety of Basmati had actually been derived from Indian farmer's varieties. Indian Basmati was crossed with semi-dwarf varieties and claimed as an invention or a novelty.

Several attempts have also been made to patent uses, products and processes based on Indian traditional herbal medicines, e.g., turmeric and neem.