

## Pakistani scientists urge government to cut bureaucracy, allow for 'biotech crops'

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.**

A panel comprising Pakistani scientists on [June 20] urged the government to modernise agriculture for improving food security and enable alleviation of abject poverty in the country. According to the experts, absence of political will and negligence of bureaucracy to approve and implement the relevant laws was among the main reasons due to which Pakistan had been unable to explore the advantages of "biotech crops" like many developed countries.

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Dr [M Iqbal] Choudhary, who is also the Director Pakistan Biotechnology Information Centre, informed the audience that Pakistan was among the countries with the lowest yield per hectare.

"We have low yield due to traditional methods of cultivation and harvesting and its negative impact on crops," he said. "Pakistan may face a severe famine since irrigation lands are being reduced due to the shortage of water."

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Choudhry said the use of biotechnology in agriculture sector could improve food security in the country since technology had the potential to change how agriculture was practiced.

**Read full, original post:** ['Use of biotechnology in agriculture can help alleviate food insecurity'](#)