

Indian Supreme Court seeks public input on safety, benefit of GM mustard

A locally developed variety of genetically modified (GM) mustard seed is not swadeshi enough for the Swadeshi Jagran Manch... saying the genetic material was developed by Bayer and the government is being misguided about its safety and benefits.

Deepak Pental, the scientist who led the effort to develop the GM mustard seed, is confident that it will be approved, although...the Supreme Court has asked the Centre to seek public opinion before taking any step to launch it.

Ashwani Mahajan, co-convener of the Swadeshi Jagran Manch, is staunchly opposing it.

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He said his organisation has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi cautioning him against undue haste in granting permission to GM mustard.

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Pental is pinning his hopes on Modi. "He wants India to be economically prosperous. Without science and technology, it can't happen," he said.

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Mahajan said yields can rise without GM seeds. "This kharif season we are looking at a record pulses and oilseed production. Is it because of GM varieties? No. It is because our farmers toiled hard, the weather was conducive and the government ensured a good minimum support price," said Mahajan...

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Swadeshi test for GM Mustard](#)