

F. No. C -12013/3/2020-CS-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
CS-III (Biosafety) Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road, Ali Ganj
New Delhi-110 003
Date:30th March, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Exemption of the Genome Edited plants falling under the categories of SDN1 and SDN2 from the provisions of the Rules, 1989.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms of Cells, Rules 1989 hereinafter referred as Rule vide No. GSR 1037 (E) dated 5th December 1989, -

2. Rule 20 of the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules 1989 empowers the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to exempt an occupier handling a particular microorganism/genetically engineered organism from the application of the provisions of Rule 7 and 11 (both inclusive).

3. Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has recommended that the SDN1 and SDN2 Genome Edited Products free from exogenous introduced DNA be exempted from biosafety assessment in pursuance of Rule 20 of the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules 1989. Wherein, the process of genome edited plants to be carried out under containment, until free from exogenous introduced DNA, will be regulated by Institutional Biosafety Committee following guidelines issued by Central government under information to Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation.

4. Therefore, the Central government hereby exempts the Genome Edited plants falling the categories of SDN1 and SDN2, which are free of exogenous introduced DNA, from the provisions of Rules 7 to 11 (both inclusive) of the above said rules.

5. For such Genome edited plants to be released as new variety, further development and evaluation will be as per other applicable Laws/Acts/Rules.

6. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


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To

1. Secretary, Deptt. of Biotechnology
2. Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
3. Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture Research & Education
4. Chief Secretary (All States/UTs)

Copy to:

1. PPS to Cabinet Secretary
2. PPS to Secretary, MoEFCC