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The approval of GM mustard in India is a watershed moment demonstrating country's confidence in using modern technology in agriculture. Discuss.

The Genetic Engineering and Approval Committee cleared the proposal for commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard. This will provide a great impetus to the agricultural technology adoption.

India oil production

India is the 4th largest oil producer yet we import 14-15 million tonnes of oil costing

1.2 Lakh crores. To reverse this trend the Phara mustard Hybrid-11 can be of great

use.

watershed moment

The gene technique uses Barnase Barstar and Bar gene technique. The Barnase and Barstar genes help making male sterility robust as it is crucial for mustard pollination.

The Ban gene supports manufacturing pulse  
percent lines. It can potentially increase  
the yield of mustards from current  
1500 kg/ha to globally 2000 kg/ha.

### Benefits

① Disease causing traits can be identified  
in other plants such as cubite scout diseases  
in plants.

② The patent remains with the government  
as the patent of the Bayer had expired.

③ There are no evidences of transferring  
genes to humans and animals as we are  
already consuming GM canola oil

Concerns - The effect on pollinators such as honey  
bee needs to be clear and the possibilities  
of infiltrating into the wild needs research.

Never the less the Dhara mustard Hybrid  
is a great leap forward in the agri technology  
arena and can make country to adapt to  
climate challenges on agriculture.