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2. In the context of Gm Mustard DMH-11, Scientific consensus should determine availability of products to farmers & consumers. Analyse.
Genetic Engineering Appraisal committee recently approved for Hybrid Mustard DMH-11. Allowed for Environmental release, transgenic DMH-11, for field studies and determine its effects.

Need for Hybrid Mustard.

1. Difficulty in hybridisation - due to self pollinating nature of plants. Hybrid mustard incorporating gene from soil bacterium, are ~~are~~ self pollinating, amenable to cross with other varieties, and develop different hybrid varieties. More kg oil seeds means more oil

2. Edible Raising oil Importability. - currently only 8.5-9.5mm are produced domestically and 14.5-15mm tonnes are imported. Though we have varieties of edible oil seed, but due to reduced yield.

Hurdles before the Hybrid Mustard

1. This is the 2nd approval from Genetic engineering appraisal committee - 1st one in 2017, but overruled by M/o Environment.

2. Similarly in 2009, BT brinjal got approval, but government again overruled.

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3. Reason behind overruling by government - protest by Activists critical of Genetic engineering technology, and some farmers too - against such technology.

4. Agriculture being State list - allow for political scrutiny by government, before commercial release, resulted in throttling technological progress.

Scientific rather than political approval - Need of hour.

1. Hybrid mustards performance is promising, but still due to political delay, the technology was outdated
eg: today we have CRISPR technology for Genetic modification

2. DMH-11 alone is not panacea for edible oil crisis.

Need for Technological platform - seed producing companies must be allowed - investment and technology for seed production.

3. uncertainty over Regulatory policies also adds to curtail seed production.

Way forward

Government must also approve & restore the system such that scientific evidence rather than political hurdles decide the availability of genetic products to the farmers & consumers.