Lead Article

Growth in Biotechnology Products and Global Trade Regime
Emerging Trade Policy Concerns for Developing Countries

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Abstract
The issue of biotechnology has become a contentious issue. Its proliferation has justified that in the wake of a severe impending food crisis, world hunger will be mitigated to a large extent through GMOs, especially by producing a wide variety of agricultural products. As GMOs are produced through adequate involvement of technology and traditional knowledge, patenting such technological process and knowledge becomes essential for everyone to benefit from an economic or trading activity that is currently witnessing high growth. Developing countries argue, the TRIPS regime which is operating today is not equipped to address this problem. They insist that amendment to TRIPS merits immediate attention of the WTO to check the problem of bio-piracy and misappropriation of traditional knowledge taking place in producing such products. This paper analyzes the issue in detail.

NEWS
National/International

Biotech Sector Revenues Cross Rs 10,000 cr
(The Hindu Business Line, 17 July 2008)

Biofuel Rethink Necessary
(www.scientistlilne.com/lab/~/biotechnology)

Biotech Regulator Needs Engineering
(The Economic Times, 3 July 2008)

Developed Nations Thwart TRIPs Talks
(The Economic Times, 27 March 2008)

India Wants WTO to Talk Beyond Farm and NAMA
(The Economic Times, 27 June 2008)

India asks Lamy for Clarity on IPR, Subsidy Provisions
(Business Standard, 26 June 2008)

New Tech Under Way to Fight Cotton Bollworms
(The Financial Express, 24 June 2008)
Total Review of Experience with Bt Cotton Sought  
(The Financial Express, 24 June 2008)

India Not Ready for a ‘TRIP’ on Bio-Piracy Issues  
(The Economic Times, 19 June 2008)

Lamy Backs India’s Stand on Bio-Piracy  
(The Economic Times, 12 June 2008)

India’s Suggestion on Bio-Piracy Ignored  
(Business Standard, 10 June 2008)

India Seeks TRIPs to Bio-Piracy  
(The Economic Times, 9 June 2008)

India Upset over New WTO Proposals  
(The Economic Times, 21 May 2008)

Biotech Sector Posts 30 per cent Growth in 2007-08  
(The Hindu Business Line, 25 April 2008)

Biotech May See Boom Time; Turning into a Rs 11,000 cr Segment  
(The Hindu Business Line, 25 April 2008)

Genetically Modified Crops: Potential Benefits to Australian Agriculture  
(Agri Export Advantage, 31 March 2008)

‘Biotechnology Can be more Transformative than Infotech’  
(The Hindu Business Line, 8 February 2008)

“BT will Overtake IT in Market Capitalization”  
(The Hindu Business Line, 14 January 2008)

Govt. Will Set Up Biotech Regulator  
(The Hindu Business Line, 14 November 2007)

Bt Seed Market to Top Rs 1,000 Cr  
(The Hindu Business Line, 22 August 2007)

GEAC Clears Large-Scale Trial of Bt Brinjal  
(The Hindu Business Line, 17 August 2007)

“India, A Hothouse for Biotech R&D”  
(The Hindu Business Line, 11 June 2007)

Bioinformatics Pie Worth $60 bn  
(The Hindu Business Line, 9 June 2007)

Biotech Industry Lauds Budget Measures on Drug Trials, R&D  
(The Hindu Business Line, 3 March 2007)

Biotech Seeks STPI-Like Prop to Boost Growth  
(The Hindu Business Line, 8 June 2007)
Books/Articles Notes

Books

Genes, Trade and Regulation: The Seeds of Conflict in Food Biotechnology

Biotech Patents: Equivalency and Exclusions under European and US Patent Law

Patents: Myths & Reality


Q and A on BT-Cotton India, by T.M. Manjunath, (www.hindu.com/holnus)

Agriculture and Intellectual Property Rights: Economic, Institutional and Implementation Issues in Biotechnology,

Biotechnology Update, Internal Coordination Group for Biotechnology (ICGB), OECD, No. 19, 30 April 2008


Articles

GMOs in the WTO: A Critique of the Panel’s Legal Reasoning in EC – Biotech

GMOs, Food Safety and the Environment: What Role for Trade Policy and the WTO?
by Kym Anderson and Chantal Pohl Nielsen (siteresources.worldbank.org/INTTRADERESEARCH/Resources)

A Primer on Intellectual Property Rights and Agricultural Biotechnology


