

"We anticipate govt decision soon on GM issue"

16 October 2014 | News | By Rahul Koul Koul

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"I don't regard it as a change in government's stance viz a viz thorough testing of genetically modified crops," stated Mr Ram Kaundinya, chairman of ABLE-AG which represents top agriculture biotechnology companies in his comments to the *BioSpectrum* over the phone.

Mr Kaundinya points towards contradictory policies viz a viz GM crops. He elaborated, "What is important is the emphasis on research and development and while funding to public research institutes continues, the regulations are still not clear. Trials by public institutes have come down in the past few years which is contrary to what previous UPA regime had promised. Hope that changes."

"Yet we feel that this mention of GM hybrids by present the government in its 'Make in India' campaign is a strong statement. It is good that government is changing its approach. We are anticipating a favorable decision and are optimistic about the future," said Mr Kaundinya.