

## Demonstration of Portable FTIR Technology

26<sup>th</sup> June 2018

JNCH, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

**CropLife India & Chief Commissioners of Customs, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai organised a demonstration of portable FTIR technology on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 in Jawaharlal Nehru Customs House, Sheva, Mumbai.** The program was presided over by Mr Vivek Johri, Chief Commissioner of Customs & Mr Vijay Chauhan, Commissioner of Customs. Representatives from techno-legal experts from Nhava Sheva Imports, Chemical Examiner, Customs Quality Control, Appraisers, Labs, Customs, industry representatives participated in the program. In total more than 25 participants attended the program.

Following the address from the Chief Commissioner, CropLife India presented the current scenario of proliferation of illegal products and the global best practices on use of FTIR technologies to address the growing concern on spurious/illegal products. CropLife India & Thermo Fisher experts also demonstrated the Portable FTIR instrument by randomly screening different Products. A few mixed chemical products were screened on the spot and the FTIR instrument was promptly able to detect different chemical from those products. They had few questions about FTIR and screening of importing molecules. Various queries by Customs Experts were satisfactorily responded by CropLife India Team & also shared case studies handled by the Industry in past few years.

The Commissioner & his team expressed their interest in this FTIR Technology & shared that they are looking for such kind of a machine to purchase for their labs. They directed Thermo Fisher to submit their proposal in their ongoing tender application and also advised CropLife India to participate in Tech Renovation Forum (Next Month) which is still in process of fixing the dates & Venue but will get notified by them. Many customs officials from different regions & area across the Country would participate.

The program concluded that **FTIR Spectroscopy is an effective screening tool for Identification of authentic, counterfeit & Illegal Pesticides.**

The proposal for next course of action: The Industry can seek an opportunity to collaborate with the Customs for a pilot project aimed to detect and stop illegal pesticides using Portable FTIR technology. The Pilot report will provide the intelligence to the Central and State Insecticides Inspectors to conduct a systematic check on products sold in the markets as well as products that are being imported.

## Glimpses of the Demonstration on Portable FTIR technology

