

Media Coverage Report

[Press Release](#)

Legalize recycling of properly rinsed and inspected empty pesticide containers – CropLife India Paper seeks a robust policy framework

Spearheads discussion on roadmap for sustainable management of empty pesticide containers in India

May 2022








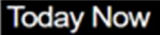





Coverage Grid

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
 PRESS TRUST OF INDIA	Press Trust of India	3,261,132	38,849	News Publishing
 South Asia's Leading Multimedia News Agency	ANI News	19,101,002	6,158	News Publishing
	Business Standard	63,980,595	2,074	Business & Corporate
	Google News	95,303,114,582	1	Media & Information
	Krishi Jagran	22993	24114	Media & Information
	Krishak Jagat	607271	588433	Media & Information
	India Infoline	15,016,806	8,501	Financial
	Zee 5	69,881,711	1,122	News Publishing
	Devdiscourse (PTI)	8,851,689	11,860	Development News
	The Asian Chronicle	69,867	966,105	News & Information
	Lokmat Times	12,143,880	7,219	News Publishing
	Punjab News Express	745,416	100,625	News & Entertainment

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
	HT Syndication	372,708	350,032	Media & Information
	WebIndia123	5,901,116	38,546	News Publishing
	The Covai Post	232,943	82,794	South Indian News
	Daily Hunt	28,107,986	2,714	News & Information
	British News Network	46,589	1,491,595	Business Services
	General	15,530	1,319,160	Business
	Latestly	16,616,313	10,442	Media & Information
	France Network Times	46,589	1,430	News & Opinion
	The Prevalent India	144,428	618,295	Media & Information
	Bizz Stories	5,916	368,280	News
	Gadget2.in	310,590	383,366	News Publishing
	England News Portal	232,943	1,039,673	News & Information
	Vishva Times	107,163	860,570	News & Information


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	News Drum	326,126	223,144	News
	Florida Breaking News	31,059	1,593,145	Business News
	India Online News	31,059	3,744,533	News & Information
	News Control Room	1,319,976	84,910	News & Information
	Small Business Cafe	136,647	131,330	Business & Startups
	The Good	15,530	2,325,526	Business
	The Indian News Hub	264,002	2,277,692	News Publishing
	British Columbia Times	55,913	1,243,814	Business & Corporate
	Rashtra News	201,884	999,483	News
	Report Story	9,324	2,317,441	Business Services
	Anand Market	714,357	174,773	News
	Delhi Live News	201,884	389,872	Business
	London Channel News	69,867	2,110,705	Business & Corporate

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
 <small>GOING ANYWHERE STARTS HERE!</small>	Planet Report	10,017	46,45,609	News Publishing
 <small>Be earth friendly.</small>	Earthnews 4 u	4,662	3,607,529	News Publishing
MangaloreMirror.com	Mangalore Mirror	326,120	278,126	News Publishing
	Media Bulletins	403,767	340,251	News
Barhi Live	Barhi Live	170,825	433,961	News & Information
 <small>A UNIT OF S DAVTA NEWS</small>	Daily 24x7 News	388,238	189,252	Media & Information
 <small>Legacy of 100 Years</small>	Daily Prabhat	12,411	3,499,924	News
	e2newz	9,324	2,009,914	News & Opinion
 <small>NEWS.COM</small>	News Online News	357,179	228,966	News & Trends
 <small>Always Fresh!</small>	Punjab Newsline	46,589	1,560,249	News & Information
 <small>India Online Mart</small>	India Online Mart	4,662	5,888,196	Business & Corporate
 <small>NEWS</small>	Sangbad Ekalavya	96,296	1,086,358	Business & Corporate
	The Business Daily	12,411	2,252,408	Business











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	Bharatha News	201,884	516,417	Business Services
	News Next	6,206	4,421,662	Business & Corporate
	Trending News	82,310	284,153	News & Trends
	Newsr	1,118,093	235,275	Business News
	4State News	1,024,947	83,270	Business & Corporate
	One News Page	1,708,214	71,953	News Publishing
	Richmond Evening News	217,413	1,066,075	Business & Startups
	Today Now	46,589	973,123	News
	Biz News Connect	31,059	2,210,224	News Publishing
	Daily Flash News	7,749	N/A	Media & Information
	Rajasthan Horizon	201,884	11,877	News & Information
	The News Watch	13,986	3,518,801	News & Opinion
	The Reality Hunt Live	232,943	1,602,905	Business & Corporate




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	The Image Connect	4,662	4,601,186	News Publishing
	Online News of India	605,651	152,46	Media & Information
	South China Herald	45,045	2,340,456	News & Trends
	Good Report	10,017	2,622,804	News Publishing
	NewsZNew	636,710	150,776	News & Information
	Go Earth	28,571	2,984,814	Media & Information
	Madhya Pradesh Chronicle	46,589	N/A	Business & Corporate
	News Edge 360	31,059	2,360,185	News & Information
	Sports Halchal	264,002	316,902	News & Opinion
	Bihar24x7	46,589	n.a	Business & Corporate
	Haryana Today	31,059	1,893,946	Business & Corporate
	News Chronicle	7,151	8,672,671	News Publishing
	Rashtra Baan	388,238	207,976	Media & Information

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
 Sangri Today	Sangri Today Spotlight	729,887	N/A	News & Information
 Chhattisgarh Today	Chhattisgarh Today	46,589	N.A.	Business & Corporate
 Hamara Samachar	Hamara Samachar	232,943	419,937	News & Opinion
 TIMES MEDIA Neighbourhood Weekly Newspaper	Local News Paper	15,530	2,376,057	News & Information
 TEN NEWS.in National News Portal	Ten News	419,297	29,622	News & Information
 The Kolkata Mail	The Kolkata Mail	124,236	1,491,600	News & Information
 badimarket News coverage from all sources	Badi Market	59,000	6,118,259	Media & Information
 News Time Now	News Time Now	46,589	820,727	News & Information
 Odisha Post	Odisha Post	201,884	451,311	Media & Information
 THE CITY NEWS connect #OurCityOurDuty	The City News Connect	15,530	2,297,907	Business & Corporate
 NASHEMAN.IN	Nasheman	79,191	1,634,035	News & Opinion
 NATIONNEWS	Nation News	155,295	488,880	News & Information
 THE REPORTING TODAY	The Reporting Today	15,530	2,461,968	Media & Information

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 Notable Today	Notable Today	12,411	1,936,166	News & Opinion
 DAILY 24x7 BOLLYWOOD NEWS A UNIT OF 5 STARVA NEWS	Daily 24x7 Bollywood News	512,474	196,125	News & Entertainment
 NEWS BLARE	News Blare	122,693	672,286	News & Information
 northeasttimes	North East Times	186,354	866,758	Business News
 Vanakkam TAMIL NADU	Vanakkam Tamil Nadu	186,354	779,893	News & Opinion
 BL Business Lend	Business Lend	62,118	893,304	News & Opinion
 Online Media Cafe	Online Media Cafe	102,501	3,548,888	Business News
 STARTUP CITY	Startup City	264,002	213,985	Business & Startups
 The CEO Magazine	The CEO Magazine	1,708,214	52,576	Business & Startups
 Investment GURU India.com	Investment Guru	947,300	989,356	Business & Finance
 తెలంగాణ జర్నల్ TELANGANA JOURNAL	Telangana Journal	31,059	2,115,792	News & Information
 Ek Aaina Bharat	Ek Aaina Bharat	170,825	478,075	News & Information
 IBG News	IBG News	636,710	102,598	Business

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
	Punjab Live	201,884	418,361	Business & Corporate
	South India News	217,413	973,107	Business & Corporate
	Indore Dil se	31,059	2,420,728	News & Information
	MTI News	60,575	1,242,206	News & Information
	Face 2 News	62,118	2,517,390	News & Information
	Nation Replibq	88,515	N/A	News & Information
	Times of Nation	6,206	5,872,604	Media & Information
	Bolly Orbit	170,825	N/A	Lifestyle
	Odisha Ray	72,986	1,794,649	News Publishing
	Startagist	104,045	710,880	Business & Finance
	5 Dariya News	1,071,504	77,237	News & Information
	AGR News	201,884	391,885	Business & Corporate
	Enterprise World News	127,355	2,088,445	Business & Startups

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 मरुधरा भारती	Marudhara Bharti	152,177	N/A	Media & Information
 IEE INTERNATIONAL BRAND EQUITY	International Brand Equity	15,530	1,917,633	Market & Brands
 SP Times	SP Times	186,354	505,342	Business & Startups
 timestech	Times Tech	714,357	190,623	Technology
KarnatakaLive	Karnataka Live	57,456	1,364,035	Business & Economy
 IBTN9	IBTN9	46,589	1,009,061	News & Opinion
 THE HANS INDIA	The Hans India	14,721,746	2,852,070	News & Information
 Techphlie	Techphlie	77,648	1,000,630	Technology
 New Delhi Times	New Delhi Times	326,120	258,836	News Publishing
 Uttarakhand News Network	Uttarakhand News Network	144,428	470,119	News Publishing
 Abhitak NEWS	Abhitak News	150,633	1,659,937	News & Information
 BizWire Express	Biz Wire Express	667,769	239,984	Business
 BUSINESS NEWS THIS WEEK	Business News This Week	1,180,211	163,003	Business News

Publication	Story Link	Monthly Traffic (approx.)	Alexa Rank (Global)	Industry
	Business Views	31,059	1,786,823	News Publishing
	Indus Valley Times	15,530	3,617,921	News & Information
	BizNext India	31,059	1,342,932	Business & Finance

PRESS RELEASE

Legalize recycling of properly rinsed and inspected empty pesticide containers – CropLife India Paper seeks a robust policy framework

Spearheads discussion on roadmap for sustainable management of empty pesticide containers in India

New Delhi, 26th May 2022: [CropLife India](#), an association of 16 R&D driven crop science companies, and the **leading voice of the plant science industry in India**, organized a [Virtual International Symposium on Empty Pesticide Containers \(EPC\) Management in India - Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers](#); which was attended by delegates from across the world including Asia, Europe and Africa.

A Discussion Paper - [Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers](#) was released on during the symposium by **Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India**; **Dr. K. K. Sharma, Former Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute** and other dignitaries.

Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India said, “There is an upsurge of demand for safe food crops. The industry has been forthcoming in registering newer and greener chemistries. In order to be sustainable, the concern of disposal of empty pesticide containers needs to be addressed collectively by all stakeholders hence lowering the burden on the environment”.

Dr. K. K. Sharma, Former Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute said, “As per the study conducted by the All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute; used pesticide containers should be rinsed three times thus making them safe to dispose and recycle in the country. The study results can be considered to support re-classification of triple rinsed empty pesticide containers in India as non-hazardous”.

Dr. Ravi Prakash, Plant Protection Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India said, “We feel that the formation of local collection points at the retailer level, where incentives can be provided to farmers to bring back empty rinsed containers is recommended. States should be given the responsibility to collect the containers, district-wise. Inter-Ministerial meetings are ongoing to develop SOP’s and other guidelines for disposing of hazardous wastes including pesticide plastics in a sustainable manner”.

Dr. Deepti Kapil, Scientist, HWMD, Centre Pollution Control Board said, “As per the CPCB guidelines, the generator of hazardous waste as well as the user have collective responsibility to manage and recycle the waste. The Government on its part has set up 200 waste management facilities with a capacity of 10 lakh tones but presently only 60,000 tones materials are being disposed of at these centers. The major problem is of regular collection and channelizing, which needs to be worked out at each district level in the country. As we move towards circular economy the focus should shift from end-of-treatment to end-of-use”.

Mr. Asitava Sen, Chief Executive Officer, CropLife India opines, "Establishment of collection and disposal of EPCs/Container Management is a stepwise approach which requires strong support of the Government and coordination amongst multiple stakeholders. We reiterate that there is an imminent role of every stakeholder in the value chain – government, manufacturers, channel partners, farmers, Producer Responsibility Organizations, recyclers and end-users. CropLife International, our parent organization; has successfully initiated and established independent Container Management Systems organizations and activities in **63 countries**; which has removed **over a million tonnes of agriculture waste plastic from the environment** between 2005-2020".

CropLife India has always been a constructive partner and a thought leader - initiating concrete dialogues and action plan involving all stakeholders - on emerging critical topics. Drone application for agriculture and agrochemical spraying, was one such topic, where CropLife India played the role of initiator and thought leader which eventually led to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Civil Aviation opening up 'Kisan drones' sector, for quick adoption of this new technology for Indian farmers.

Mr. Sen added, "Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers involves a chain of activities consisting of collection, transportation, sorting, processing, recycling or disposal, among others. Our objective is to bring all concerned stakeholders on one platform, initiate dialogue and multi stakeholder engagement towards sustainable management of EPCs".

Other eminent speakers who shared views and suggestions during the symposium included **Dr. Andrew Ward, Stewardship Director, CropLife International; Mr. Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch, Executive Director, Bayer CropScience; Mr. Pierre de Lépinau, Director General, Adivalor (France); Ms. Yaping Liu, Executive Director, CropLife China; Mr. Friedrich Lüdeke Consultant and Trainer, GLOBAL G.A.P.; Mr. V. Ravichandran, Director, Global Farmer Network; Dr. Mathew Abraham, APAC Zonal Regulatory Program Leader, Corteva Agriscience India; Mr. Steven Byrde, Waste Management Consultant, CropLife International; Mr. Rahul V. Podaar, Managing Director, The Shakti Plastic Industries and Mr. Raju Kapoor, Director, Corporate Affairs, FMC India**

Highlights of the Discussion Paper - [Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers](#)

Primary pesticide packaging is essential to ensure safe handling, storage and application of agrochemicals throughout the value chain and beyond. Post consumption of the pesticide these packs become waste (Empty Pesticide Container or EPC). Because of current pattern of use and management of pesticides, the volume of EPCs generated is increasing.

Benefits of Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers



As pesticide containers are mostly produced from plastics, they contribute to the increasing mountain of plastic waste in India often dumped recklessly into the environment, burned, or buried near farms. These discarded EPCs bear the risk of soil and ground water pollution owing to contamination with residuals of the pesticide and consequently can be hazardous for the community and the environment. The problem is further aggravated in view of their potential for misuse for storage of food and water in households.



The International Code of Conduct of the distribution and use of agrochemicals (WHO/ FAO 2008) provides general guidelines on the management options for empty pesticide containers to minimize potential health and environmental impacts associated with their disposal. **The FAO recommends triple-rinsing of EPCs** as one

effective practice for farmers to remove pesticide residuals from the containers. Cleaned pesticide containers are classified in many countries **as "non- hazardous" waste**. The European Waste Catalogue suggests that where the hazardous component in the waste is less than 0.1 percent, the waste is no longer perceived as 'relevant' and the packaging is classified as "non-hazardous". In Australia, triple rinsed containers are allowed to be recycled and classified as non-hazardous while containers that are not cleaned and properly rinsed are classified as hazardous waste.

The effectiveness of triple rinsing has been further demonstrated through a recent study undertaken by the All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues (AINPPR) of Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Government of India. The results indicate that irrespective of container type, formulation type, pack size, toxicity, etc., the pesticide residues tend to decline by > 99%. It is reasonable to expect that the remaining active ingredient content in waste composition after rinsing will serve as the basis to address classification criteria (toxicity) and the defined thresholds/cut-offs defined in the Waste Framework Directives.

This study is a balanced body of contemporary certainty, supplemented by research and analysis to enable the Indian ***Government to decide on a reclassification of decontaminated primary pesticide packaging in India and*** establish triple rinsing as a sustainable method for management of empty pesticide containers.

In February 2021, CIB&RC issued a public notice inviting comments from all stakeholders for classification of empty pesticide containers and disposal thereof. In response to the public notice, ***CropLife India had submitted*** a detailed ***seven-step roadmap*** for sustainable management of EPCs through shared responsibilities of all stakeholder considered. Further The 429th meeting of the Registration Committee held in June 2021 decided to formulate a working group/ task force comprising experts from DPPQ&S/CIB&RC, CPCB, State Governments, M/o EF&CC, ICAR and Pesticide industry associations stakeholders to work upon deciding the responsibility for collection and disposal of the empty container & suggest about linking/creation etc. of necessary infrastructures setup.

CIB&RC's cognizance, and consideration to develop a framework for safe disposal of EPCs is therefore welcomed and perceived as a promising first step in the right direction to add India to this success story.

CropLife India hopes that the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MOEF&CC), Central/ State Pollution Control Boards, Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC) and Industry can jointly facilitate a supportive mechanism to promote an effective empty pesticide container management system in India. CropLife India is highly motivated to support the process, as industry's stewardship commitment.

About [CropLife India](#):

[CropLife India](#) is committed to advancing sustainable agriculture and it is an association of 16 R&D driven member companies in crop protection and the leading voice of the plant science industry in India. We jointly represent ~ 70% of the market and are responsible for 95% of the molecules introduced in the country. Our member companies have annual global R & D spend of 6 billion USD and are firmly committed to engaging with the farming community to enable Safe, Secure Food Supply.

Our Members



Our Associate Members



Publication	Press Trust of India
Date	27 th May 2022
Link	http://www.ptinews.com/pressrelease/55206_press-subLegalize-Recycling-of-Properly-Rinsed-and-Inspected-Empty-Pesticide-Containers---CropLife-India-Paper-Seeks-a-Robust-Policy-Framework

Legalize Recycling of Properly Rinsed and Inspected Empty Pesticide Containers - CropLife India Paper Seeks a Robust Policy Framework

Spearheads discussion on roadmap for sustainable management of empty pesticide containers in India

New Delhi, Delhi, India

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A Discussion Paper - Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers was released on during the symposium by Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India; Dr. K. K. Sharma, Former Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute and other dignitaries.

Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India said, "There is an upsurge of demand for safe food crops. The industry has been forthcoming in registering newer and greener chemistries. In order to be sustainable, the concern of disposal of empty pesticide containers needs to be addressed collectively by all stakeholders hence lowering the burden on the environment."

Dr. K. K. Sharma, Former Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute said, "As per the study conducted by the All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute; used pesticide containers should be rinsed three times thus making them safe to dispose and recycle in the country. The study results can be considered to support re-classification of triple rinsed empty pesticide containers in India as non-hazardous."

Dr. Ravi Prakash, Plant Protection Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India said, "We feel that the formation of local collection points at the retailer level, where incentives can be provided to farmers to bring back empty rinsed containers is recommended. States should be given the responsibility to collect the containers, district-wise. Inter-Ministerial meetings are ongoing to develop SOP's and other guidelines for disposing of hazardous wastes including pesticide plastics in a sustainable manner."

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Mr. Asitava Sen, Chief Executive Officer, CropLife India opines, "Establishment of collection and disposal of EPCs/Container Management is a stepwise approach which requires strong support of the Government and coordination amongst multiple stakeholders. We reiterate that there is an imminent role of every stakeholder in the value chain – government, manufacturers, channel partners, farmers, Producer Responsibility Organizations, recyclers and end-users. CropLife International, our parent organization; has successfully initiated and established

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Highlights of the Discussion Paper - [Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers](#).

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As pesticide containers are mostly produced from plastics, they contribute to the increasing mountain of plastic waste in India often dumped recklessly into the environment, burned, or buried near farms. These discarded EPCs bear the risk of soil and ground water pollution owing to contamination with residuals of the pesticide and consequently can be hazardous for the community and the environment. The problem is further aggravated in view of their potential for misuse for storage of food and water in households.

The International Code of Conduct of the distribution and use of agrochemicals (WHO/FAO 2008) provides general guidelines on the management options for empty pesticide containers to minimize potential health and environmental impacts associated with their disposal. The FAO recommends triple-rinsing of EPCs as one effective practice for farmers to remove pesticide residuals from the containers. Cleaned pesticide containers are classified in many countries as “**non-hazardous**” waste. The European Waste Catalogue suggests that where the hazardous component in the waste is less than 0.1 percent, the waste is no longer perceived as ‘**relevant**’ and the packaging is classified as “**non-hazardous**”. In Australia, triple rinsed containers are allowed to be recycled and classified as non-hazardous while containers that are not cleaned and properly rinsed are classified as hazardous waste.

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ICAR and Pesticide industry associations stakeholders to work upon deciding the responsibility for collection and disposal of the empty container & suggest about linking/creation etc. of necessary infrastructures setup.

CIB&RC's cognizance, and consideration to develop a framework for safe disposal of EPCs is therefore welcomed and perceived as a promising first step in the right direction to add India to this success story.

CropLife India hopes that the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MOEF&CC), Central/ State Pollution Control Boards, Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC) and Industry can jointly facilitate a supportive mechanism to promote an effective empty pesticide container management system in India. CropLife India is highly motivated to support the process, as industry's stewardship commitment.

Publication	ANI News
Date	27 th May 2022
Link	https://www.aninews.in/news/business/legalize-recycling-of-properly-rinsed-and-inspected-empty-pesticide-containers-croplife-india-paper-seeks-a-robust-policy-framework20220527100616/

Legalize Recycling of Properly Rinsed and Inspected Empty Pesticide Containers - CropLife India Paper Seeks a Robust Policy Framework

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Dr. Deepti Kapil, Scientist, HWMD, Centre Pollution Control Board said, "As per the CPCB guidelines, the generator of hazardous waste as well as the user have collective responsibility to manage and recycle the waste. The Government on its part has set up 200 waste management facilities with a capacity of 10 lakh tones but presently only 60,000 tones materials are being disposed of at these centers. The major problem is of regular collection and channelizing, which needs to be worked out at each district level in the country. As we move towards circular economy the focus should shift from end-of-treatment to end-of-use."

Mr. Asitava Sen, Chief Executive Officer, CropLife India opines, "Establishment of collection and disposal of EPCs/Container Management is a stepwise approach which requires strong support of the Government and coordination amongst multiple stakeholders. We reiterate that there is an imminent role of every stakeholder in the value chain – government, manufacturers, channel partners, farmers, Producer Responsibility Organizations, recyclers and end-users. CropLife International, our parent organization; has successfully initiated and established

independent Container Management Systems organizations and activities in 63 countries; which has removed over a million tonnes of agriculture waste plastic from the environment between 2005-2020.”

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Mr. Sen added, “Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers involves a chain of activities consisting of collection, transportation, sorting, processing, recycling or disposal, among others. Our objective is to bring all concerned stakeholders on one platform, initiate dialogue and multi stakeholder engagement towards sustainable management of EPCs.”

Other eminent speakers who shared views and suggestions during the symposium included Dr. Andrew Ward, Stewardship Director, CropLife International; Mr. Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch, Executive Director, Bayer CropScience; Mr. Pierre de Lepinau, Director General, Adivalor (France); Ms. Yaping Liu, Executive Director, CropLife China; Mr. Friedrich Ludeke Consultant and Trainer, GLOBAL G.A.P.; Mr. V. Ravichandran, Director, Global Farmer Network; Dr. Mathew Abraham, APAC Zonal Regulatory Program Leader, Corteva Agriscience India; Mr. Steven Byrde, Waste Management Consultant, CropLife International; Mr. Rahul V. Podaar, Managing Director, The Shakti Plastic Industries and Mr. Raju Kapoor, Director, Corporate Affairs, FMC India

Highlights of the Discussion Paper - [Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers](#).

Primary pesticide packaging is essential to ensure safe handling, storage and application of agrochemicals throughout the value chain and beyond. Post consumption of the pesticide these packs become waste (Empty Pesticide Container or EPC). Because of current pattern of use and management of pesticides, the volume of EPCs generated is increasing.

As pesticide containers are mostly produced from plastics, they contribute to the increasing mountain of plastic waste in India often dumped recklessly into the environment, burned, or buried near farms. These discarded EPCs bear the risk of soil and ground water pollution owing to contamination with residuals of the pesticide and consequently can be hazardous for the community and the environment. The problem is further aggravated in view of their potential for misuse for storage of food and water in households.

The International Code of Conduct of the distribution and use of agrochemicals (WHO/FAO 2008) provides general guidelines on the management options for empty pesticide containers to minimize potential health and environmental impacts associated with their disposal. The FAO recommends triple-rinsing of EPCs as one effective practice for farmers to remove pesticide residuals from the containers. Cleaned pesticide containers are classified in many countries as “**non-hazardous**” waste. The European Waste Catalogue suggests that where the hazardous component in the waste is less than 0.1 percent, the waste is no longer perceived as ‘**relevant**’ and the packaging is classified as “**non-hazardous**”. In Australia, triple rinsed containers are allowed to be recycled and classified as non-hazardous while containers that are not cleaned and properly rinsed are classified as hazardous waste.

The effectiveness of triple rinsing has been further demonstrated through a recent study undertaken by the All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues (AINPPR) of Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Government of India. The results indicate that irrespective of container type, formulation type, pack size, toxicity, etc., the pesticide residues tend to decline by >99%. It is reasonable to expect that the remaining active ingredient content in waste composition after rinsing will serve as the basis to address classification criteria (toxicity) and the defined thresholds/cut-offs defined in the Waste Framework Directives.

This study is a balanced body of contemporary certainty, supplemented by research and analysis to enable the Indian Government to decide on a reclassification of decontaminated primary pesticide packaging in India and establish triple rinsing as a sustainable method for management of empty pesticide containers.

In February 2021, CIB&RC issued a public notice inviting comments from all stakeholders for classification of empty pesticide containers and disposal thereof. In response to the public notice, CropLife India had submitted a detailed seven-step roadmap for sustainable management of EPCs through shared responsibilities of all stakeholder considered. Further, the 429th meeting of the Registration Committee held in June 2021 decided to formulate a working group/ task force comprising experts from DPPQ&S/CIB&RC, CPCB, State Governments, M/o EF&CC,



ICAR and Pesticide industry associations stakeholders to work upon deciding the responsibility for collection and disposal of the empty container & suggest about linking/creation etc. of necessary infrastructures setup.

CIB&RC's cognizance, and consideration to develop a framework for safe disposal of EPCs is therefore welcomed and perceived as a promising first step in the right direction to add India to this success story.

CropLife India hopes that the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MOEF&CC), Central/ State Pollution Control Boards, Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC) and Industry can jointly facilitate a supportive mechanism to promote an effective empty pesticide container management system in India. CropLife India is highly motivated to support the process, as industry's stewardship commitment.

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Legalize Recycling of Properly Rinsed and Inspected Empty Pesticide Containers - CropLife India Paper Seeks a Robust Policy Framework

Spearheads discussion on roadmap for sustainable management of empty pesticide containers in India

New Delhi, Delhi, India

[CropLife India](#), an association of 16 R&D driven crop science companies, and the leading voice of the plant science industry in India, organized a Virtual International Symposium on Empty Pesticide Containers (EPC) Management in India - Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers; which was attended by delegates from across the world including Asia, Europe and Africa.

A Discussion Paper - Roadmap for Sustainable Management of Empty Pesticide Containers was released on during the symposium by Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman Registration Committee, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India; Dr. K. K. Sharma, Former Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute and other dignitaries.

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