



India@75: Journey of Agrochemical Sector

41st Annual General Meeting
29th September, 2021



CHIEF GUEST Inaugural Session



Shri Narendra Singh Tomar
Hon'ble Minister of
Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,
Government of India

CropLife India's 41st Annual General Meeting and Open House - Virtual Conference India@75: Journey of Agrochemical Sector 29th September 2021 (Wednesday)



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Dr. Ravi Prakash
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President and CEO
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Mr. Christoph Neumann
Vice-President, Regulatory Policy
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Mr. Mayank Singhal
Vice Chairman and
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Mr. K. K. Unni
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Dr. K. C. Ravi
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Mr. Sanjiv Lal
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Mr. Anil Kakkar
Vice Chairman
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Mr. Asitava Sen
CEO
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Mr. Rajvir Rathni
Director - Public Affairs,
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ABOUT CROPLIFE INDIA

CropLife India is committed to advancing sustainable agriculture and it is an association of 15 R&D driven member companies in crop protection. They 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 across the World to enable Safe, Secure, Food Supply.

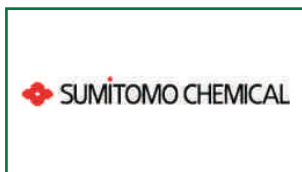
CropLife India members enable farmers adopt new technologies in agriculture, while providing in depth farmer trainings on good farming practices, including responsible use of crop protection products, container management and spraying techniques promotion of safe, responsible & judicious use of crop protection products under Integrated Pest Management approach. CropLife India extensively engages with the farming community including dealers and traders for growing safe, secured and nutritious food committed to responsible crop care and crop production for sustainable development of Indian Agriculture.

CropLife India is a not for profit organization, (registered under Section 8 Companies Act 2013) wholly funded by membership. CropLife India is part of the CropLife International Network; and works closely with CropLife Asia & CropLife International, spread across 91 countries while engaging with diverse stakeholders to drive programs on Anti-Counterfeiting, Product Stewardship, Progressive Regulations, IPR/Data Protection, Policy & Advocacy, Communications & Outreach.



ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING INDIAN PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY

Our Members



Our Associate Members



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- COVID-19 has been an unprecedented global crisis. The various steps taken by the Government during this pandemic time, to address the agriculture sector; provided economy the much needed momentum. Covid-19, while challenging the agricultural industry, have provided stakeholders an opportunity to experiment, test, learn and implement innovative ideas.
- **Honourable Prime Minister of India** has implemented new age agriculture market reforms, and emphasized on modernizing agriculture and adoption of new technological innovations in achieving the goal of ***doubling farmers' income***.
- **Agrochemical sector** plays a key role in doubling farmers' income and livelihood and ensuring food security. In India, crop yield losses range between 15 % - 20 % on account of weeds, pests, diseases and rodents. During the pandemic we have seen that the role of pesticides is not only limited to crop protection but also plays a significant role in improving public health and hygiene.
- India is the 4th largest producer of agrochemicals (after USA, Japan and China) in the world and looking at the potential the Government of India has declared it as one of the **12 Champion Sectors**, where India can be a critical player in the global supply-chain. This transformation would require close partnership between the Government, the industry and the farmers and ease of doing business coupled with progressive and stable regulatory framework. CropLife India is committed to support Honourable Prime Minister of India's vision of Doubling Farmers Income by 2022.



- **Pesticide Management Bill (PMB) 2020** is a great opportunity to holistically address emerging needs of Indian agriculture through an enabling regulatory environment, incorporating the learning of ~50 years from the Insecticide Act, 1968 (implemented in 1972). This opportunity must be made the best use of by engaging the relevant stakeholders to make India a potential global leader.
- **Under Article 39.3 of the TRIPS Agreement**, WTO members must provide **Data Protection**; which would facilitate the R&D within the industry and benefit the farmers with newer molecules. A proposed mechanism can be to provide Data Protection for few years to the first applicant and then the subsequent applicants can follow suit.
- Fast-track introduction of new molecules is a welcome and much needed step for providing benefit to the farmers dealing with diverse crops and emerging pests.
- Enhancing the Indian capabilities is a lesson learnt during the lockdown. The dependency on technical / raw materials / adjuvants from other countries came as a bottleneck and we should take necessary steps to enhance Indian capabilities, boosting the domestic market and fuelling the exports as well.
- India has the lowest usage of pesticides per hectare (307 g/ha) as compared to upto 13 kg/ ha in USA, Japan, China or other countries (5 Kg/ Ha in UK, 7 Kg/ Ha in US, 12 Kg/ Ha in Japan and 13 Kg/ Ha in China).; yet, India's agricultural produce get rejected in international markets; which means we are unable to ensure that our crop residues are below the threshold average. Enhancement of product stewardship and progressive policies for Minor Crops would eliminate such roadblocks.
- Bringing together various stakeholders towards creation of a Conducive Ecosystem Development for Drone Applications in agriculture would boost rural entrepreneurship.
- CropLife plays a leading role in enabling a sustainable food system through communications, thought leadership, collaboration & partnership. Continued efforts while collaborating with various stakeholders would aid in sustainable food value chain.



CropLife India's 41st Annual General Meeting and Open House Virtual Conference

India@75: Journey of Agrochemical Sector 29th September 2021

CropLife India, an association of 15 R&D driven crop science companies, organized its 41st Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Open House on 29th September 2021; virtually.

Continuing our tradition of creating high –impact thought leadership oriented Open House Sessions; inspired by the CropLife India's Board and Chief Executive Officer's vision of achieving enhanced levels of awareness for the crop protection industry and considering the Covid-19 protocols; it was decided that the Open House Session be organized virtually, 2nd time in a row; wherein the discussions and point of view of multiple stakeholders be deliberated on key topics.

Despite their busy schedules, eminent speakers came on board from the Government of India and crop protection industry, during the Open House Session. The half a day long AGM witnessed an Inaugural, Special and Valedictory sessions, interspersed with a panel discussion; with experts and key Government officials' conglomeration, on the cause of supporting the farmer.

The sessions' included –

- ❖ Inaugural Session: "India @ 75: Indian Agrochemical Industry"
- ❖ Special Address by Chief Executive Officer, CropLife International: "Agrochemical Industry's Contributions in Sustainable Food Systems"
- ❖ Panel Discussion: "Policy & Regulatory Roadmap for Agrochemicals Sector"
- ❖ Valedictory Session: "Way Forward for Indian Agrochemical Industry"

CropLife India Film, showcasing the activities and projects undertaken by CropLife India while caring for our 'Annadata' during the onset of Covid-19 in India; CropLife India's outreach to help safeguard the food security of our nation; in policy reforms, stewardship and anti-counterfeiting, was showcased during the Inaugural Session.



Highlights

Inaugural Session

“India @ 75: Indian Agrochemical Industry”

Mr. Asitava Sen, Chief Executive Officer, CropLife India said while welcoming all participants that, “The crop protection industry played a major role in enhancing the agriculture production of the country and was not deterred by Covid-19 crisis. Government has been forthcoming in solving all concerns of the industry not only in the hour of crisis, but worked on key policy reforms for **‘Making India a Global Agrochemical Manufacturing Hub’** throughout the year. CropLife India and its member companies have always believed in and demonstrated a constructive partnership approach with the Government and other stakeholders, and would like to continue to contribute in strengthening the collaborative ecosystem”.



Mr. Sen said,

- ❖ As our country is celebrating 75th Independence year, "**Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**"; it's an appropriate time for us to deliberate on the future of agriculture as well as specifically the agrochemical sector going forward; **India@75: Journey of Agrochemical Sector.**
- ❖ Our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has initiated cutting edge agricultural market reforms and have been advocating modernization of agriculture as well as adoption of new technologies towards doubling farmer's income. Agrochemicals play an important role in doubling farmer's income, their livelihood while ensuring food security.
- ❖ In India, crop yield losses range between 15 % - 20 % on account of weeds, pests, diseases and rodents. The changing pest and cropping patterns as well as the impact of climate change would require newer and better agrochemicals. During the pandemic we have seen that the role of agrochemicals is not only limited to crop protection but also plays a significant role in improving public health and hygiene.
- ❖ Climate change & changing cropping patterns will witness newer pest infestation in the country; locusts, Fall Armyworm, to name a few. To tackle these pests, we need to expand the current portfolio of molecules in the country, overcoming the policy roadblocks in comparison to other countries.



While delivering the Theme Address, **Dr. K. C. Ravi, Chairman, CropLife India** shared that, "Over the last 75 years, Indian agriculture has made rapid strides. From a meagre 55 million tonnes, production of food grains has increased to a record 309 million tonnes. Production of pulses, coarse cereals, natural fibres, sugarcane, vegetables and fruits have all increased manifold since Independence. With the Green Revolution which made the country self-sufficient in food grains by the year 2010, things have gone further with India now being among the top 10 agricultural products exporters and the crop protection industry has played a vital role in this.

The need for a predictable, stable and science based policy and regulatory regime for the proper growth of the crop protection sector is imperative; which promotes innovation and new product introduction to address the current and upcoming challenges faced by farmers; while paving the way with introduction of cutting edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Drones".

Dr. Ravi added,

- ❖ India is among the top ten agricultural products exporters with a record 309 million tons of food grains production, with a fairly large contribution of crop protection products besides, of course, high quality variety of seeds. Crop protection products have helped combat several crop emergencies that threatened Indian agriculture from time to time; the Phalaris minor weeds in wheat, Cotton ball worm, Brown plant hopper insects in rice, to name a few.
- ❖ A study done by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) estimated a loss in value terms of India's agricultural produce due to weeds alone would be to the tune of over INR 80, 000 Crores; without the use of crop protection products.
- ❖ CropLife India is an association of R&D based crop science companies and we have been launching molecules over time to reduce the application rates; from being as high as 1000 to 3000 grams of active ingredients per hectare in case of molecules in the 60s and 70s. By the 80s, with advent of newer chemistry, the dosage has come down to 50 to 500 grams per hectare. From 90s to early 2000, there was further advancement giving way to still further reduction in application rates and dosages came down to 25 to 200 grams per hectare. In fact, since the mid-2000, the active ingredient amplification has fallen to less than 100 grams and in some cases to as low as 4 grams per hectare. The pursuit towards greener chemistry continues.
- ❖ Despite of above stated facts, the crop protection products comes under intense scrutiny, reviews and criticism from NGOs and they have to prove their worth again and again. Reviews are welcome but should be backed by scientific basis and should not be sudden ban of products, both at Centre and State level.
- ❖ CropLife India member organizations, manufacture safe, effective and reliable products and we invest in strong stewardship initiatives so that the farmer is aware of safe and responsible use of crop protection products.





Mr. Mayank Singhal, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, PI Industries shared the industry perspective, that the agrochemical industry has matured a lot; especially in the last decade. From merely ten companies, it now has a turnover of INR 55,000 Crores and over 50% exports; the interest in the research and development in the sector has grown tremendously; which is attracting a great interest for the fundamental research capabilities for Indians in the chemistry capabilities for global companies to set up manufacturing and partnership hubs. Apart from the Initial Public Offerings (IPOs), which have received tremendous response, the industry has expanded to cater to the food and nutritional requirement of people. The industry has the capability to expand to INR 80,000-90,000 crores, while manufacturing our product competitively, provide a stock of crop offerings and supporting and enabling manufacturing ecosystem.



Mr. Singhal added,

- ❖ In order to be a global hub in the industry, the paramount requirement is to have strong national markets, as seen in the context of the two wheelers, textiles, organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals, etc.
- ❖ Innovation and introduction of newer molecules. Most of the molecules in the market are 50 year old and 30 molecules are under evaluation for their safety, may be banned in the near future; which leaves the farmer with very little choice. Indian agriculture will suffer.
- ❖ Compounding the problem of inadequate range of products to meet the growing threats and challenges complexity and diseases and due to climate change, numerous Ghost Registrations, which hamper the farmer from working in a controlled regulated environment.
- ❖ As iterated by Honorable Prime Minister, we must think global, work local. India must adopt policies and procedures that are compliant to global standards and create better business ecosystem.
- ❖ The process of Registration should be 'Aadhaar' based, so that Ghost Registrations are eliminated and the quality control of the manufacturing facilities should be audited therefore encouraging innovation and proactively supporting introduction of new products in India which are far safer.
- ❖ Data protection is present in most of the countries in the world, from China to Brazil We right now have more than 180 molecules have come off patent from 2000 to 2020. This offers a huge scope to production of these products given the fact that registration of new molecules typically requires a 3-4 year timeline and a process of INR 30 - 40 crores from registration to commercialization.
- ❖ The new products' efficacy is focused on safety of humans, animals and environment. The dosage rate is not the only area but safety is the key concern which enables eco-toxicity, the human toxicity are given the right direction.
- ❖ The agrochemical industry is fortunate to live in an ecosystem in India where we have the maximum potential for agriculture, both for domestic and global purpose. We can become a hub; not for agrochemicals but for food and food supplies. We must put together a strong regulatory ecosystem which I believe we are working together with Government and the industry to bring about drastic reforms, to enable the industry to grow and reach excellence in the global footprint.



Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India said, that, "The Central Government is focusing on the use of drones in the agriculture sector. With this, the government has started the **Digital Agriculture Mission**. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has signed MoUs with the private sector to take forward digital agriculture, which aims to benefit farmers in every way while increasing their income".

Shri Tomar added,

- ❖ Today, India is the 4th largest producer of agrochemicals in the world after the US, Japan and China. The agrochemical sector plays a vital role in ensuring food security and vigilant livelihood security. The Indian agrochemical industry is worth INR 50,000 crore and has the potential to grow to INR 80,000 crore by 2026; in which about 60% export is also estimated with a value of INR 48,000 crores. It excites all of us. Looking at the potential of this sector, the government has included the agrochemical sector in **12 Champion Sectors**; where India can play an important role in the global supply chain.
- ❖ The country shows great potential to be a leader in the chemical sector with the help of early crop protection research and vision, expediting the innovation registration system.
- ❖ COVID 19 has been an unprecedented crisis. But even during this pandemic, keeping in mind the agriculture sector, various steps taken by the government have given impetus to the economy. Apart from facing the challenges in COVID, it has also provided an opportunity to the stakeholders to experiment and test, learn and implement innovative ideas. Due to the hard work of the farmers, the skill of the scientists and the concerted efforts of the government, the steps to exempt agricultural inputs even during the lockdown have also helped in stabilizing agricultural productivity and keeping the economic outlook positive despite the steep fall in other sectors.
- ❖ The decision of agricultural reforms like higher MSP, increased availability, distribution of vital products and freedom to farmers to sell the produce at their desired location has brought changes which will make agriculture sector more competitive and profitable in India.





- ❖ Due to the Covid crisis, many countries are trying to diversify their production supply chains and reduce risks. India has an opportunity to take advantage of this change. Ease of doing business and a progressive and stable regulatory framework will help boost investor confidence to capitalize on the existing opportunities at this critical juncture.
- ❖ In India, 15 - 20 percent yield loss occurs due to weeds, insect diseases and rodents. New and better pesticide products will be needed to deal with the changing nature of pests, cropping patterns as well as the effects of climate change. During the pandemic we have seen that the role of pesticides is not only limited to crop protection but also has an important role in strategic health, sanitation, etc.
- ❖ Scientific and technical evaluation of the existing chemicals portfolio and careful use of these products are the key to sustainable agricultural productivity and farmers' income.
- ❖ Precision farming will not only increase efficiency but will make farming more sustainable. Establishing India as a responsible global player, there is a need to prepare a comprehensive system which would be helpful in the development of the country.
- ❖ The government wants to focus on the use of drones and you all are aware that the government has just announced a drone policy. Even before this, when there was an outbreak of locust in our country last year, we used drones to tackle locusts.
- ❖ Farmers of Asia are leaders in the adoption of drone spray technology. This leads to benefits like better productivity, better access to the crop and less risk. With a convenient regulatory regime and product registration guidelines, India could also be among the first countries to adopt UAV.
- ❖ Government has launched a **Digital Agriculture Mission** keeping in mind the period 2021-2025 for the use of Artificial Intelligence, Block-chain, Remote Sensing and GIS technology, Drones and Robots, etc.
- ❖ Recently, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has signed MoUs with the private sector to take forward digital agriculture, which aims to increase the income of farmers and protect their production.
- ❖ The Government is encouraging sugar mills and distilleries to increase their distillation capacity to achieve the 20% blending target by 2025. This step will benefit 5 crore sugarcane farmers and their families and 5 lakh workers associated with sugar mills and other allied activities.
- ❖ I am happy that CropLife India is working very responsibly in this field and the research done by you all is helping to advance the pesticides.



- ❖ The Pesticide Management Bill is still with the Standing Committee of Lok Sabha and all the stakeholders can present their side to the Standing Committee. Especially if you share the flaws of the Bill then definitely the standing committee will consider it and send its recommendation to the Government and when that recommendation comes then definitely the department would consider them and would undertake stakeholder consultations.

Mr. Sanjiv Lal, Managing Director & CEO, Rallis India acknowledged the 'Keynote Message' for the '**CropLife India's Annual Report 2020-2021**' shared by **Shri Narendra Singh Tomar** and said that the unstinting support that has been provided by the Government over the last 18 months to the agriculture sector in India, as the country struggled through Covid-19 related issues during the first and second wave; has been the guiding light which has aided the robust growth of the agriculture sector to ensure food security for the country.

Mr. Lal shared, with the support to the rural sector and the mission to double the farmers' income, apart from established organizations; who are working very closely in the farming community for safe and judicious use of agrochemicals; robust start-up environment is creating a new energy, in rapidly bringing new technology to the rural economy. The regulation of drones for use in agriculture will go long way in transforming agriculture and would enable precision farming. While the domestic consumption has grown 10% during the previous year for agrochemicals, export of agrochemicals has grown as well and with continued support by the Government to the manufacturing of agrochemicals, via "**Make in India**"; being "**Atma Nirbhar**" is imminent.





Special Address

“Agrochemical Industry’s Contributions in Sustainable Food Systems”

Ms. Giulia Di Tommaso, President and CEO, CropLife International shared, CropLife International plays a leading role in enabling a sustainable food system through communications, thought leadership, collaboration & partnership. We at CropLife International are committed towards innovation and agriculture for a sustainable future and work together with key stakeholders; while playing a leading role in enabling sustainable food systems. We wanted to work on how we continue to protect our life in industry and how we advocate for societal benefits towards sustainable goals; our goals to realize are mutually beneficial and are mutually inclusive.

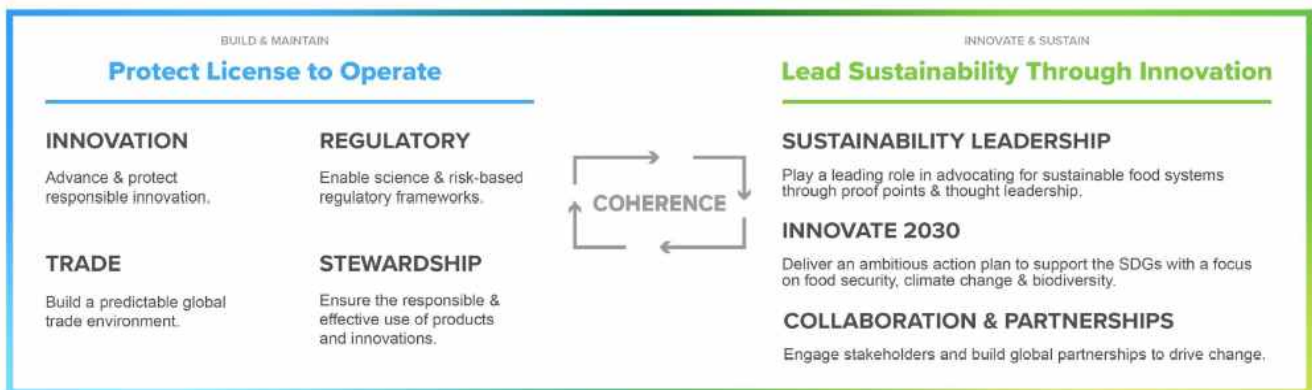


PURPOSE

Advancing innovation in agriculture for a sustainable future.

VISION

CropLife International plays a leading role in enabling a sustainable food system.



STRATEGIC ENABLERS

Advocate with One Voice • Integrated Technology Approach • Empowered Global Network • Nurture Talent & Culture • Drive Operational Excellence

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Science-Based Policies • Reputation • SDG Driven Progress • Stakeholder Collaborations



Delivery on these strategic ambitions requires us at CropLife International work together with the network of CropLife India with a different approach for disruptive partnership. Our new strategy will be underpinned by set of industry commitments, actions, leadership principles which would provide an opportunity to integrate and align with direction to perspective, crucial, regional priorities. Centre to this framework are three key attributes, where we believe this industry has a vital role to play in positive contribution; **address climate change solution, protecting diversity**, and to **address food security**. These high level ambitions are supported by industry commitments and actions of stewardship to respect the promotion of human rights, responsible innovation, understanding the importance of partnership and collaborations with all the stakeholders. Our industry is really grounded and committed towards on ground to science and sharing actions and how these collective actions are key ingredients for credibility of our industry. Innovation is key to social agriculture in India and we have so many examples of our working together with key stakeholders, addressing the huge potential for India to export its products; globally. This opportunity is reminded by good pesticide management practices, demonstrating the sustainable systems are not only good for the environment, society but for the trade as well.

Great work has been done at CropLife India while working together with sustainable container management systems and it's important that India has introduced a new legislation of plastic management and how working together, we can really support each other in a public- private collaboration.

I would like to congratulate CropLife India, winner of CropLife Asia's Stewardship Award towards demonstrating commitments, leadership and we look forward to continue to push the boundaries of our shared success for the industry .

At CropLife International we believe together with CEOs and all the members that these ambitions needs to be supported by a comprehensive strategy, actions, communications, focus on stakeholders engagement plan which we seek to leverage and how we can amplify our voice of the industry of the members and network as whole and how we can continue to effectively navigate these issues.

To be successful we need to continue to have examples of our work together with industry and work with other stakeholders. We are very proud of our strategic partnership with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); which is an example of shared ambition of achieving the same goals, sustainable development goals and how this could be led by the grass-root level that address together NGOs, Governments and one of the greatest challenges to deliver on the sustainable systems to be contributing for the farmers and help in economic recovery of our rural community post Covid-19.



Areas of focus of the strategic partnership include:

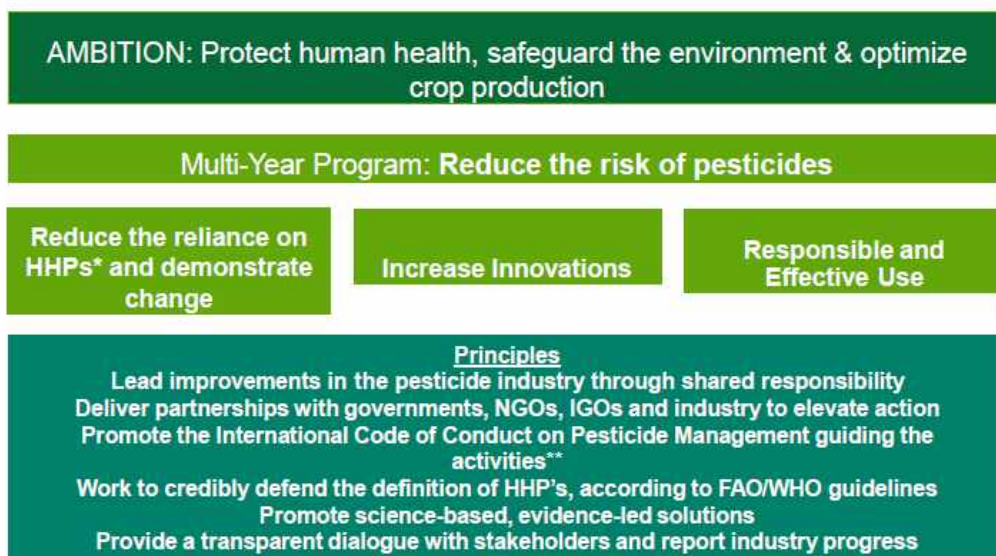
- ❖ Sound management of pesticides to **minimize risk of pesticides** for sustainable crop production intensification and better protection of human health and the environment.
- ❖ Management of transboundary plant pests and diseases to **minimize** yield losses for food security.
- ❖ **Data and information sharing** regarding pest and pesticide management.

Another example would be how we have worked together with CropLife India and broader stakeholders and passing the network towards UN Summit; wherein innovation in the agriculture remains at the core of the environment and the future of the agriculture, in the sustainable system transformation.

We now have in place a holistic framework to address social management of pesticide; a new breakout approach and align on anchoring to our ambition about how we can continue to center effective stewardship and effective management of sustainable pesticide at the center of everything we do.

There is a need to understand the positive contribution of agriculture in innovation technology, which our industry can bring to the table and ecology.

Sustainable Pesticide Management Framework



*The term Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) is defined by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (Rev. 2013) and the respective FAO/WHO HHP guidelines (2016).

**The country scope of the framework is guided towards low-income countries by the Code of Conduct (e.g. para 1.7.2).



Panel Discussion

“Policy & Regulatory Roadmap for Agrochemicals Sector”

Mr. Anil Kakkar, Vice Chairman, CropLife India shared his **Opening Remarks as the Session Moderator**, the agrochemical industry has always played an important role in agriculture and agriculture itself has been a leading light for the country from the food security point of view. Our farmers have been relentless even during the Covid-19 restrictions and we salute them.

As the Panel Discussion is on “Policy & Regulatory Roadmap for Agrochemicals Sector”, however would like to highlight the environment in which these policies are getting addressed is a concern. The agrochemical industry generates loads of data via several studies for Registration of a molecule, even for a simple label extension; however few NGOs begin crying hoax with the help of unscientific reports, amplify it with the help of media and outreaches politicians who in turn, influence the bureaucrats and regulators who then evaluate the data not in an science based environment; thus thrusting on the feeling that this public perception needs to be changed and the Government needs to stand hand in hand with us.

Another point which has been discussed in all CropLife Forums is the new product introduction at a faster pace and we would wish that there is a speedy introduction of clearance of the registrations.

The Government has brought a bio-stimulant regulation, which was absent earlier and its introduction is a welcome step which has enthralled the agrochemical industry.





Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare shared in his **Keynote Address**, pesticides play an important role, from the point of view of sustainable agriculture production and the industry is playing their role for protecting the crops from pests and diseases. The industry played an important role in ensuring the availability of pesticides, even during the Covid-19 restriction, which resulted in record production for horticulture as well as food grains and in many of the commodities.

Dr. Malhotra said,

- ❖ The agrochemical industry has helped in the nation especially during an invasive pest attack, like Fall army worm, locusts, pink bollworm, wheat blast, etc. Although the chemical pesticides are unable to help in diseases like the Panama disease of bananas; bio-pesticides come to rescue and the same are being registered as they are greener chemistries.
- ❖ We do not have any solution for palm-infesting whitefly with the chemicals, however we are considering multiple bio-pesticides. Until today, 945 chemicals included into the schedule of Insecticide Act have been considered and out of this 295 technical insecticide and 750 formulations are registered for use in India.
- ❖ The Government is cognizant of the fact that around 235,000 license holders for sale and distribution of insecticides are prevailing in the country, yet there is a gap of molecules.
- ❖ The Government is drafting a micro level plan for the fast track registration of the new molecules to promote 'Make in India'. India needs new molecules, which are safer and more effective. Industry needs to come forward & introduce new molecules; aligned with International standards; which will be welcomed with open arms. Data requirements for registration for indigenous manufacturing have been rationalized and minimum data requirement for evaluating the safety and efficacy of the pesticides have been put into. We have a list of 48 guidelines which will be reduced to 20-22 guidelines without comprising on the safety of the new molecules for evaluation.
- ❖ The 3D reforms meeting which involved detailed deliberations amongst the Government, academia and the industry was extremely fruitful. Multiple suggestions were resolved on the spot and few need further deliberations.





- ❖ To address the lack of molecules for minor crops, the Government will facilitate Crop Grouping and the Label Extension of such molecules and will be done on a fast track basis.
- ❖ Fast track registrations are being done online; and the feedback received for the system issues, have been addressed.
- ❖ In order to be globally competitive, point of view on toxicological registration of chemical pesticides for India has been drafted and those have been harmonized to toxicological protocol in accordance with OECD keeping in view the provisions. We do have multiple references to draw from like FAO guidelines, etc. but we need to consider the various anomalies of agro-climatic conditions; tropical, sub-tropical, etc. in the country, while drafting the policies.
- ❖ The industry needs to share draft calibration matrix table for pesticides doses for the usage in drones.

Dr. Ravi Prakash, Plant Protection Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare shared that all the participants are very well aware about the role of agrochemicals in the food security of the country and as a sustainable development goal of agriculture. Indian pesticide industry not only contributes for crop protection in the country, it even earns a lot of foreign exchange by way of exports. I congratulate the members of the CropLife India for contributing to the country's food security, sustainable agriculture and at the same time; aiding the economy of the country.

Dr. Prakash added,

- ❖ As per the Insecticide Act, the Central Government has the role for the registration of the pesticides on safety and efficacy whereas the quality of the pesticide is the joint responsibility of the State Government as well as the Central Government. However for other purposes like manufacture, sale, transport and distribution; licenses are issued by the State Government.
- ❖ We have a 5 members' Registration Committee which studies the safety and efficacy of the products and then registers the product.
- ❖ We grant about 11,000 certificates in categories like 9 (3) or 9 (4) each year.
- ❖ Apart from the Central Insecticide testing laboratory at Faridabad, we have the regional pesticide testing laboratory at Chandigarh and Kanpur and more than 71 State pesticide laboratories which help us to maintain the quality control of the pesticides. To implement this, we have more than 191





insecticide inspectors notified by the Central Government and more than 10,000 plus inspectors are notified by the State Government.

- ❖ About 50,000 to 60,000 samples are collected every year to monitor the quality. In the year 2020-2021, more than 1100 samples were found not optimal; yet we launched prosecution in approx. 300 cases.
- ❖ In order to process the 11,000 certificates, we are implementing the online systems for faster registrations. Although the system has been working from some time, there are some glitches, which are being worked upon.
- ❖ The Toxicology unit had a severe manpower shortage, which is being overcome with the recent deployment of 13 new members, viz. Senior Consultant – Toxicology; Consultant – Toxicology; Sr. Technical Officers; etc. Similarly, our Plant Pathology Experts, Entomology Experts, Weed Science Experts have been deployed as additional support to the CIB&RC for faster registrations.
- ❖ We urge the industry to register their products for Drone based application and we can provide Label Extensions at the earliest.

Mr. Christoph Neumann, Vice-President, Regulatory Policy and Stewardship, CropLife International said that one of the key factors of success is enabling the policy framework, which allows farmers to have the most tools available and then adapting the same to fit the local context. This is an essential factor, especially in the tropical countries, which faces multiple vagaries of weather. Apart from the alignment with the global regulatory norms, major transformation is needed at a farmer level, which would help the process of farmer industry sustainability for crop protection. This would not be another stewardship project but would involve a complete systematic approach, actually stepping up the efforts that we are providing for farmer health, reducing the footprint on the environment and then making sure that optimizes the crop, which is an inevitable challenge. Another aspect would be to bring new innovation transition and it is not a demonstration. The transformation towards the approach of Integrated Pest Management has to evolve beyond education and would need the concerted efforts of multiple parties, including the regulators. Pesticides have helped to secure biodiversity and would continue to do so but if optimized at all levels.





Mr. K. K. Unni, Chairman Emeritus, CropLife India said, It is indeed delightful to learn that the Ministry of Agriculture is clearing pending registration files for newer molecules on a fast track basis, which would provide huge impetus to both the industry and the farmers. Adapting the regulatory system as per the international standards will be a big boost to the industry.

Mr. Unni added,

- ❖ **CIB Secretariat should be action oriented** – The secretariat needs to work more efficiently so that the pending cases are resolved at a faster pace.
- ❖ **Atma Nirbhar Bharat** – We should be able to adapt to self-reliance and less dependency on China as the world has suffered during Covid-19. This would require concrete efforts both from the industry and the Government and such steps would enhance self-reliance even in the pharmaceutical industry.

Mr. Ankur Aggarwal, Managing Director, Crystal Crop Protection shared in his **Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks** that the Government has always been forthcoming in providing their support to the industry. He assured that CropLife India members will continue to work hard, to ensure that the crop production is increased, so that we reach record production each year.

Mr. Aggarwal appended that the framework which is being created at Central and State levels and a proactive approach in ease of getting newer registrations and the resources being pulled from the Government's side to support our industry is indeed laudable.





Valedictory Session

“Way Forward for Indian Agrochemical Industry”

Mr. Rahoul Sawani, Managing Director - South Asia, Corteva Agriscience shared “Agrochemicals operates in a wider frame with pillars of successful farmers and vibrant rural communities; nation’s food security and the economic growth. Indian agrochemical industry is the 5th largest producer and 4th largest exporter of agrochemicals in the world and has delivered on enhanced climate positive impact towards the agriculture industry”.

Mr. Sawani added –

- ❖ India’s population would rise to 170 Crore from the current 130 Crores; which would mean creating food security for all.
- ❖ While the Indian Agrochemical Industry is at a strong economic position; there is room for global growth as we have fundamental advantages like capabilities, technologies, growing investment scenario, policies that are facilitating the environment and a domestic market which is open for higher efficiency.
- ❖ COVID- 19 pandemic brought into sharp focus the vulnerabilities that many sectors and economies faced across production, supply chain and even consumer demand. Agriculture proved yet again it was a resilient sector and this resilience provides a platform to be able to grow even further. Agriculture was one of the only sectors that grew in 2020 and continues to grow vibrantly in 2021 and create value for society.
- ❖ As we emerge from this pandemic, we are re-imagining the biggest challenges presented to us as a society today; sustainability of production and supply chains and addressing the key issues to future survival and growth of our industry i.e. water, land, the environment; while creating societal value and enriching the lives of farmers and consumers.
- ❖ The UN food systems summit in New York brought the imminent question back on the table; we should be able to participate in the global food transformation. Agrochemicals would play an important role in ensuring food security and changing palate.





- ❖ The Policy Reforms being undertaken by the Government of India is commendable; which should lead towards a policy environment that is science based, that incentivizes investments in sustainable technologies in India, incentivizes innovation and introduces newer molecules, which are safer and greener.
- ❖ The introduction of technological innovations like Robotics, Drone Application, etc. in this sector would solve soil issues, supply change gaps and help the farmers.
- ❖ Collaborations would be key for future growth of our industry, viz. alliances between the Government, technological firms and agrochemical companies to provide value for the farmers.

Dr. Ashok Dalwai, CEO, National Rainfed Area Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India congratulated CropLife India on the 41st AGM and opined, "The impact of climate change has a direct/indirect fallout on pests, which creates impact on crops. The crop protection industry needs to leverage the R&D facilities, thus imbibing the policies of Drone technology and Artificial Intelligence."

Dr. Dalwai appended on the new demands in the current times and what would be the new challenges as we move ahead –

- ❖ We need to appreciate the organic linkage between the biotic and abiotic stress. The biotic sphere includes bacteria, fungi, algae, virus, animals, rodents and other foreign species. The abiotic stress that arise from wrong agricultural practices as has happened in the many parts of the world, including India are manifested today in the form of barrenness of land; loss of organic carbon; high concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere; depleting water tables thus having a negative impact on the productivity potential of our agricultural system. Therefore there is a need to understand the linkage that exist with the biotic stress and the abiotic stress encompassing a large number of activities; including climate change.
- ❖ Climate change is forecasted to manifest in the form of rise in temperature, increased number of weather extremes and change in the precipitation patterns, at the least; thus leading to changes in seasonality. This may lead to higher growth rate for plants and thus the old system of pest management will be obsolete and thus the R&D driven agrochemical companies need to focus on science and technology management.
- ❖ As the technology advances towards **Nano technology**, product stewardship take prime importance as the farmer needs to be aware of the right dosage at the right time.





- ❖ **Product Stewardship** should lead to concept of farming as a service. This is imminent as to harmonize effective application of products, service providers should be able to apply at a blanket scale across larger areas, which is not possible by farmers because of small landholding patterns. Technology like artificial intelligence and application of drones would aid in this process.
- ❖ Climate Change would lead to change in gene pool of species and to tackle that we need better input and output management. While Government has been working towards the output side, we need Market Reforms to handle the input side. While the ecosystem of GST, FDI etc. is contributing towards enabling a trade free, competitive market, we need to keep a check on the production; which may lead to price control mechanisms for the benefit of the farmer. An important step towards the benefit of farmers is the Pesticide Management Bill which is being reviewed at a faster rate.
- ❖ Today India is eager to become in agriculture sector, the world's number one. A new approach called **Ecosystem Based Agriculture (EBA)** is evolving which goes beyond pure technology, productivity and production. Given the fact of climate change and the challenges being faced by the society including social changes; EBA would look at building resilience first among the farmers and the other stakeholders; e.g. on purchasing power. Once the knowledge asymmetry is broken with the help of technology and the response to constraints is better; we would be able to negotiate the risk and work towards predictability. Another aspect of EBA is to have de-centralized participation of people and to de-centralize governance system; thus involving people at a ground level. This cannot be achieved without the respect of culture & traditions of our country.

Mr. Ravi Annavarapu, President, FMC India shared the **Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks** for the session and while expressing his gratitude to the speakers said, that the progress of agriculture in India and the resulting improvement in the quality of life for the farmer; is a critical pillar for the continued progress of nation. Indian agriculture is undergoing transformation, despite undergone numerous changes, crop losses are still at 20%; which if reduced would help prosper the farmer and the nation. The evolution and contribution of the scientific community, business community and Government reforms would enable newer molecules, which would enable enhanced pest management. We need to work towards enhancing the industry's image just like the pharmaceutical industry. Farmers demand would require newer technology and product stewardship will be essential for the technology transfer thus resulting in safe and judicious use of agrochemicals.





TAKING THE MANTLE AHEAD...

CropLife India was honored to receive the august presence of eminent speakers, representing the Government of India and crop protection industry; during the **Open House Session of 41st Annual General Meeting on 29th September 2021**, virtually.

CropLife India is pledged to advance sustainable Indian agriculture and we will continue to thrive on this path. CropLife India believes that Food and Income Security of the nation can be aided by innovative crop protection products and inputs.

CropLife India advocates functional and science – based regulatory framework and precision agriculture for enhanced productivity for the farmer. We will continue to focus and support the Government and other stakeholders on the following issues –

- ❖ Stakeholder consultation for Pesticides Management Bill (PMB) 2020
- ❖ Protection of Regulatory Data – 5 years protection of data from the date of registration for new molecules introduced for the first time in the country
- ❖ Reforms in the Secretariat of the Registration Committee (RC) and the Central Insecticides Board (CIB)
- ❖ Fast track the scrutiny process for new molecules being registered first time in the country
- ❖ Implementation of International Best Practices in regulations which will help in ease of doing business
- ❖ Bringing together various stakeholders towards creation of a Conducive Ecosystem Development for Drone Applications in Agriculture.

CropLife India is committed to impart training on responsible and safe use of crop protection products; and quality inputs for improvement of crop yields, while safeguarding natural resources. Being a part of the CropLife International network, representing the Plant Science Industry in 91 countries; we would continue our outreach for a prosperous and healthy India.



Annual General Meeting in Media

एग्रो केमिकल्स की चुनौतियां खत्म करेगी सरकार : तोमर

एग्रो केमिकल्स उत्पादन क्षेत्र में **भारत चौथा** सबसे बड़ा देश

जामरग ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : फसल सुरक्षा में एग्रो केमिकल्स की भूमिका अहम है। भारत एग्रो केमिकल्स के उत्पादन में दुनिया में चौथा सबसे बड़ा देश है। केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र तोमर ने कहा कि सरकार ने एग्रो केमिकल्स सेक्टर को देश के 12 चौपियंस सेक्टर में शामिल किया है। निर्यात की संभावनाओं को देखते हुए इस क्षेत्र की मुश्किलों को और आसान किया जाएगा। क्राप लाइफ इंडिया की 41वीं आमसभा में तोमर ने गुरुवार को कहा कि इसके जरिये भारत वैश्विक स्तर पर होने वाली एग्रो केमिकल्स की आपूर्ति में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकता है।

तैयारी

- कृषि मंत्री ने कहा - निर्यात संभावनाओं के दोहन के लिए सभी जरूरी कदम उठाए जाएंगे
- भारत में वैश्विक स्तर पर एग्रो केमिकल्स की आपूर्ति में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने की क्षमता



नरेंद्र तोमर • फाइल फोटो

व सरकार के समेकित प्रयासों से लाकडाउन के दौरान खेती के इनपुट में छूट के फसल से कृषि उत्पादकता बढ़ाने में मदद मिली है। तोमर ने क्राप लाइफ इंडिया की प्रारंभ करते हुए कहा कि इसी तरह निर्यात

मूल्य, नकदी की उपलब्धता बढ़ाने, महत्वपूर्ण उत्पादों की खरीद फरोख्त करने, किसानों को मनचाही जगहों पर उपज बेचने की मिली छूट और कार्टेल फार्मिंग की सुविधा देने जैसे

भारत कृषि रसायन का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक : तोमर

नई दिल्ली, 30 सितंबर (भाषा)।

कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने कहा कि भारत दुनिया में कृषि रसायनों का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है और इस क्षेत्र में अनुसंधान, नवाचार और त्वरित पंजीकरण प्रणाली की मदद से विकास की काफी संभावनाएं हैं।

15 फसल विज्ञान कंपनियों के शीर्ष निकाय क्राॅपलाइफ इंडिया की 41वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए तोमर ने कहा कि केंद्र ने एक डिजिटल कृषि मिशन शुरू किया है और कृषि क्षेत्र में ड्रोन के उपयोग पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहा है। क्राॅपलाइफ द्वारा जारी एक बयान के अनुसार, तोमर ने कहा कि भारत कृषि रसायनों का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है। इस क्षेत्र की क्षमता को देखते हुए, सरकार ने कृषि रसायन क्षेत्र को 12 चौपियंस क्षेत्रों में शामिल किया है।

New molecule registration system is evolving fast in India: Dr. S. K. Malhotra

An online system has been put in place for fast tracking the registration process, says the Chairman of Registration Committee

By ICN Bureau | September 30, 2021



"As the Chairman of the committee for registrations, I have witnessed 56 meetings happening in the last four years. More than 32 new molecules have been registered and new applications are being increasingly accepted for assessment and approvals. Many new bio-pesticides too have been registered. Our larger goal is to implement the substitution of import and promote the 'Make in India' in real sense, says Dr. S. K. Malhotra, Chairman of the Registration Committee, and also the Agriculture and Horticulture Commissioner in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

Speaking at the virtual conference on the sidelines of CropLife India's 41st Annual General Meeting, Dr. Malhotra listed out the renewed efforts by the government.

"We are working on ease of doing business and data requirements for registrations have been rationalized. While we might allow minimum data but at the same time we are not compromising on safety. First draft of data recommendations has been finalized based on the suggestions we have received so far. About 3 months back, we had a 3 day long discussion with industry. We named it 3D programme, i.e. Discuss, Decide and Deliver. 50% suggestions were resolved on the spot and 25% were resolved later.

सरकार का डिजिटल कृषि मिशन शुरू

■ नई दिल्ली (वार्ता) ।

कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि किसानों के लाभ के लिए सरकार ने डिजिटल कृषि मिशन की शुरुआत की है और इस क्षेत्र में ड्रोन के इस्तेमाल पर फोकस किया जा रहा है।

तोमर ने क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया (सीएलआई) की 41वीं वार्षिक आम सभा में कहा कि कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय ने डिजिटल कृषि को आगे ले जाने के लिए निजी क्षेत्र के साथ एमओयू साइन किए हैं, जिनका उद्देश्य किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ाते हुए उन्हें हर तरह से लाभ पहुंचाना है। उन्होंने प्रसन्नता जताते हुए कहा कि सीएलआई संयुक्त रूप से 70 प्रतिशत क्रॉप प्रोटेक्शन मार्केट का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, देश में 95 प्रतिशत मॉलिन्युल्स को लाने में इसकी भूमिका रही है। सीएलआई की सदस्य कंपनियां अत्याधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग कर रही हैं और वैश्विक स्तर पर रिसर्च एंड

■ कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने कहा, किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय ने इसके लिए निजी क्षेत्र के साथ एमओयू साइन किया है



■ इस क्षेत्र में ड्रोन के इस्तेमाल पर भी किया जा रहा फोकस

डेवलपमेंट पर सालाना छह अरब डॉलर खर्च करती है, जिससे किसानों के लिए नए एवं सुरक्षित इन्वेंट्रेशन संभव होते हैं।

भारत एग्री केमिकल्स का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है। इस क्षेत्र की संभावनाओं को देखते हुए सरकार ने एग्रीकेमिकल सेक्टर को 12 चैंपियन सेक्टर में शामिल किया, जहां भारत वैश्विक आपूर्ति-श्रृंखला में महत्वपूर्ण

भूमिका निभा सकता है। इन्वेंट्रेशन, पंजीकरण प्रणाली में तेजी, प्रारंभिक फसल संरक्षण अनुसंधान एवं डिजिटलीकरण अभियान की मदद से केमिकल सेक्टर में अग्रणी होने की काफी क्षमता है।

कृषि मंत्री ने कहा कि कोविड-19 अभूतपूर्व वैश्विक संकट काल रहा लेकिन इस दौर में भी कृषि क्षेत्र को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार द्वारा उठाए विभिन्न कदमों ने अर्थव्यवस्था को गति दी। कोविड ने चुनौतियां पेश करने के साथसाथ संबंधित पक्षों को प्रयोग एवं परीक्षण करने, सीखने और इन्वेंट्रिटव आईडिया को लागू करने का अवसर भी प्रदान किया है। किसानों की मेहनत, वैज्ञानिकों की कुशलता व सरकार के समन्वित प्रयासों से लॉकडाउन के दौरान कृषि इन्पुट को छूट देने के कदमों ने कृषि उत्पादकता को स्थिर रखने में मदद की एवं अन्य क्षेत्रों में भारी गिरावट के बावजूद आर्थिक परिदृश्य को सकारात्मक बनाए रखा है।

भारत कृषि रसायन का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक : तोमर

एजेंसी : नई दिल्ली

कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने कहा कि भारत दुनिया में कृषि रसायनों का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है और इस क्षेत्र में अनुसंधान, नवाचार और त्वरित पंजीकरण प्रणाली की मदद से विकास की काफी संभावनाएं हैं। 15 फसल विज्ञान



कंपनियों के शीर्ष निकाय क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया की 41वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए तोमर ने कहा कि केंद्र ने एक डिजिटल कृषि मिशन शुरू किया है और कृषि क्षेत्र में ड्रोन के उपयोग पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहा है। क्रॉपलाइफ द्वारा जारी एक बयान के अनुसार, तोमर ने कहा, 'भारत कृषि रसायनों का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है। इस क्षेत्र को क्षमता को देखते हुए, सरकार ने कृषि रसायन क्षेत्र को 12 चैंपियन क्षेत्रों में शामिल किया है, जहां भारत वैश्विक आपूर्ति श्रृंखला में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकता है।' मंत्री ने कहा, 'नवाचार, त्वरित पंजीकरण प्रणाली, प्रारंभिक फसल सुरक्षा अनुसंधान और डिजिटलीकरण अभियान की मदद से रासायनिक क्षेत्र में अग्रणी होने की काफी संभावनाएं हैं।'

भारत अब शीर्ष 10 कृषि उत्पाद निर्यातकों में शामिल

कृषि मंत्रालय ने डिजिटल कृषि को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए निजी क्षेत्र के साथ समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं, जिसका उद्देश्य किसानों की आय में वृद्धि करते हुए उनकी हर तरह से लाभान्वित करना है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत अब शीर्ष 10 कृषि उत्पाद निर्यातकों में शामिल है और फसल संरक्षण उद्योग ने इसमें महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है।

India 4th largest producer of agrochemicals, huge potential for growth: Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar

PTI - Last Updated: Sep 30, 2021, 05:36 PM IST

Synopsis

Earlier, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar stressed on making the agriculture education system multi-disciplinary, multi-dimensional and job-oriented.



Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar

India is the fourth-largest producer of agrochemicals in the world, and the sector has a huge potential for growth with the help of research, innovation and a speedy registration system, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has said. Addressing the 41st AGM of CropLifeIndia, an apex body of 15 Crop science companies, Tomar said the Centre has launched a digital agriculture mission and focusing on the use of drones in the farm sector.

"India is the fourth-largest producer of agrochemicals. Seeing the potential of this sector, the government has included the agrochemical sector among the 12 champion sectors where India can play an important role in the global supply chain," Tomar was quoted as saying in a statement issued by CropLife.

सरकार ने की डिजिटल कृषि मिशन की शुरुआत : तोमर

विशेष प्रतिनिधि

नई दिल्ली । कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने गुरुवार को कहा कि किसानों के लाभ के लिए सरकार ने डिजिटल कृषि मिशन की शुरुआत की है और इस क्षेत्र में ड्रोन के इस्तेमाल पर फोकस किया जा रहा है।

तोमर ने क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया (सीएलआई) की 41वीं वार्षिक आम सभा में कहा कि कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय ने डिजिटल कृषि को आगे ले जाने के लिए निजी क्षेत्र के साथ एमओयू साइन किए हैं, जिसका उद्देश्य किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ाते हुए उन्हें हर तरह से लाभ पहुंचाना है।

उन्होंने प्रसन्नता जताते हुए कहा कि सीएलआई संयुक्त रूप से 70 प्रतिशत क्रॉप प्रोटेक्शन मार्केट का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, देश में 95 प्रतिशत मॉलिन्युल्स को लाने में इसकी भूमिका रही है। सीएलआई को सदस्य कंपनियां अत्याधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग कर रही हैं और वैश्विक स्तर पर रिसर्च एंड डेवलपमेंट पर सालाना छह अरब डॉलर खर्च करती हैं, जिससे किसानों के लिए नए एवं सुरक्षित इन्वेंट्रेशन संभव होते हैं।



कृषि मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर

भारत एग्री केमिकल्स का चौथा सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है। इस क्षेत्र की संभावनाओं को देखते हुए सरकार ने एग्रीकेमिकल सेक्टर को 12 चैंपियन सेक्टर में शामिल किया, जहां भारत वैश्विक आपूर्ति-श्रृंखला में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकता है। इन्वेंट्रेशन, पंजीकरण प्रणाली में तेजी, प्रारंभिक फसल संरक्षण अनुसंधान एवं डिजिटलीकरण अभियान की मदद से केमिकल सेक्टर में अग्रणी होने की काफी क्षमता है।

कृषि मंत्री ने कहा कि कोविड-19 अभूतपूर्व वैश्विक संकट काल रहा लेकिन इस दौर में भी कृषि क्षेत्र को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार द्वारा उठाए विभिन्न कदमों ने अर्थव्यवस्था को गति दी। कोविड ने चुनौतियां पेश करने के साथसाथ संबंधित पक्षों को प्रयोग एवं परीक्षण करने, सीखने और इन्वेंट्रिटव आईडिया को लागू करने का अवसर भी प्रदान किया है। किसानों की मेहनत, वैज्ञानिकों की कुशलता व सरकार के समन्वित प्रयासों से लॉकडाउन के दौरान कृषि इन्पुट को छूट देने के कदमों ने कृषि उत्पादकता को स्थिर रखने में मदद की एवं अन्य क्षेत्रों में भारी गिरावट के बावजूद आर्थिक परिदृश्य को सकारात्मक बनाए रखा है।



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