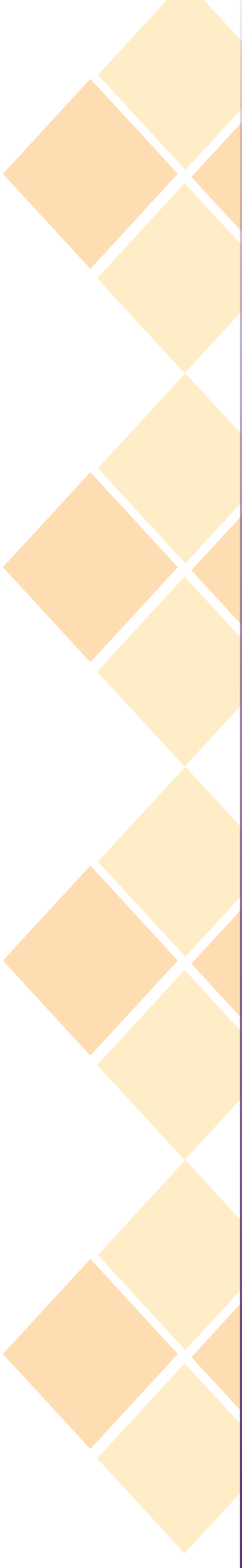




# Agriculture Transformation Through Partnerships



**39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**26<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
**New Delhi**







## 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. 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 non - profit organization, (registered under Section 8 company) 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.

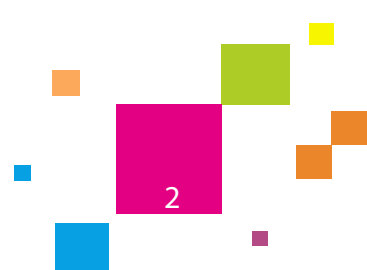


# ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING INDIAN PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY

## Our Members



## Our Associate Members



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. **Unfortunately the reforms of 1991, bypassed the agricultural sector hence it is critical that we now re-look at reforming the agriculture sector with a new paradigm.** It is imperative that Government and Industry listen to each other; and work in a partnership model for bring the paradigm shift towards betterment of the farmers' livelihood.
2. In India crop yield losses range between 15 to 20 percent on account of weeds, pests, diseases and rodents. Pests and diseases are identified as one of the major reasons for crop loss and next only to weather vagaries, making it extremely important to be addressed in strategizing for higher farm income. **The Crop Protection Industry will have a critical role to play going forward in contributing to doubling the agriculture growth in India, which is so essential for food security and improving the quality of life.**
3. India is among the very few countries in the world which does not provide Protection of Regulatory Data. Any product introduced first time in India deserve reasonable data protection to recoup the investments towards development and data generation. This would foster and enable newer technologies being available to Indian farming community. **Considering best practices globally, molecule being introduced first time in the country should get a minimum of 5 years data protection from the date of registration in India; and the same provisions should be made in the Pesticide Management Bill 2017.** Although divergent views exist within the industry on this topic; the Government should take an independent decision on the matter, which is in the interest of the farmer.
4. **Reform of the Secretariat of the Registration Committee (RC) and the Central Insecticides Board (CIB) is a welcome step.** RC must comprise of reputed independent scientists to guide pesticide registrations and related matters. Further, the supporting staff suffers from not only severe shortages, but also in requisite skills to effectively evaluate product registration data and matters connected thereto. The entire set up processes and systems, need major overhaul. Further, detailed guidelines/protocols/SOP need to be prescribed for evaluating the regulatory data to ensure transparency and uniformity in its assessment.
5. **There is a need to fast track the scrutiny process for new molecules being registered first time in the country.** As on date, the registration process takes even upto 8 years. CropLife India had suggested the regulatory reforms via E&Y (report generated in 2016), if adopted, may overcome this issue and enable the industry to prepone the novel products availability to farmers by around 14-18 months. In case of emergency pest breakouts such as Fall Army Worm (FAW) special registration should be considered.
6. Satellite driven, big data analytics and digital solutions are helping farmers globally to make better and more informed decisions with regards to weather, soil nutrients, pest and diseases. **An area which will have a major impact and needs government intervention is "Use of Drones" for spraying Crop Protection Chemicals.**
7. **Promotion of Quality Products and Safe and Judicious Use of Crop Protection products is of paramount importance.** A partnership between the Government, Industry and Farmers is crucial to ensure farmers use high quality genuine products in a judicious manner.

# AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

CropLife India, an association of 16 R&D driven crop science companies, organized its **39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)** on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in New Delhi.

Keeping in view, the CropLife India's Board and Chief Executive Officer's vision of achieving enhanced levels of awareness for the crop protection industry, it was decided that a high – impact thought leadership oriented Open House Session be organized, wherein the discussions and point of view of multiple stakeholders be deliberated on key topics.

It's the first time, in the history of CropLife India, over **20 eminent Speakers** came on board from the Government of India and crop protection industry, during the Open House Session. The day long AGM witnessed an inaugural and four technical sessions with experts and key Government officials' conglomeration, on the cause of supporting the farmer.

## The sessions' included themes like –

- ✓ "New Government's Vision for Agriculture Transformation in India"
- ✓ "Bringing Innovation to the Farmers; Case for Regulatory Data Protection in India"
- ✓ "Regulatory Reforms and Global Best Practices"
- ✓ "Fast Track Adoption of Drones Application Technology Solutions"
- ✓ "Ensuring Quality Inputs for Farmers"

**CropLife India Film**, specially created for the AGM, showcasing the activities and projects undertaken by CropLife India in policy reforms, stewardship and anti-counterfeit, was showcased during the Inaugural Session.

## Highlights

### Inaugural Session

#### *"New Government's Vision for Agriculture Transformation in India"*

**Mr. Asitava Sen**, CEO, CropLife India, while welcoming the august gathering shared in his Opening Remarks, that for the Indian agriculture and Crop Protection industry in particular, the focus is our customers; the farmers. It's the farmers' benefits, which will be aided, as a result of the day long discussions.



While delivering the Theme Address, **Mr. Rajendra Velagala**, Chairman, CropLife India, shared, that Digitalization or Digital embracement in farming will bring efficiency; and the pace of its adoption will depend on progressive policies. CropLife India is committed to support Hon'ble Prime Minister of India's vision of Doubling Farmers Income by 2022. He added that Government should address industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill, bring in Data Protection; align with Best International Practices and Regulatory Reforms by reducing registration timelines of crop protection products.





The Chief Guest of the occasion, **Shri P. Raghavendra Rao**, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India said, the role of agrochemicals in the development of the food grains production in India is critical, considering the fact that India, is predicted to be the most populous country by 2030. He added that in India, 60% of the crop area is using pesticides but the remaining area, hardly use them. He cited that in Japan, due to high compliance on good agriculture practice, despite 60-70% of the area using crop protection, the rejection rate from a 30,000 sample is only 0.015%.

He further heard **Mr. R. G. Agarwal**, Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech on the issue of Data Protection and assured the house that soon there shall be a meeting with the manufacturers and sellers of the crop protection solutions, on this topic. Views of **Dr. J. C. Majumdar**, Senior Scientific Advisor, Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) and Mr. Rajvir Rathi, Bayer Crop Sciences were taken due cognizance by Mr. Rao.

The Key note Speaker of the day, **Prof. Panjab Singh, President, National Academy of Agriculture Sciences** concurred with Mr. Rao and said, India will be feeding 1.7 billion population by 2050 and this is against degrading natural resources, particularly soil and water. So while we have to increase our production, and at the same time we have to improve the natural resources. This means one cannot grow at the same cost of resources which have been in the past, thus further complicating the challenge.

He believes, from a problem of deficit, we are now going through the problem of plenty. The issue of rising population needs to be addressed by sustainable agriculture and production practices, so that livelihood can be maintained.

**Dr. K. C. Ravi, Vice Chairman, CropLife India** shared the Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks to the gathering. He opined that our effort is to bring greener safer chemistries, make farming more sustainable, profitable for the farmer and most importantly more secure so that the farmer at the end of the day wants his children to pursue farming.

Dr. Ravi stressed on the need for coordinated action by all stakeholders to address the policy bottlenecks which are slowing the growth of the agriculture sector.





## Session - I

*“Bringing Innovation to the Farmers; Case for Regulatory Data Protection in India”*

**Mr. R. G. Agarwal, Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech** opened the session and shared that as Data Protection was discussed in the inaugural session, we will focus on the individual views of the panelists of this session.

**Mr. Sianghee Tan, Executive Director, CropLife Asia** shared by comparing India with China. As per his data, the population of both the countries are similar, similar land holding patterns; however the income per farmer in China, is double of that in India. The reasons for the difference are Intellectual Property and Technology. China offers 6 years Data Protection, as a result, 98% of commercially available molecules worldwide, are registered in China. This is not the case in India and Indian farmers do not have access to safer products, which are available worldwide. The situation would further worsen once the old chemistry is phased out and Indian products do not comply with MRL norms in the Export market.

**Mr. Salil Singhal, Chairman, PI Industries** shared that any decision should be taken in the interest of the farmers, in the interest of the country and not in the interest of any particular group of industries. Keeping this mind, we should not keep our farmers deprived of the new technology and the Government should take an independent decision on the matter, which is seen being in the interest of the farmer.

**Dr. Ram Kaundinya, Director General, Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII)** opined that Indian agriculture is evolving from achieving food security to farmer's profitability. Keeping in mind the Sustainable development goals 2030, the major goal is of responsible production and responsible consumption. As the industry is not uniform, it has a short head and a long tail. The short head actually is the one which brings new products because this is the one which actually invests in research. However, it is the long tail which actually wags the industry because the long tail actually uses the products which are coming out of the research of this limited number of companies. Keeping in mind that we will be feeding 1.7 billion population by 2030, research should take the primary seat and as an industry we should focus on resource efficiency in production.



He further added, as per Joseph Alois Schumpeter, Austrian political economist, (famous in 1920s - 1930s); 'every innovation results in temporary periods of monopoly but followed by huge economic value being generated for the customer and for the society and it will lead to a restructuring of the entire industry structure'. This should be our focus, the long-term benefits of innovation and the long-term benefits of intellectual property protection.

**Dr. J. C. Majumdar, Senior Scientific Advisor, Crop Care Federation of India** shared, we are aware of the colossal investment which goes in the invention, development, production and marketing of a pesticide molecule. As normally as in most of the countries including India there is a patent protection for 20 years which normally is considered sufficient to recover the cost of the research and plough back into further research. And in addition to that, in India we had or still have three years of additional protection. So as far as patent protection is concerned, CCFI is at par with any other organization because we value the impact or the necessity of research and bringing out new molecules. However, CCFI does not support Data Protection.

**Mr. Ankur Aggarwal, Managing Director, Crystal Crop Protection Limited** concluded, as a member of the science based industry, we believe that innovation is key to growth. By bringing in new formulations, we will encourage new crop cultivation, which will attract newer generation of farmers. As we move from Self Sustainability to exports, we would need newer technologies and in order to get access to newer technologies, data protection is must.

**Mr. R. G. Agarwal, Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech** thanked all the fellow panelists for livelier discussion. He shared that our Hon'ble Prime Minister, while speaking this year in National Science Congress on 3<sup>rd</sup> January '19 has added to the slogan of 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' and 'Jai Vigyan'; added by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee in the year 2000 and this year our Hon'ble Prime Minister has added 'Jai Anusandhan'. Keeping this in background, we should focus on research, which should lead to more choices in the market, a virtue of the democratic country. The decision on Data Protection should be taken with the farmers' and the nation's interest.



## Session - II

*"Regulatory Reforms; and Global Best Practices"*

**Dr. P. K. Chakraborty, Member, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB)** opened the session by sharing that global best practices are the absolute need of hour for Indian farmers as they have 140 million hectares of land to till, which needs a larger number of better molecules, than the current 292. This is essential to plug the crop losses to the tune of 25% to 30% amounting to nearly Rs. 2 lakh crores. Another fact is, losses are present despite the use of 55,000 tonnes of pesticides, which suggests presence of either wrong practices or resistance towards molecules. India has one of the stringent regulatory norms and practices, but this does not mean, that Indian farmers should be deprived of better molecules.

Various pests have been attacking India, 2014 - Tuta Absoluta, 2015 - Spiraling Whitefly, Panama wilt of Banana, Wheat Blast disease, and now Fall Armyworm. However, in many instances, we have not been able to provide registration to the molecules in time, which definitely needs to be fast-tracked. Government of India has approved an International Best Practice of Crop Grouping on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019; which will help in label expansion to Minor Crops.





**Dr. Chakraborty** added, that in order to enable Indian farmers, access to newer chemistries, the Pesticide Management Bill should provide Data Protection for at least 5 years.

Government should draft guidelines for Bio-Pesticides, which has been unregulated and doing prolific business. Government should work towards curbing the menace of spurious pesticides. Although, the issue is not unique to India, but the presence of 25% - 30% spurious products as per FICCI, is a huge matter of concern.

**Mr. Raju Kapoor, Industry & Public Affairs Director, FMC India** shared that he is very enthused by the Prime Minister's statement; "reform to transform". We are looking at essentially doubling farmers' income on one side, we need safer nutritious products for our population and being the world supplier of food; and on the other we want to safeguard the environment, safeguard the users and support small-time farmers. All of these is possible only with an ideal regulation, which at the least should instill confidence. It should inspire trust and must inspire investment in future. It has to be progressive and forward-looking. Every regulation must drive growth and development.

We were in a controlled mindset for a very long time since independence as the circumstances were such and so was the economy and education. However, we should now look at a new regulatory system, which moves from control system to a facilitation system, providing ease of doing business.

**Dr. K. K. Sharma, Network Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR)** shared that ICAR generates supervised field trial data of new molecule as per label claim of pesticides in different agro climatic condition and that data is used for risk assessment, MRL fixation and recommended waiting period between the application and the harvest. MRL needs to be read alongside ADI (Acceptable Daily Intake), which means that particular amount of the pesticide can be consumed regularly / daily throughout the entire life without any health risk to the consumer.

Pesticides should be used safely and judiciously, only when it is required, it should be used and farmers should have all the options to use. Pesticide should be used as per the label claim, as per the package of practices and as per the GAP so that it should not affect the environment; it should not affect the consumer and it should not have any trade barrier.

**Mr. John Southwell, Counsellor (Agriculture), Australian High Commission** shared, the population of Australia is almost equivalent of the population of Delhi and Australia has around 300,000 farmers. Population of India 1.3-1.4 billion and there are about 145 million farming families in India. Both countries, though have to deal with federal structure (Centre and State Governments) as well as we also suffer from difficulties of water scarcity and climate change. He agreed with Mr. Raju Kapoor's reference – a dynamic regulatory system, is a necessity for prospective regulation. Achieving this, is an ongoing journey and the need for it to be risk based vs. hazard based and it should be science based system.

He further added that there is lot to be learnt from the implementation of the PM Kisan Scheme by the Indian Government.

**Mr. Anil Kakkar, Vice President, Sumitomo Chemical India** shared, India manufacturers export huge quantities of pesticides, which should be considered in the reforms. The corporate tax reforms will surely boost the export sector and the pesticide reform should follow suit. The reforms should open export avenues and should be done on a fast track basis.

He added that the regulatory bodies should defend the registrations which they have granted through a scientific process. The assumption based high decibel noises from NGOs reach the politicians, which in turn results in knee jerk reactions.



## Session - III

### *“Fast Track Adoption of Drones Application Technology Solutions”*

**Mr. Mayank Singhal, Managing Director, PI Industries** opined in his opening remarks, we should start looking at drones in agriculture, keeping in mind the larger objective; benefit to the farmer and end consumer; enhancing the overall value of the farmer and the food that we consume.

Apart from the CropLife centric focus, which is application of agrochemicals; the focus should be to have an integrated approach of utilizing this technology along with the power of information, with digital analytics; to deliver value to agriculture in India; while creating a disruption.

Avenues like irrigation; seed optimization; risk management; managing crop diseases and pests; crop diversity; assessment of plant diseases and insurance; etc. can be explored so that we produce safe food.


The key to the adoption of drones in Indian agriculture will be by the understanding of the economy, the fragmented distribution holding and the socio-cultural landscape.

Our regulatory framework needs to be agile enough to consider this, that drones will be used as a service only; hence should frame rules accordingly. The technology has more reaching out effect than the current avenues of application, safety; track and trace; seeds; fertilizers; soil health; etc. and the regulator should be receptive to this technology, so that to benefit the society and nation.

**Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Joint Secretary (Seeds and M&T), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India** shared the Government has been exploring various means of testing Drone technology in the past few years. He shared the nuances, he underwent while presenting the drone application to Prime Minister in the year 2016, the numerous permissions, etc. The focus mainly was that the technology should be used either for insurance for the crop or assessing the productivity of the crop or using pesticides, growth hormones or fertilizers.







Post deliberations, it was decided that ICAR should proceed in detailed research, which should result in data collection, based on which, guidelines be framed. Few basic things needs to be deciphered; quantity of pesticide to be used in drones and the cost of application to the farmer. Training for the drone operator should be mandatory along with certification, which would eliminate wrong practices and ensure monitoring.

He summed up and shared, ICAR-IARI is conducting a study on the application of crop protection products by drones and the report will be submitted soon to the Ministry. The Ministry of Agriculture is working in close coordination and will issue the guidelines of drone applications, within one month of report submission.


**Mr. Sianghee Tan, Executive Director, CropLife Asia** opined that costs will not deter the advent of technology. He shared data of drones being used in agriculture across various countries, beginning from China, Korea, Japan, Philippines and ASEAN countries, where the numbers are increasing at a rapid pace. The presence of start-up companies, today that are venturing either in self-assembly or straight purchase; is increasing steadily.

Apart from crop protection, drones will be highly effective in insurance and disease monitoring compared to even satellites, which cannot penetrate beyond a quadrant of 2 hectare.

He added, that the expertise of Indian IT sector should be utilized in the growth of agriculture in India. Apart from attracting the Indian youth to farming, technology will help in mitigating the risk and aid in Doubling Farmers' Income. Farmers that are exporting to contribute to GDP of agriculture for India, needs technology first hand.

**Dr. Indramani, Professor and Head, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Division of Agricultural Engineering, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)** shared mechanization is defined by better capacity, better precision, better timeliness and enhanced efficiency. Drones fulfills all the conditions.

ICAR is in the process of developing standard guidelines for use of drone, a project being headed by Deputy Director General Engineering, along with few Professors, Department Heads from IARI and scientists. The industry is deeply involved in this process, so that the guidelines formed are as per the on-ground necessities and be user-friendly. All the parameters like penetration of the spray at various heights are being studied. Formulation will be integral as the dilution levels are different; so the formulation's effect on various crops are being analyzed. Keeping the farm holding pattern in India (80% of farmer own 30% of land), we are looking at rationalizing costs per hectare and methods of implementing the same. All the challenges will be studied deeply so that this technology can benefit the farmers.



**Dr. Parmar Raghuveer Singh, Research Fellow, Punjab Agricultural University** shared first hand experiences of working with drone for crop protection, as he has been undergoing research project on UAV drone spraying system during his PhD in Punjab Agricultural University. He feels that drones are essential to enhance the crop yield and protect the crop apart from safeguarding exposure for humans. There are multiple benefits of drones like larger areas can be covered very quickly, no soil compaction thus enhancing yield and no environment pollution as the drones run on electric battery power. The efficiency of drones are high, as they use GPS coordinates for their flight path.

The spray quality parameters like droplet size, NMD, VMD, uniformity coefficient as their area of percentage coverage, etc. are favorable for crop protection products; hence a must use technology for farmers.

**Mr. Ankur Tiku, Asset Lead, Bayer Crop Science** believes that drone technology is a game-changer in making farming really attractive for the youth of India to go back to farming and serve their villages back. He believes that the regulations for usage of drones and data generation for efficiency of products should be done in an integrated manner; keeping in background the model of other countries like Japan.

An integral element required is partnerships, for deeper penetration of drone technology in the country. Industry should act as a bridge to bring together start-ups with technology and regulators on the same platform, so that quick adoption of early guidance for spraying system is achieved; as a proactive model instead of having a reactive approach to it.

He stressed, from a mere 1.6 million hectare treated area in China in 2016, 30 million hectare has been the treated area in the year 2019. Technology changes the game. Radio took 75 years to reach 50 million users; Internet took 4 years but Angry Birds took just 3 months to reach 50 million people.

**Mr. Pramod Thota, President, FMC India** opined in his Concluding Remarks that one of the primary benefit for the usage of drones in agriculture is to minimize the applicator exposure issues, which are extremely critical for a country like India; apart from significant advantages like improving the return on investment, reducing the cost of applications, etc.

We need a stable and forward-looking policy environment, which seeks the input of various stakeholders, growers, the industry partners and the academic community, while learning from other countries; thus enabling the reach of this technology to farmers. This would really help the growers in this country and that will ultimately drive the Government's mandate of Doubling Farmers' Income.





## Session - IV

### *“Ensuring Quality Inputs for Farmers”*

**Mr. Rajendra Velagala, Chairman, CropLife India** shared in his Opening Remarks, we as Industry Associations are completely aligned to Doubling Farmers’ Income. Our Taskforces are analyzing nuances to enhance the overall productivity and playing the role of an enabler. A key element, which emerged during today’s discussion is “providing the quality inputs to the farmers”. We feel, despite divergent views on the exact percentage, that this is a challenge, which needs to be addressed.

CropLife India has been working on initiatives like the Anti-Counterfeiting campaign, wherein more than 20 Lakh farmers have been trained by our member companies; Grow Safe Food Campaign; animation films and partnerships with FICCI. CropLife, and its members believe in ensuring quality input for farmers and will continue to strive towards education of the farmers in terms of anti-counterfeit.

Mr. Velagala expressed his sincere gratitude to Dr. Ashok Dalwai for sharing the Keynote Message for the CropLife India Annual Report 2018-19.

**Dr. Ashok Dalwai, CEO, National Rainfed Area Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Chief Guest for AGM 2019** expressed his willingness to hear from the participants about the discussions being held today, especially on the regulatory issues. Dr. Dalwai wanted to understand the differences between India and China and the reasons for their success.



## Participants - Open Discussion

**Mr. Raju Kapoor**, Industry & Public Affairs Director, FMC India shared the key differentiation between India and China is, Proactive Regulation; which is foreseeing the problems of tomorrow and trying to put a solution for them today, so that they are future-ready. Mr. Kapoor added, that Regulator should facilitate technology and not control the same.


**Dr. K. C. Ravi**, Vice Chairman, CropLife India added that although there is persistent engagement from the Government's side with the industry; the time taken for decisions is matter of huge concern. Issues like implementation of International best practices, harmonization, crop grouping, minor changes, and legislation of bio-stimulants, are some of the key issues. CropLife India presented an E&Y Report on how to reduce Registration Timelines, which resulted in the Government forming the Balaram Committee but there has been no activity since then. The industry has provided valuable inputs on the Pesticide Management Bill. The issue of Data Protection has seen dialogue and debate, however if seen internationally, 7-10 years of Data Protection exists in most other countries. This is imminent for first time registrants in the country, so that the investment costs of stewardship, stabilization, etc. are safeguarded.

**Mr. Rajendra Velagala**, Chairman, CropLife India added that domestic companies are investing substantially in smart innovation for a combination of products, (whether insecticides or fungicide) who also would require data protection and the intent is to recognize the local innovation. Government, post hearing from both the sides of the argument, needs to arrive at a rational decision.

**Mr. Sianghee Tan**, Executive Director, CropLife Asia shared the perspective of China. China has three problems, one is just like India, aging population. The other being fragmentation of land area and that they are global supplier of agricultural chemicals. China has put in place technology to bring young generations to come in, to energize the whole agriculture space. Regulation becomes a fundamental as it allows the technology to evolve coherently to the needs of the farmers and adaptation for them to use in different crops.

**Mr. John Southwell**, Counsellor (Agriculture), Australian High Commission shared his insight of Australia. Industries across Australia as well pay a levy on their decision, the decision of those industries to actually monitor the residues in the plants and animals that are grown in Australia to minimise chemical residues to ensure importing country requirements are met.

Data protection in Australia is currently set at 10 years. It is based on ensuring that the companies, which create the products, actually have a chance over those 10 years to leverage the data; to improvise their innovations and /or develop newer molecules.



**Dr. Ashok Dalwai** expressed his gratitude and congratulated CropLife India on the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. He shared that the current Government is extremely keen to listen, an ethos which flows directly from the Prime Minister as he believes that listening has immense merit. He expressed that CropLife India members are large players, as they invest in Research & Development, which derives from the efforts of trying to connect to the people and specially, farmers.

Unfortunately the reforms of 1991, bypassed the agricultural sector hence we need to improve our agriculture, now. It is imperative for the Government to listen to the industry, as it will lead to solutions.

Dr. Dalwai added, Democracy, institution and technology are the important ingredients for development of a nation and there is need for inorganic competition. He cited the example of the miracle of the telecom sector in India; from the era of receiver paying the money to today, the receiver rejecting the call, even if it's free.

Now the time has arrived when we need to think for agriculture value system and not as a standalone. Hon'ble Prime Minister has constituted a new committee of Chief Ministers under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra; to implement and adopt new transformations, analyze the acts of contract farming, marketing, creating competition, allow private sector entry, etc.

He believes, that collaboration is the new mantra. In fact the R&D of the public sector and R&D of the private sector must work together. Public and the Private Extension system must work together. Government has physical infrastructure but may not be having the necessary skills and knowledge, the new technology, which makes collaboration, a necessity.

**Mr. Ajai Kumar, Head of Government and Industry Affairs, Corteva India** shared in the Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks that the day has fanned out as planned. Mr. Ajai expressed his gratitude to Dr. Dalwai for the interactive session, the new meaning, Dr. Dalwai gave to the open house session format of the discussion, and the elicited participation of all the entire house. Mr. Ajai thanked Dr. Dalwai for the optimism exemplified in being an active listener to the issues, being a part of the Government.







## Taking the mantle ahead...

CropLife India was honoured to receive the august presence of over 20 eminent Speakers, representing the Government of India and crop protection industry; during the Open House Session of 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in New Delhi.

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 –

- ✓ Early introduction of Pesticides Management Bill (PMB) 2017
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Favourable policies for “Use of Drones” for spraying Crop Protection Chemicals
- ✓ Usage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be made mandatory by Law
- ✓ Effective forward-looking regulation on Agrochemical Container Management in India

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

## Govt should address industry's concerns in new pesticides bill: CropLife

PTI | Sep 30, 2019, 17:46:27



New Delhi, Sep 30 () CropLife India Chairman Rajendra Velagala on Monday said the government should address the industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill, likely to be passed in the forthcoming winter session of Parliament.

The Pesticide Management Bill, which will replace the Insecticides Act, 1968, seeks to regulate the pesticide sector by fixing prices and setting up of a regulatory authority.

"The government should address industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill," Velagala said while addressing the company's 39th Annual General Meeting. The government should bring in data protection and align with best international practices and regulatory reforms by reducing registration timelines of crop protection products, he said in a statement.

Velagala shared that digitalisation will bring in efficiency and the pace of its adoption to depend on our progressive policies.

CropLife is an association of 18 research and development-driven member companies in crop protection.

Chemicals and Petrochemicals Secretary P Raghavendra Rao said, "The role of agrochemicals in the development of the food grains production in India is critical, considering the fact that India is predicted to be the most populous country by 2030."

A senior agriculture ministry official said the government will soon issue guidelines on using drones for application of crop protection products.

## BusinessLine

### 'Pesticides bill should address industry concerns'

Press Trust of India | New Delhi | Updated on September 30, 2019 | Published on September 30, 2019



CropLife India Chairman Rajendra Velagala on Monday said the government should address the industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill, likely to be passed in the forthcoming Winter Session of Parliament.

The Pesticide Management Bill, which will replace the Insecticides Act, 1968, seeks to regulate the pesticide sector by fixing prices and setting up a regulatory authority.

### सरकार को नए कीटनाशक विधेयक में उद्योग की चिंताओं को दूर करना चाहिए - क्रॉपलाइफ

नई दिल्ली। राकेश को कोटाशक उद्योग विधेयक में कीटनाशक उद्योग की चिंताओं को दूर करना चाहिए। इस विधेयक के संसद के आगामी शीतकालीन सत्र में पारित होने की संभावना है। कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक, जो कीटनाशक अधिनियम, 1968 की जगह लेगा। कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में कीमतों को तय करके और एक नियामक प्राधिकरण की स्थापना करके कीटनाशक क्षेत्र को विनियमित करने की कोशिश की गई है। वेलागाला ने कंपनी की 39 वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए कहा, "सरकार को कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में कीटनाशक उद्योग की चिंताओं का समाधान करना चाहिए। सरकार ने एक बयान में कहा, सरकार को डेटा संरक्षण व्यवस्था लाकर तथा फसल सुरक्षा उत्पादों की पंजीकरण समय सीमा को कम करते हुए इसे सर्वांगतम अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रथाओं के अनुरूप बनाना चाहिये और नियामक सुधारों के साथ उसका अनुकूलन करना चाहिए। वेलागाला ने कहा कि डिजिटलीकरण से दक्षता आयेगी और इसको अपनाने की गति हमारी प्रगतिशील नीतियों पर निर्भर करेगा। क्रॉपलाइफ और फसल संरक्षण के क्षेत्र में 18 अनुसंधान और विकास-उन्मुख कंपनियों का एक संघ है।

## Business Standard

### Govt should address industry's concerns in new pesticides bill: CropLife

Press Trust of India | New Delhi | Last Updated at September 30, 2019 17:43:57

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Punjab Agri Dept raids shops selling fake pesticides, agri-inputs

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"The government should address industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill," Velagala said while addressing the company's 39th Annual General Meeting.

The government should bring in data protection and align with best international practices and regulatory reforms by reducing registration timelines of crop protection products, he said in a statement.

Velagala shared that digitalisation will bring in efficiency and the pace of its adoption to depend on our progressive policies.

CropLife is an association of 18 research and development-driven member companies in crop protection.

11 SEPTEMBER 2019 | Last Updated at 14:01 PM | SOURCE: PTI

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New Delhi, Sep 30 (PTI) CropLife India Chairman Rajendra Velagala on Monday said the government should address the industry's concerns in the Pesticides Management Bill, likely to be passed in the forthcoming winter session of Parliament.

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Chemicals and Petrochemicals Secretary P Raghavendra Rao said, "The role of agrochemicals in the development of the food grains production in India is critical, considering the fact that India is predicted to be the most populous country by 2030."

A senior agriculture ministry official said the government will soon issue guidelines on using drones for application of crop protection products.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is conducting a study on the application of crop protection products by drones and the report will be submitted soon to the ministry," said Arjun Kumar, joint secretary (seed and mechanisation & technology) in the agriculture ministry.

The ministry is working in close coordination and will issue the guidelines for drone applications, at the earliest, he added. PTI 11/17/19

Disclaimer - This story has not been edited by Outlook staff and is auto-generated from news agency feeds. Source: PTI

### सरकार को नये कीटनाशक विधेयक में उद्योग की चिंताओं को संबोधित करना चाहिये-क्रॉपलाइफ

नई दिल्ली। क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया के अध्यक्ष राजेंद्र वेलागाला ने सोमवार को कहा कि सरकार को कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में कीटनाशक उद्योग की चिंताओं को दूर करना चाहिए। इस विधेयक के संसद के आगामी शीतकालीन सत्र में पारित होने की संभावना है। कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक, जो कीटनाशक अधिनियम, 1968 की जगह लेगा। कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में कीमतों को तय करके और एक नियामक प्राधिकरण की स्थापना करके कीटनाशक क्षेत्र को विनियमित करने की कोशिश की गई है। वेलागाला ने कंपनी की 39 वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए कहा, "सरकार को कीटनाशक प्रबंधन विधेयक में कीटनाशक उद्योग की चिंताओं का समाधान करना चाहिए। सरकार ने एक बयान में कहा, सरकार को डेटा संरक्षण व्यवस्था लाकर तथा फसल सुरक्षा उत्पादों की पंजीकरण समय सीमा को कम करते हुए इसे सर्वांगतम अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रथाओं के अनुरूप बनाना चाहिये और नियामक सुधारों के साथ उसका अनुकूलन करना चाहिए। वेलागाला ने कहा कि डिजिटलीकरण से दक्षता आयेगी और इसको अपनाने की गति हमारी प्रगतिशील नीतियों पर निर्भर करेगा। क्रॉपलाइफ और फसल संरक्षण के क्षेत्र में 18 अनुसंधान और विकास-उन्मुख कंपनियों का एक संघ है।

### सरकार को नये कीटनाशक विधेयक में उद्योग की चिंताओं को संबोधित करना चाहिये

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AGRICULTURE WORLD

## The New Government's Vision for Agriculture Transformation in India


28 September, 2019 10:20 AM IST By: Chandor Mohan



To meet the challenge of sustainably feeding 9 billion people by 2050, the agricultural sector will need to undergo major transformation. More nutritious food will need to be produced using fewer resources, bringing greater benefits to farmers and rural communities. Achieving this transformation will require new approaches and extensive coordination among all stakeholders in the agricultural system. Market-based approaches, while not the only answer, will be an important tool in the





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