



41<sup>st</sup>



# ANNUAL REPORT



2020-21

Committed to advancing sustainable Indian agriculture

Leadership in product stewardship



[www.croplifeindia.org](http://www.croplifeindia.org)

Integrated modern solutions for better crop protection

Farmer's prosperity through enhanced productivity





# CropLife India's 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE –Virtual Conference AGROCHEMICALS - The Road Ahead 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020



**Shri Parshottambhai Rupala**  
Hon'ble Minister of State,  
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,  
Government of India



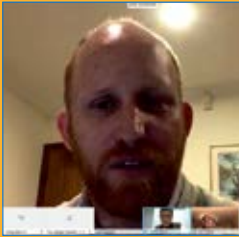
**Dr. Ashok Dalwai**  
CEO, National Rainfed Area  
Authority, Ministry of Agriculture  
and Farmers Welfare



**Dr. S. K. Malhotra**  
Agriculture Commissioner,  
Ministry of Agriculture &  
Farmers Welfare



**Mr. Samir Kumar Biswas**  
Additional Secretary,  
Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals,  
Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers



**Mr. John Southwell**  
Counsellor (Agriculture),  
Australian High Commission



**Mr. Salil Singhal**  
Chairman Emeritus,  
PI Industries Ltd.



**Mr. K. K. Unni**  
Chairman Emeritus,  
CropLife India



**Dr. K. C. Ravi**  
Chairman  
CropLife India



**Mr. Sanjiv Lal**  
MD & CEO  
Rallis India



**Mr. Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch**  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Bayer CropScience Ltd., India



**Mr. Ajit Kumar**  
Vice President - Technical &  
Development,  
SWAL Corporation



**Mr. Ankur Aggarwal**  
Managing Director,  
Crystal Crop Protection



**Mr. Ajai Kumar**  
Head - Government and  
Industry Affairs,  
South Asia, Corteva AgriScience



**Mr. Srinivasa Karavadi**  
Head of Market Development  
India Bangladesh & Sri Lanka,  
Bayer CropScience Ltd.



**Mr. Asitava Sen**  
CEO  
CropLife India



**Mr. Rajvir Rathi**  
Head- Public Affairs, Science  
& Sustainability,  
Bayer CropScience Ltd.





## KEYNOTE MESSAGE

नरेन्द्र सिंह तोमर  
NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR



सत्यमेव जयते

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI



संदेश

क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया की आगामी वार्षिक साधारण-सभा की बैठक 29 सितंबर 2021 को आयोजित की जा रही है, जिसके लिए मेरी बहुत-बहुत शुभकामनाएं। इस अवसर पर 41वीं वार्षिक रिपोर्ट 2020-21 प्रकाशित की जाएगी, जिसके लिए भी मेरी शुभेच्छाएं।

कृषि व ग्रामीण क्षेत्र हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था की रीढ़ हैं। कोविड-19 के दौरान भी इन क्षेत्रों ने अपनी प्रासंगिकता पुनः सिद्ध की है। लॉकडाउन के दौरान भारत सरकार द्वारा किसानों व कृषि क्षेत्र को आवश्यक छूट दी गई थी, जिससे समय कृषि क्षेत्र व ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था सुचारु तरीके से चलती रही। तब न तो कोई कृषि संबंधी संस्थान बंद हुआ, न ही उत्पादन पर प्रभाव पड़ा, बल्कि मुश्किल समय में देश में ज्यादा बुवाई हुई और बंपर पैदावार भी हुई।

कृषि में नई तकनीक व नए सुरक्षित- बेहतर फसल सुरक्षा उत्पादों ने कृषि उत्पादकता बढ़ाने के साथ ही किसानों की आय बढ़ाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। अब कृषि क्षेत्र का डिजिटलीकरण किया जा रहा है, क्योंकि यह कृषि इनपुट तक तेज व आसान पहुंच, लेन-देन में पारदर्शिता, भ्रष्टाचार समाप्ति व किसानों की आय बढ़ाने के लिए माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी का संकल्प है। भारत में, अपने किसानों व कृषि वैज्ञानिकों की ताकत के साथ सभी कृषि उपज के उत्पादन में नंबर एक बनने की क्षमता है।

क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया व सदस्य कंपनियों को नवाचार बढ़ाने, पर्यावरण हितैषी इनपुट शुरू करने व ड्रोन जैसे सटीक कृषि उपकरण अपनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभानी है। मुझे जानकर खुशी हुई है कि क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया ने 'मेक इन इंडिया' जैसी प्रमुख सरकारी पहलों का समर्थन किया है। मैं क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया व इसकी सदस्य एग्रीकेमिकल कंपनियों को 41वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक के लिए पुनः शुभकामनाएं देता हूं।

(नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर)



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK



As I reflect on the year gone by, I am only reminded of the often quoted phrase *"when the going gets tough, the tough get going"*. The resilience of our farmers in the wake of the unprecedented Covid pandemic was indeed remarkable. Thanks to their untiring effort, India is headed to a record food grain production of 308.65 million tonnes according to the fourth advance estimate for the 2020-21 crop year. It is also equally noteworthy that our members also showed great resilience in ensuring that critical inputs are available to the farmers without any interruption facilitated at every step by the government. The members also supported the government wholeheartedly in the fight against Covid by way of PPE kits, sanitizers, medical equipment and also providing helplines, provisions, food distribution for farmers in the hour of crisis.

The year has also been one of great learning and partnership with Government, Industry and the Civil society. Everyone adopted to the 'new normal' and found newer ways of working to convert the crisis into opportunity. Technology played a big role in bridging the gap of restricted movement and everyone worked towards the singular objective of ensuring that the farmers and the rural communities were supported.

I would like to place on record that the government was available to listen to every concern of the industry not only in the hour of crisis, but also work on key reforms for "Making India a Global Agrochemical Manufacturing Hub" throughout the year.

It is also heartening to note that the CropLife India Board meetings, various Committee meetings, Seminars and meetings with external stakeholders took place with record participation throughout the year, inspite of restricted movement, thanks to the Digital Platforms!

Thanks to the tremendous work of our members, CropLife India received the coveted award for commendable work in "Changing Public Perception" during FICCI's India Chem 2021 Conference and Awards. I would also like to share with pride that CropLife India was honoured with CropLife Asia Stewardship Awards "For Best Digital – Contribution to Indian Agriculture during the Covid-19 Pandemic".

Looking at the road ahead we will continue to work with all stakeholders to ensure:

- > a predictable, science based policy and regulatory regime for the proper growth of the crop protection sector to make our farmers and Indian agriculture sustainable
- > a forward looking progressive Pesticide Management Act and Rules which promotes innovation and new product introduction to address the current and future challenges of the farmers
- > Introduction of cutting edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Drones in service of the farmers
- > Public Private Partnership for making India an agrochemical hub

I acknowledge and complement the CropLife India Secretariat team who put forward their best during this year. The tireless work of all Committees / Groups greatly supported by members needs a special mention. I am grateful to them for providing leadership for driving a vast range of initiatives.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Sanjiv Lal and Mr. Anil Kakkar for their continued support during the year. I thank all office bearers and our Board of Directors for their contribution in making the last one year significant one in the backdrop of the crisis. I look forward to continued engagement with members and wish them all the best in their endeavours!

**Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and together we will overcome the pandemic.**

**Dr. K. C. Ravi**  
Chairman, CropLife India







## FROM THE CEO'S DESK



*Crisis and deadlocks when they occur have at least this advantage that they force us to think."*

As India started battling a severe second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, and in order to stop the rapid spread of the virus, several states in the country announced either selective lockdowns or restrictions on movement of people. The continuation of Exemption of Pesticides manufacturing, distribution and sales during the Covid-19 lockdown was the first step, which helped sustain the momentum towards agriculture and food production. CropLife India sprung in to action reaching out to all States and District Authorities with the two Addendums issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs last year (result of several appeal letters and collaborated efforts with members and stakeholders), notifying pesticides manufacturing, distribution and sales in the Exempted list.

As Covid-19 restrictions came into action, CropLife India digitalized all the efforts towards Farmers' education on Safe and Judicious Use of Crop Protection Products; which had been the motto of CropLife India. Collaterals like Farmer Education Poster on "Safety points in farming during Covid-19 pandemic"; and CropLife India Farmer's Training Film, an educational video featuring both Stewardship and Anti-counterfeiting messages were created for our farmers' welfare. In view of Locust attacks in the country, we issued an advisory for farmers and spray management agencies to follow these recommendations for the management of the locust. Despite lockdown toppling the various supply chains, aggravating the labour issues, etc., our farmer showcasing irrepressible might thus enhancing the agriculture output to record levels; we thought of boosting his morale. We transpired that during this dubious times, maintaining an emotional yet informative relationship with our Farm Heroes is foremost for creating mechanisms to reach out to them effectively via various possible platforms.

There were several other strategic initiatives undertaken during the year that we are proud of. To name a few:

- In order to examine whether the proposed **Pesticide Management Bill, 2020** does address critical issues in a comprehensive manner; we sustained our engagement with the Members of Parliament's and stakeholders, which began early in March 2020. As a result, CropLife India was **one of the first four non-official witnesses invited by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture (20-21)** currently examining the Bill; to present our suggestions and recommendations for the Bill.
- **3D (Discussion, Decision and Delivery) Regulatory reforms** were initiated with the Government. Three marathon meetings held on 17th & 24th Feb and on 3rd March, 2021 wherein five industry associations' joint teams, led by CropLife India; presented comprehensive Agrochemicals Regulatory Reforms Agenda to the Joint Secretary (PP), Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Commissioner & CIB&RC Chairman, CIB Secretary and other experts. Totally 45 delegates attended the meeting, including 30 industry members from 11 different associations, and 5 independent experts.
- CropLife India has been in the forefront for consultations with the Government to promote precision agriculture technologies, particularly use of Drones in **Agrochemical Spraying** and formulation of progressive and practical Standard Operational procedure (SOP) for product registration and stewardship, learning from global best practices.
- The first ever Webinar on "**The Importance of Safety in Manufacturing: Indian Crop Protection Industry**"; Operation and Execution of Production Change Management' jointly organised by CropLife India and FICCI.
- Various thought leadership articles were contributed by CropLife India and, was quoted in leading business dailies and magazines through the year.
- CropLife India Headquarters moved to a more spacious place during the year.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Annual Report chronicling many other important initiatives.

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 creating and strengthening a science-based, pragmatic and stable policy and regulatory environment.

**Asitava Sen**  
Chief Executive Officer  
CropLife India





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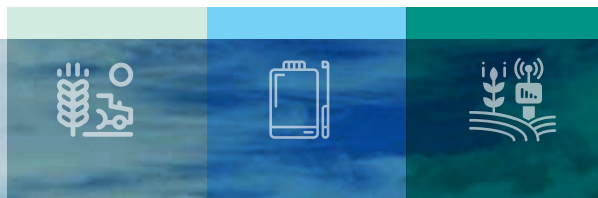


## ABOUT CROPLIFE INDIA

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, 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 NOT FOR PROFIT organization pursuant to Section 8 of the 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

 ADAMA	 <b>BASF</b> We create chemistry
 BAYER	 <b>CORTEVA</b> agriscience
 <b>FMC</b>   An Agricultural Sciences Company	 <b>INDOFIL</b> INDUSTRIES LIMITED
 Inspired by Science	 <b>RALLIS INDIA LIMITED</b> A TATA Enterprise
 SUMITOMO CHEMICAL	 <b>SWAL</b>
 <b>syngenta</b>	

## OUR MEMBERS

- ADAMA India Pvt Limited
- BASF India Limited
- Bayer CropScience Limited
- Dow AgroSciences India Pvt. Limited
- FMC India Private Limited
- Indofil Industries Limited
- PI Industries Limited
- Rallis India Limited
- Syngenta India Limited
- Sumitomo Chemical India Limited
- SWAL Corporation Limited

## OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

 <b>CRYSTAL</b> Inspiring Growth	 <b>dhanuka</b>
 <i>Nisso</i>	 <b>Stanes</b>

- Crystal Crop Protection Limited
- Dhanuka Agritech Limited
- NISSO Chemical India LLP
- T. Stanes & Company Limited





## BANKERS

### Central Bank of India (GEN & FCRA)

Ashoka Hotel Branch  
50-B Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi-110021

### Punjab National Bank (Petty Cash)

Bhikaji Cama Place  
New Delhi – 110066

### HDFC Bank Ltd.

UG 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25  
Ansal Chamber 1  
Bhikaji Cama Place  
New Delhi – 110066

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

### Alok B. Mathur & Co. (C.A.)

419, Ansal Chamber - II  
6, Bhikaji Cama Place  
New Delhi-110 066

## AUDITORS

### M/s Gupta S Narain & Co.

#### Chartered Accountants

21-A, GH-10, Sunder Apartments  
Paschim Vihar, New Delhi -110087

## COMPANY SECRETARIES

### Shiv Hari Jalan & Company (C.S.)

1055, Level 10, Hubtown Solaris  
N.S. Phadke Marg, Andheri East  
Mumbai – 400069

## REGISTERED OFFICE

### CropLife India

702, Bhikaji Cama Bhawan  
Bhikaji Cama Place  
New Delhi – 110 066  
Ph: 011-26196681; 26187356;  
2618 6296 & 40158418  
E-mail: anjana.sundriyal@croplifeindia.org

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## BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors met Four times during the Financial Year 2020-21 to discuss key issues confronting the industry and other agenda items.

## DIRECTORS

Terms of all the Directors expired at the time of Fortieth Annual General Meeting which was held on 12th October, 2020 at New Delhi. The following were appointed post elections:-

- Mr. Karugalam Chandrasekeran Ravi was elected as Chairman
  - Mr. Sanjiv Lal was elected as Vice Chairman
  - Mr. Anil Kakkar was elected as Vice Chairman
-



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Dr. K. C. Ravi

Chairman, CropLife India  
Chief Sustainability Officer  
Syngenta India Limited



### Mr. Srinivasa Karavadi

Head of Market Development  
India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka,  
Bayer CropScience Limited



### Mr. Sanjiv Lal

Vice Chairman,  
CropLife India  
Managing Director & CEO  
Rallis India Limited



### Mr. Ravi Annavarapu

President  
FMC India Pvt. Ltd.



### Mr. Anil Kakkar

Vice Chairman, CropLife India  
Vice President – Sales  
& Marketing  
Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.



### Mr. N C Rane

COO – GLOBAL II  
Indofil Industries Ltd.



### Mr. Shalabh Jain

Full-Time Director  
(Operations)  
ADAMA India Pvt Ltd.



### Mr. Prashant Hegde

CEO- Agri Input  
P I Industries Ltd.







## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mr. Vivek Sharma**

Head – Asset Management  
& Business Lead  
Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka  
BASF India Ltd.



**Dr. Ajit Kumar**

Vice President – Technical  
& Development  
SWAL Corporation Ltd.



**Ms. Vedika Kapoor**

Head Government & Industry  
Affairs – South Asia  
Dow AgroSciences India Pvt. Ltd.



## OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

**Mrs. Lakshmi Narayanan**

Wholetime Director  
T. Stanes & Company Limited



**Dr. Sajal Kumar Biswas**

Director  
(Business Development)  
Nisso Chemical India LLP



**Mr. Ankur Aggarwal**

Managing Director  
Crystal Crop Protection Limited



**Shri R G Agarwal**

Group Chairman  
Dhanuka Agritech Limited





# CROPLIFE INDIA SECRETARIAT

The CropLife India Secretariat is led by a dedicated team of professionals, who play an important role in engaging with diverse stakeholders. Domain experts in the fields of Regulatory Affairs, Anti-Counterfeiting, Stewardship, Communications and Accounts, Compliance and Human Resources; hold the mantle of CropLife India. The association has committees for various disciplines, which are represented by member companies' experts. The different committees meet at regular intervals to carry out focused programs, projects and engagements, to take forward the association's strategic objectives along with its vision and mission. The functional heads at the secretariat ensure that the strategic initiatives are implemented at various levels throughout the year.



**Asitava Sen**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Anjana Sundriyal**  
Head - Accounts, Compliance and Human Resources



**Joydeep Chakraborty**  
Head - Communications



**Sony Mamgai**  
Senior Manager – Stewardship & Anti-Counterfeit Projects



**Yuvraj Chopra**  
Head - Regulatory Affairs





# COMMITTEES

## REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Mentor -

**Mr. Anil Kakkar**

Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.

### NAME

### COMPANY

<b>Rajesh Dhawan (Lead)</b>	Syngenta India Ltd.
<b>Rajeev Pant (Co-Lead)</b>	Corteva AgriSciences India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Manoj Lingeri (Co-Lead)</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Anirban Gangopadhyay</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Yuvraj Chopra</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Arpita Roy</b>	ADAMA India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>R. D. Kapoor</b>	PI Industries Ltd.
<b>Prajwal Nalawade</b>	Indofil Industries Ltd.
<b>Sushil Mishra</b>	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
<b>P. Suresh</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Vijay Jha</b>	Rallis India Ltd.
<b>Ajeet Singh Tomar</b>	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
<b>Anand Jha</b>	SWAL Corporation Ltd.
<b>Amitava Sanyal</b>	Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.
<b>Deepa Kathuria</b>	FMC India Pvt. Ltd.

## STEWARDSHIP & ANTI-COUNTERFEIT

Mentor -

**Mr. Ravi Annavarapu**

FMC India Pvt Ltd.

<b>Sushil Desai (Lead)</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Gunjan Bisht (Co-Lead)</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Varun Goel (Co-Lead)</b>	Corteva AgriSciences India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Chidambar Phadinis</b>	Syngenta India Ltd.
<b>Ambesh Dubey</b>	Adama India Pvt. Ltd
<b>Ajay Kumar Gupta</b>	PI Industries Ltd.
<b>N. K. Sangareddy</b>	Indofil Industries Ltd.
<b>C.S. Shukla</b>	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
<b>Amol Jhadav</b>	Rallis India Ltd.
<b>Ajeet Singh Tomar</b>	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
<b>Atimanav Gaur</b>	SWAL Corporation Ltd.
<b>Prashant Argekar</b>	Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.
<b>Akanksha Saith</b>	FMC India Pvt Ltd.
<b>Sony Mamgai</b>	CropLife India





## COMMITTEES

### ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION

Mentor -

**Dr. K. C. Ravi**

Syngenta India Ltd.

#### NAME

#### COMPANY

#### ADVOCACY -

<b>Rajvir Rathi (Lead)</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Raju Kapoor (Co-Lead)</b>	FMC India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Vedika Kapoor (Co-Lead)</b>	Corteva AgriSciences India Pvt Ltd.

#### COMMUNICATION-

<b>Himanshu Barsainya (Co-Lead)</b>	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
<b>R Vaithyanathan</b>	Syngenta India Ltd.
<b>R Sampath Kumar</b>	Indofil Industries Ltd.
<b>Vijay Jha</b>	Rallis India Ltd.
<b>Binod Anand</b>	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
<b>H. N. Airi</b>	Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.
<b>Yuvraj Chopra</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Joydeep Chakraborty</b>	CropLife India

### LEGAL

Mentor -

**Mr Srinivas Karavadi**

Bayer Crop Science Ltd.

<b>Tarun Bhalla (Lead)</b>	Syngenta India Ltd.
<b>Girish Rao (Co-Lead)</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Nilesh Limaye (Co-Lead)</b>	FMC India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Nabeel Saleem (Co-Lead)</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Phani Goruganthu</b>	Corteva AgriSciences India Pvt Ltd.
<b>Lalit Tiwari</b>	ADAMA India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Gaurav Arora</b>	PI Industries Ltd.
<b>Poovanan Krishnamurthy</b>	Indofil Industries Ltd.
<b>Devendra Joshi</b>	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
<b>Juhi Chaudhary</b>	Rallis India Ltd.
<b>Viraj Srivastava</b>	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
<b>Subramaniam Iyer</b>	Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.

### STATE AFFAIRS

Mentor -

**Mr. Sanjiv Lal**

Rallis India Ltd.

<b>Soumitra Purkayastha (Lead)</b>	FMC India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Rajvir Rathi (Co-Lead)</b>	Bayer Crop Science Ltd.
<b>Vedika Kapoor (Co-Lead)</b>	Corteva AgriSciences India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Sachin Mittal (Co-Lead)</b>	Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
<b>K. S. Narayanan</b>	Syngenta India Ltd.
<b>Srinivasa Rao</b>	ADAMA India Pvt. Ltd.
<b>Prashant Joshi</b>	BASF India Ltd.
<b>Mahesh Khambete</b>	Indofil Industries Ltd.
<b>Sukhbir Malik</b>	Rallis India Ltd.
<b>Binod Anand</b>	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
<b>H. N. Airi</b>	Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.
<b>AsitavaSen</b>	CropLife India



## CROPLIFE INDIA'S NEW CORPORATE OFFICE GRAH PRAVESH

**CropLife India performed a Grah Pravesh Pooja at our New Office on Wednesday, 07<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

Keeping in sync the global pandemic, the new office has been designed in a manner to follow all covid-19 protocol. Tools of remote working, communication applications coupled with modern hardware have been installed; which would enable the secretariat serve the agrochemical industry.



*We thank you all for the bevy of good wishes received on this auspicious occasion.*



## REGULATORY AFFAIRS & EVENTS

**CropLife India Regulatory Affairs Committee is engaged in promoting scientific approach in Product Regulation and Registration in India. The Regulatory Affairs Group (RAG) has always mooted to adopt International Best Agricultural Practices and policies that had helped and improved Farmers Welfare.**

### Key Highlights of CropLife India Regulatory Affairs are:

#### 1 Process and Policy Recommendations for Faster Registrations:

CropLife India made representations to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and other senior officials of the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare besides the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee seeking to bring in more transparency in the registration process and take measures for a faster introduction of new molecules in India besides the need for a speedy extension of label claims of approved products in the interest of farming community and Agriculture in India. CropLife India organized several meetings with Plant Protection Advisor and Secretary, CIBRC and submitted list of pending cases for expediting the scrutiny process. CropLife India organized a Video Conference Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. CropLife India member representatives highlighted key issues to seek favourable support from the Ministry relating to expediting the scrutiny and registration of Crop Protection Products besides seeking Emergency approvals for Pesticides based on International MRLs. As a follow up measure CropLife India shared a list of applications with the Ministry whose scrutiny is required to be expedited.

#### 2 3D (Discussion, Decision and Delivery) Regulatory Reforms meeting with Government of India:

CropLife India participated in Three full day meetings with the Government on the agenda of Regulatory reforms on 17th, 24th Feb and 3rd March 2021. These meetings brought together the Joint Secretary Plant Protection, Agriculture Commissioner, Plant Protection Advisor, ADG-Plant Protection, Secretary, CIBRC, Experts from CIBRC, Agriculture Universities and IARI. The meeting was attended by 44 participants including the representatives from all Industry Associations such as CII, FICCI, Assocham, PHDCCI, CCFI, PMFAI, HICA, HPMA, CAPMA, etc. Subsequently, CIBRC regularized 9 regulatory data requirements through 427th RC on 25th March 2021.

CropLife India prepared an elaborate presentation on the 3D regulatory reforms proposing a plethora of specific and general reforms in registration process, modalities for outsourcing of registration application review at external Government institutes/Exports, GLP, 5-Batch Chemical equivalence testing, in process-sampling, minor changes, Regulatory Data Protection, TI/TIM & FI/FIM, Custom manufacturing, Chemistry, Bioefficacy, Packaging, Toxicology data requirements, Pesticide Review, Dual use, E-commerce of Pesticides, Uniform infrastructure and checklists for issuance of manufacturing/ sale license, etc. This agenda was later expanded to cover 29 Regulatory issues.

On 18th March 2021, CropLife India was invited to an alignment meeting with PPA & Secretary, CIBRC to finalize the minutes of the 3D meetings and to formalize the actions to be undertaken by the Industry and the Government. CropLife India developed data evaluation templates and draft guidelines as agreed during the 3D reforms meetings. User friendly Templates of Data requirements and its evaluation for Chemistry, Bioefficacy and Toxicology data were developed, reviewed and finetuned after multiple review meetings.





### 3 Pesticide Management Bill (PMB) 2020:

CropLife India prepared a **two-page flyers, position paper/** representations and presentations to Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Members of Parliament seeking for finetuning the PMB with more balanced provisions and involving the Industry stakeholders for consultation instead of enforcing an ill built legislation. These representations/ flyers were shared with key influencers (including over 150 MPs) to sensitize them on key concerns in the PMB that impact the farmers and industry. A Representation to decriminalize the offences and punishments in the PMB 2020 was submitted to all the key stakeholders.

With these combined efforts and joint advocacy with other national associations, PMB was referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture (20-21) of the parliament for a thorough review on 3rd June 2021, for submission of its report within 3 months.



CropLife India was invited to make a presentation to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture (20-21) on 13th July 2021 highlighting our suggestions and recommendations for modifications to be brought into PMB 2020. CropLife India was one of the first invitees by the PSC; which is a result of our sustained engagement with the MP's and stakeholders, which began in March 2020.

CropLife India had submitted a comprehensive clause-wise comments, suggestions and feedback on the PMB 2020 on Agriculture to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on 24th August 2021, for their consideration.

### Pesticide Management Bill 2020: Need for a Paradigm Shift

**CropLife INDIA**

Pesticide Management Bill (PMB) 2020 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. The Bill was first introduced in 2008 to replace the Insecticide Act, 1968 (implemented in 1972). In 2017, another revised version of the PMB 2008 was published for Stakeholders Comments. PMB 2020 is a great opportunity to holistically address the new emerging critical needs of Indian agriculture and more importantly the farmers through a **'Paradigm Shift'** incorporating the learning of 45 years.

Before the Bill becomes an Act, it is essential to examine whether the proposed Bill does address these critical issues and learning in a comprehensive manner. While on the one hand the PMB needs to address the ever increasing complexity of Indian agriculture, on the other hand it also needs to strike a fine balance between the needs of the farming community and the needs of the agrochemical industry.

The report of the Ashok Dalwai Committee on "Strategies for Doubling Farmers Income" (2017-18) had several recommendations on the agrochemical industry, many of which are not addressed in PMB 2020.

In India crop yield losses range between 15% - 20% on account of weeds, pests, diseases and rodents. Pests and diseases are identified as one of the major reasons for crop loss and not only to weather vagaries, making it extremely important to be addressed in strategizing for higher farm income. The agrochemical industry will have a critical role to play going forward in contributing to doubling the agriculture growth in India, which is so essential for

**What will the industry Lose?**

- Negative investment climate because of criminal proceedings against minor fibres.
- No 'Ease of Doing Business' in multiple licensing across Centre and from State.
- Dampen 'Make in India' due to unreasonable restrictions on import
- Enhanced burden of Registrations because of re-registration within years of introduction of PMB 2020.
- Lack of clarity on manufacturer's liability for greenhouse/hurt/loss/death by agrochemicals leading to increased litigations.

**What Farmers' are set to Lose?**

- Shortage of products because of re-registration within 2 years of introduction of PMB 2020.
- No introduction of newer molecules without 'Ease of doing Business' and level playing field
- Absence of quality products at State Machinery / Laboratories in dilapidated condition.
- Enabling Provision for Price Control Authority during National emergencies will be major deterrent in introduction of new products limiting choice to farmers.

food security and improving the quality of life. The role of pesticides is not only limited to crop protection but also play significant role in improving public health and hygiene.

The agrochemical industry has made rapid strides over the years. Today this is a multi-billion dollar industry dealing in cutting-edge technologies to protect the crops of the world contributing in a significant manner to productivity enhancement and food security.

The proposed regulatory framework of PMB 2020 therefore needs to strike a balance amongst all stakeholders, specifically addressing two aspects:

- Ensuring food security and farmers welfare
- Ensuring ease of doing business for the industry

**Need for an enabling regulatory environment**

- There should be a time limit for processing applications for registrations by Central Insecticide Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC).
- Both Central Insecticides Lab, and the State Pesticides Testing Labs must be accredited under National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) or have ISO 17001 approval.
- There should be Penalties assigned on officers for their negligence, wrong-doing etc.
- Curb prolific registrations by addition of financial / investment criteria.

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### Proposed Steps for Doubling Farmers' Income and boost the industry

- Aligned to the new promise of the Government of de-criminalisation of businesses in India, the Offences and Punishment clause for Misbranded / Substandard and Spurious products as articulated in the PMB 2020 needs to be revisited, and necessary provisions for civil penalties be incorporated in the bill. The industry unanimously recommends decriminalization of the agro-input manufacturing sector, since it may be counterproductive and will create a negative investment climate. Most nations around the world have put in place civil penalties (including heavy financial fees such as fines) for agrochemicals. The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 in India, has adopted a similar approach.
- Section 23 (1) of PMB mandates insecticides registered under Insecticide Act, 1968 shall be required to be re-registered within two years of the Act coming into force and such applications will have to be made within 6 months of the Act becoming operational. This is unnecessary and not required; as molecules/products registered under existing Act have been registered after thorough evaluation of its safety and efficacy to the satisfaction of regulatory authority. Such a clause will compromise the Ease of Doing Business apart from burdening the already burdened regulatory body. More so, under this new Bill all molecules / products will be reviewed (re-registration); it can be 15 years after first registration in line with other developed countries such as US, EPA, Canada, Japan, etc.; with emphasis on safety / risk assessment and efficacy.
- PMB 2020 enabling provision for Price Control of agrochemicals shall have a very serious consequence for this highly competitive industry, which serves the crucial farm sector and has major impact on farmers income and food security. Price Control in a highly competitive industry is contradictory to the idea of modern India, and against the spirit of economic reforms.
- There is no clear provision that encourages the introduction of newer, safer and better products. Indian farmers need greater range of newer agrochemicals to fight the battle against pests, diseases, weeds and other attacks. Out of 1175 molecules globally available commercially, only about 270 are registered in India. Of this only about 75 molecules and their combinations are currently being used to protect 340 million hectare of diverse Indian agricultural crops.
- There are many other provisions which needs comprehensive consultation with various stakeholders. It is therefore requested that in the interest of Indian agriculture and farming community, the Bill should be referred to a Select Committee of Parliament for detailed consultation with concerned stakeholders.

**About CropLife India:**

CropLife India is committed to advancing sustainable agriculture and it is an association of 15,800 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.

**Our Members**

**Our Associate Members**

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**4 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare notified the Draft Ban order on import, manufacture, distribution, sale and use of 27 Pesticide molecules on 18th May 2020.**

Due to very close follow up by CropLife India on this matter at various ministries including the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, etc, the government constituted an independent Expert committee in January 2021 to review the Stakeholders response/objections and suggestions received on its draft notification to ban 27 Ais. This committee has been entrusted to give its recommendations to the Government for taking appropriate measures. CropLife India Regulatory Affairs Group reached out to the Chairman of the Expert Committee and its Member Secretary up understand the progress towards the review, seeking a formal hearing for the original registrants/ molecule owners and expressed our support and willingness to coordinate for any data requirement directly from our member companies, who are original registrants/ molecule owners. With a close and continuous follow up, the Expert Committee agreed to convene VC meetings with the Industry and the Crop Protection Associations to discuss each of the impacted AIs on 6th, 7th 8th, 13th and 14th September 2021. This is a very positive development allowing the registrants/ molecule owners to defend their products, based on the data generated /submitted on the products.

**5 Draft Gazette notification on product label and leaflets:**

CropLife India organized several alignment meetings with the Industry Associations, made joint submissions, and held a no. of joint meetings under the Chairmanship of PPA, DPPQS, Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmer's Welfare putting forth various suggestions and proposals related to Labelling of Pesticides. CropLife India sought for revision of the labelling notifications issued in October 2019 and June 2020 as many of its provisions are impractical to implement especially on the small and ultra-small pack sizes and that would potentially lead to recall of the approved products within their valid shelf life. CropLife India alongwith other associations participated in a no. of consultative meetings with the PPA and Secretary CIBRC towards framing of practically implementable rules on Labels and Leaflets. These efforts are expected to bring out an amicable solution on labelling requirements, in the overall interest of the Farmers and Agriculture in the country.

Upon our joint representation, the PPA on 14th June issued an advisory to all the states to not take any coercive action on the Industry till the final outcome on the hearing on the Writ Petition is decided by Hon'ble Delhi HC. This led to softening of the stand of Telangana Government who agreed to not insist for Telugu language on the product labels for issuing the principal certificates till the outcome of the proceedings in Delhi High Court.

**6 Pollinator Studies with Neo-Nicotinoids:**

The final report from the AICRP was to be submitted by the June 2021, but considering the impact of Covid 19, the DAC has granted an extension of 3 months. CropLife India closely followed up with Project Coordinator, AICRP on Honey Bees and Pollinators. CropLife India was invited by the PMU in the mid-term review meeting held on 23rd October 2021.





## **7 Restriction on Use of Glyphosate Order, 2020:**

Gazette Notification No. 2268 (E) issued on July 06, 2020: Government, proposed to restrict the use of Glyphosate only through Pest Control Operators (PCOs). The suggestions and objections on this draft notification were initially invited within a period of 30 days.

CropLife India submitted a representation to the Hon'ble Minister of State to refer the matter to an independent expert committee (on the lines of 27 AI Expert Committee) for the peer review, of the stakeholder's response as a transparent and neutral approach. Subsequently CropLife India organized a joint meeting of members with the Hon'ble Minister of State Shri Parshottam Rupala on 5th April 2021 to reiterate this request and seek further guidance.

In the 427th RC meeting, the RC agreed to hear the stakeholders before making a final recommendation. Pursuant to the decision, a virtual meeting through video conferencing was held on 7th July, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Plant Protection Advisor, Government of India to hear and understand the views of 9(3) registrants of Glyphosate formulation and other stakeholders regarding proposing restriction on use of Glyphosate through Pest control operators. CropLife India had made another representation on 20th August 2021 to the Government to kindly constitute an Independent Expert Committee be to review the "draft notification on proposed restriction on Glyphosate use only through Pest Control Operators (PCOs)" and let it, also review the objections / suggestions and various technical submissions made by different stakeholders on the said draft notification.

## **8 Progress on the matter of Barcode implementation on product labels:**

Thanks to a close follow up with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, CropLife India was able to get Government rationalize the data elements required to be encoded into QR code from 11 to only 5 (30th December 2020). QR code implementation matter was again brought to the notice of the Government for a quick decision during 3D-Regulatory Reforms meeting held on 17th, 24th Feb and 3rd March 2021.

As an outcome of the meeting, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has in principle agreed to rationalize the number of data elements to be coded in barcode and to issue a circular/order in this regard in due course for adoption of barcodes by the Industry.

Subsequently, Government, organized various stakeholder meetings and agreed to uniformly implement the QR codes by allowing further 1 year timeline.

Subsequently, a virtual meeting of the members was facilitated with GS1 to discuss the "How to implement QR code for pesticide traceability and comply with regulatory requirements" on 7th May 2021.

CropLife India submitted representations urging the Government to specify a formal the time frame for implementation of QR codes. A meeting was organized on 26th May, 2021 with the industry associations during which it was clarified that QR code may be embossed/ printed on any part of the retail pack- on the label or the cap or the bottle or its bottom. CROPLIFE INDIA requested and submitted a representation dated 10th June 2021 to PPA seeking allowance to print QR codes from July 2022 onwards.



## 9 Framing of science-based and progressive regulatory guidelines:

One of the key mandates of CropLife India is to contribute towards the framing of science-based and progressive regulatory guidelines in the country. In this connection, CropLife India hailed the CIBRC's initiative to revisit the guidelines for registration of products under the category 9(3) and 9(4) of the Insecticides Act, 1968. To proactively support this initiative, CropLife India made representation to CIBRC on 13th September 2020 sharing the global best practices for registration with the Sub-committee constituted by the CIBRC in this regard. We closely followed up with the CIB&RC and its Sub-committee on proceedings on this matter. CIB&RC released the draft guidelines on 16th July 2021 for Public comments within 60 days. We are very hopeful that the adoption of these proposals/suggestions into the guidelines of registration of products under the category 9(3) and 9(4) will have transformative impact on Indian registration process. Besides, it would also speed up the registration process and make it more contemporary & progressive.

## 10 MRL fixation process:

The delay in matter of MRL fixation was escalated to the Chairperson FSSAI and CropLife India delegation met the CEO, FSSAI on 22nd May 2020. This effort led to issuance of letter from FSSAI to CIBRC allowing it to consider default MRLs for 6 months while approving and issuing the CoRs. FSSAI issued Draft Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Amendment Regulations, 2020 on 21st August 2020 seeking suggestions / objections from stakeholders. CropLife India made a representation on 19th October 2020 alongwith a Presentation and Position Paper – "International Harmonization of Pesticide MRLs with Codex" incorporating the inputs from the international Experts from CropLife International and CropLife Asia. Subsequently Dr T.P. Rajendran, Chairman of Scientific Panel, FSSAI invited stakeholders in a meeting on MRL Fixation wherein CropLife India provided our inputs on harmonization of MRLs with that of Codex.

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare constituted a committee of experts under the Chairmanship of DG-ICAR to discuss the issues arising out of this notification by FSSAI. CropLife India attended the 1st meeting of the Committee on 25th January 2021 and also provided its representation on 3rd Feb 2021. CropLife India also invited to attend the 2nd meeting of this committee held on 19th February 2021 under the Chairmanship of DG, ICAR, to consider issues arising out of the notifications of FSSAI regarding fixation of MRLs of pesticides.

As a follow up, CropLife India submitted its representation on 22nd February 2021 and requested that India must align with codex MRLs and adopt median residue as the basis for chronic dietary risk assessment, i.e., STMR values. CropLife India also submitted its representation to FSSAI on the draft Guideline and and SoP on Fixation of MRLs in Food Commodities. CROPLIFE INDIA was invited to discussion on fixation of pesticide residues in crops and crops groups and we made a presentation before the 66th Meeting of Scientific Panel on Pesticide Residues on 24th February, 2021.

On 9th April, 2021, FSSAI released the Draft Guidance Document (GD) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for fixation of Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides in food commodities for stakeholder comments. CropLife India aligned with other associations and submitted the representation containing the comprehensive suggestions and feedback to FSSAI on 8th June 2021, drawing from the Global best practices.



CropLife India was invited by the FSSAI in the 68th Meeting of the FSSAI's Scientific Panel on Pesticide Residues held on 13th July 2021. CropLife India brought International Experts and delivered a presentation on the Guideline and SoP on fixation of MRLs in Food Commodities.

#### **11 Regulation of Minor changes to Approved Products:**

CIB&RC has no separate guidance document for Industry to approve minor changes to approved formulations. This leads to arbitrariness in requirements and long delays in granting of approvals. CropLife India has made uninterrupted efforts to expedite the implementation of minor change guidelines in India, which have been implemented in many other countries. A representation on Adoption of Minor Change Guidelines was prepared and submitted by the CropLife India to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in December 2020. A meeting was organized with the PPA/CIB&RC in 9th February 2021 wherein it was requested that CIB&RC to kindly revive the committee to review the guideline on Minor changes to approved formulations. Even during the 3D Regulatory reforms meeting held on 3rd March 2021, CropLife India highlighted to the Government to kindly assign a high priority to the development of Guidelines for Minor Change to approved formulations. Follow up representations were again submitted during 15th April 2021.

CropLife India continued the follow up with CIB&RC on the progress on the proposal and submitted another reminder has been submitted to the CIB&RC on 9th June 2021 highlighting the fact that 428th RC minutes of meeting state that that during the meeting RC has referred an applicant (from member company) to the CropLife Guideline on Minor Changes on 18th May 2021, while deciding on its application. BASF India Ltd. CropLife India again followed up with Secretary CIB&RC on this matter on 17th June 2021 to convince CIB&RC to put up this guideline to RC for suitable adoption.

#### **12 CIB&RC Weekly Video Conference with Applicants:**

CropLife India made representations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the CIB&RC on 2nd July 2020 to create a mechanism to convene weekly meetings on virtual platform in the interests of the stakeholders/applicants and the Industry to facilitate two way communicate and for tracking of the status of filed applications. This proposal of CropLife India was taken very favourably by the Department and it led to the implementation of a VC platform by CIB&RC allowing weekly discussion/ meetings of Applicants with CIB&RC experts with effect from 17th July 2020 onwards, paving a very effective virtual bridge between the CIB&RC and the applicants. CropLife India member companies held over two dozen video conference meetings with the CIB&RC experts during 2020-21.

#### **13 Regulation of Biostimulants in India:**

Department of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare released the Notification on Biopesticides under the Fertilizer Control Order 1985 on 23rd Feb 2021, creating a mechanism of Provisional registration of existing Biostimulants by providing relaxed data within 6 months from the date of notification. It also has a provision for registration of new products. CropLife India submitted a representation on 23rd March 2021 seeking clarification on the various aspects of the notification for smooth implementation of the Biostimulant notification for the existing as well as new products.



The Commissioner and Director of Agriculture, Guntur, AP issued a Memo Fert (31) 6-2021 dated 1st April 2021 instructing Biostimulant dealers to stop the sale/stocking of Biostimulants and withdraw these products within 60 days from the market as these are not licensed in the state under the amended FCO ( S.O No. 882(E) dated 23rd Feb 2021) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. This memo issued by the State Government was an outcome of a wrong interpretation contrary to the provisions of gazette notification and CropLife India raised this matter with the INM Division of DAC&FW, New Delhi. An Industry meeting was organized on 16 April 2021 under the Chairmanship of JS (INM) to provide clarifications to Industry on the various provisions of the Biostimulant notification, wherein CropLife India raised this matter of the wrong interpretation of the AP Dept of Agriculture leading it to Ban the sale of existing Biostimulants in the state for want of Provisional Registration. CropLife India requested Ms. Neerja Adidam, JS - INM to kindly issue appropriate advisory to the AP Agriculture Dept to not stop sale/distribution of Biostimulants at this stage, as this is not envisaged/ intended in the Biostimulant notification. The officials of the Dept responded during the meeting that Industry in AP has taken the matter to the court for a stay order. AP High Court issued the order dated 18th May 2021, providing interim Suspension of 1st April Memo Fert (31) 6-2021 issued by DOA, Guntur, AP directing the respondents to not interfere with the business of the biostimulants in the state, bringing a breeze of relief to the member companies, selling the Biostimulants in AP.

Considering the serious challenges being faced by industry in obtaining Form G-2 from various States in the last 2 months, CropLife India sent a representation to JS (INM) and Agriculture Commissioner on 14th May 2021 seeking their immediate intervention through issuing of a directive to all the State Directorates of Agriculture for easing the process of issuance of G-2 to the applicants via harmonized document requirements and consequently enabling applicants to apply for provisional registration of Biostimulant(s) with CBC, i.e., within the stipulated time period.

CropLife India sent follow up reminders and connected with the Member Secretary-Central Biostimulants Committee. As an outcome, an official Notification on this matter has been issued on 15th June 2021 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, extending the time line for applying for provisional registrations by 31st March 2022, providing relief to the manufacturers / marketers of Biostimulants.

While issuing the clarification on 2nd August 2021 to the Associations, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare directed all State and Union territory Governments regarding implementation of the subject notification on Biostimulants and issuance of G-2 form for seeking Provisional registration of Biostimulants in India. CropLife India observed that clarification letter states that Provisional registration of Biostimulants is applicable for the Local Manufacturers of Bio-stimulants only and there is no provision for provisional registration for the Imported Biostimulants. Importer can therefore ONLY seek the regular registration of the imported product by inclusion in Schedule VI, which involves complete data generation for Bio efficacy, Chemistry and Toxicology. CropLife India submitted its objections with this clarification issued by the Government on 13th August 2021 and is very closely following up and monitoring the developments to regulate this sector in India.





#### 14 Evolution of Draft Chemicals Management & Safety Rules:

Draft Chemicals Management & Safety Rules were proposed by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (MoC&F), Government of India to regulate the Chemicals in India. CropLifeIndia submitted its representation to Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and participated in the VC Chaired by Secretary, Dept. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on Draft Chemical Management and Safety Rules on 11th May 2020. CropLife India provided the feedback to the Department to avoid the duplication of the registration process under the proposed rules for Insecticides as they are already covered under the Insecticide Rules 1971 and are already regulated by the CIB&RC.

CropLife India updated CEFIC on the progress/ next steps by DCPC on the Draft Chemicals Management & Safety Rules in July 2021. Subsequently, the Ministry again published the 5th draft version of the Chemicals Management and Safety Regulations 20xx and shared it on 7th Sept 2020 for comments of the Industry within 10 days. CropLife India submitted its comments on the final draft rules on 17th Sept 2020. India is the only major economy in the world that has not implemented UN GHS yet. Publication of India's first National Chemicals Policy – the final version of India's Chemicals (Management & Safety) Rules 20xx (ICMSR) – is still awaited. Due to the pandemic, the notification got delayed; It is expected that this new regulatory framework will strengthen the management of hazardous chemicals and finally introduce GHS. The Indian Chemicals Management and Safety Rules 20xx will supersede the Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules (MSIHC) Rules, 1989, and the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996.

The sixth draft of the rules is expected by Q4/2021. CropLife India is closely tracking and regularly monitoring the progress on evolution of the Draft Chemicals Management and Safety Regulations in India.

#### 15 Drones for Spraying Agrochemicals:

CropLife India followed up with CIBRC on progress by Dr. Sandhya Sub-Committee towards the finalization of Guidelines and data requirements for extending Drone as a means of application of approved pesticides and consider differentiation of Drone from Aircrafts/ Helicopters. RAG reviewed the White paper on Drone use in Pesticide Application.



A meeting was organized on 3rd February 2021 to discuss the matter with CIBRC and a copy of our representations were again submitted to PPA & CIBRC.

A follow up meeting with PPA and CIBRC was organized by CropLife India on 9th February 2021 to discuss the next steps towards issuance of guidelines for allowing spray of Pesticides using Drones. PPA informed that an expert committee will look into this matter and subsequently a representation was submitted to PPA and Secretary, CIBRC highlighting that Drones are not same as helicopters as acknowledged by DGCA (no longer governed by Aircraft Rules) and are useful for both small as well as large farm holdings.

CIBRC experts (Dr. Sandhya Kulshreshtha and Dr. K.L. Gujar) were also invited by CropLife India to the Drone Asia Forum organized by CropLife Asia during 8-11th March 2021 for sharing the international best practices and regulations prevalent on Asian countries.

During 3 days meetings held on 3D Regulatory Reforms Meeting held 3rd March, 2021 again this matter was flagged by CropLife India. Associations have been asked to propose the data requirement for official approval of applying Crop Protection products via drones as an alternate application technology.



The Global Guidelines and the Key Features of Japanese Regulation on Drones Application and the other useful references were submitted by CropLife India to CIBRC secretariat to formulate a guideline for data requirements for CP products to be sprayed through drones on 12th April, while requesting the CIB&RC team to consider Japan's regulations as the most important benchmark. Another meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Dr. Indra Mani, Prof. & Head, Division of Agricultural Engineering, IARI on 15th April 2021 with the all the Stake holders from Ministry, ICAR, Universities, industries (Drone manufacturers & Pesticides manufacturers) etc to discuss the course of action plan for sustainable adoption/use of Drone Technology in mapping, monitoring, assessment and application of soil nutrients & to formulate a standard Operational procedure (SOP). CropLife India submitted its representation to this committee also on 16th April 2021.

Subsequently CropLife India was invited in two meetings (17th May and 4th June 2021) of the Committee on Drones for Pesticide Spraying under the Chairmanship of PPA. A draft SOP cum Guideline was issued (3rd June 2021) by the Committee for Industry Comments/feedback. CropLife India submitted the same on 8th June, 2021 incorporating comments/suggestions from the international experts. CIBRC issued the official Draft guideline for public comments on 16th July 2021 on which CropLife India submitted suggestions on 16th August 2021, pointing out that the draft SOP/Guideline seeking to generate efficacy/ residue data twice over as required in the SOP, based on conventional method of application and by drone is neither scientifically justifiable, nor would serve any safety related objectives. This would mean a huge duplication of data generation at considerable cost and time and with no new scientific information.

CropLife India is continuing its follow up with MoA&FW to get released the final SOP/guidelines for using drones for application of pesticides.

## 16 Bio-Pesticides Toxicology Study Guidelines/Protocols:

CIBRC issued a Public Notice on 7th January 2021 for seeking comments of the stakeholders regarding harmonization of existing toxicological guidelines/protocol for registration of bio-pesticides in India within 30 days. CropLife India organized a joint alignment meeting with BASAI and PETA on 4th February 2021 to discuss these toxicological guidelines/protocols. CIBRC's draft guidelines/protocols for toxicology studies on Biopesticides are largely aligned with the US EPA OPPTS guidelines. However, some critical details / points seem to have been omitted.



CropLife India made a representation to CIB&RC on 6th February 2021, wherein we suggested that consistent with the accepted practice in view of the 3R's and animal welfare considerations, applicants may be encouraged to submit reasoned case for data waivers. Also, in USA, the Study waivers are routinely considered based on existing data or bridging between TGAI and product. In line with Animal protection laws, we recommended that a tiered approach of testing and risk assessments should be adopted in India. We also requested the government to allow import of microbial cultures and microbial formulations, whose safety and efficacy as a Pesticide has been reviewed and approved by regulatory agencies in other countries-US/EU. Subsequently RC convened the 426th meeting on 25th February 2021. The RC deliberated on ecotoxicology protocols and directed the Secretariat of CIB&RC to obtain comments on it from all the stakeholders. CIBRC released the biopesticide ecotoxicity study protocols for the public comments on 24th May 2021, with the request to submit the stakeholder feedback/ comments within a 60 days period. CropLife India submitted representation on 16th July 2021.



### 17 Collaborations with Crop Protection Industry Associations and Standard Setting Organizations:

CropLife India collaborated with the other Industry Associations viz. Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI), Agro Chemicals Federation of India (ACFI), Pesticides Formulators and Manufacturers Association of India (PFMAI), Biological Agri Solutions Association of India (BASAI) & APMA besides the FICCI, CII, PHDCCI, and the standard setting bodies- BIS, GS1. Several meetings were organized by CropLife India to align with the other industry associations for steering a common voice on key regulatory issues of the interest affecting the Industry.

### 18 Facilitation of Customs Clearances

Customs has started asking for IRNs for Registration certificates. CropLife India sensitized CIB&RC on the Customs requirement to upload the Registration Certificates/Import Permits etc on the e-SANCHIT portal and generation of IRNs. Made various representations to CIBRC besides weekly follow ups. CropLife India organized a Training session for CIBRC experts on 12th January 2021 on the process of ICEGATE/e-sanchit for uploading the Registration Certificates for generation of IRNs.

CropLife India also made representations on 4th March 2021 to Chairman CBIC, Member Customs, Secretary DPIIT and Mumbai Customs to facilitate the customs clearance of time sensitive agrochemicals consignments. These joint efforts from CropLife India and the member companies led to the clearance of the pending consignments without the requirement of IRNs. The matter of IRNs was again raised to PPA and Secretary CIBRC in the meeting on 9th February 2021 and CropLife India was assured that the designated nodal team at CIBRC (D Vandana Seth) is working on facilitating the uploading of RCs for generation of IRNs. CropLife India made three representations to the JS - PPA and the CIBRC to officially clarify the invoicing concerns being faced by member companies while customs clearance and also arrange for assigning manpower for sampling of imported formulations at Mumbai port to avoid delays in any custom clearance for want of test reports during the covid lockdown.

Another representation was made to the JS & PPA on 12th May 2021 on sample drawl process and very close follow up lead to assigning of staff at Mumbai/ Thane for facilitating the sample drawl for testing and release of imported formulations at the Mumbai ports. The DPPQS also issued a letter to CropLife India on 19th May 2021 to share the details of any impending consignments that are required to be cleared.

This matter of invoicing raised by CropLife India was discussed during 428th R.C. meeting (held on 18th May 2021) which threw the light on the matter of imports, i.e., it should originate from the approved source and invoicing is allowed by legal entities / subsidiaries / group companies. This will greatly assist in eliminating the ambiguities being sometimes faced by the registrants during the customs clearances. A follow up submission has been made to the CIBRC and to the Customs (Nava Sheva) to convey the RC decision to the customs on 12th and 14th June 2021 respectively.








**19 Registration Data Protection (PRD):**

CropLife India is very extensively advocating for PRD and is interacting with various Ministries including the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, etc to advocate inclusion of the provisions of PRD in the legislation of Pesticides. The need for the provisions for PRD were discussed and debated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare during the 3D-Reforms meeting held in Feb and March 2021. Registration Data Protection provisions do not exist in even the current form of Pesticide Management Bill 2020. CropLife India published a Position paper on Regulatory Data Protection in June 2021. CropLife India will further amplify the advocacy on this subject with key stakeholders.



## Pesticide Patent and Data Protection


**HOW THEY HELP INDIAN FARMERS AND INDIAN INDUSTRY**

Few sections of the Industry are spreading misconceived notions against Intellectual Property and Patent protection, which will hurt agricultural productivity and farmers' prosperity in India.

Respecting Intellectual Property Rights is one of the basic prerequisites for creating an innovation and R&D based value-added manufacturing sector in any country. Agrochemicals have been chosen as one of the champion sectors. But how can India be a global supply hub without harmonizing with global regulatory policies and practices?

This paper is aimed at establishing the benefits of both patent and data protection for Indian agriculture and Indian industry.

KEY TERMINOLOGY	
<b>Patent</b>	Provide protection for molecules identified for possible use as active ingredients in pesticides. The term of protection is 20 years.
<b>Safety / Regulatory Data</b>	Prevents unauthorized commercial use of health and efficacy data submitted for regulatory purposes to CIB.
<b>Copyright</b>	Protects application instructions and other informational data developed for consumers.





## 20 Computerized Registration of Pesticides:

CropLife India followed up with member companies to obtain the list of issues pertaining to the online submission portal for various categories of registrations, deficiency replies, etc and submitted it to CIB&RC on 6th March 2021. Centre for Good Governance (CGG) Hyderabad, was approached by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage (DPPQS), for the Design, Development, Implementation, Operations, Maintenance, hosting for integrated Web & Mobile based e-Governance Solution of 'Plant Quarantine Management System' (PQMS) and Web based 'Comprehensive Registration of Pesticides' (CROP). The development of CROP & PQMS was required due to various challenges faced by the DPPQS on a day-to-day basis for the operationalisation of the existing Plant Quarantine Information System (PQIS) and Computerized Registration of Pesticides (CROP).

Subsequently on 5th March 2021, a VC meeting was organized with CIBRC and CGG, Hyderabad with the CropLife India and the Industry stakeholders to highlight and discuss the challenges with using CROP software and to take desired action to smoothen the on-line registration process on CROP software. CropLife India made two more representations (13th May 2021 and 19th May 2021) to the CIBRC and to the NIC highlighting the issues being faced by member companies due to migration of CROP software and to allow the companies provide data files over the email and web link or hard copy. With these efforts, the CIB&RC agreed to provide the applicants the additional time to respond to the deficiencies, where the date of issuance of deficiency letter is back dated and the deficiency letter became visible on CROP at a later date.

## 21 Fast-tracking the New Pesticide Registration in India:

DAC & FW constituted an expert committee to identify new molecules/AIs that are registered in other countries but are not registered in India, with an aim to take them up for fast-track registration in India. CropLife India shared inputs with this committee.

There is a very slow progress on new product application scrutiny and approvals at the CIBRC, However, the Government has agreed in principle to outsource the review of new product applications to independent Government institutes. DAC & FW had talks with Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR), Lucknow for outsourcing of toxicology data evaluation. Government has reached out to the Industry associations to give consent for payment of a fee of upto INR 5 Lakh/ application for outsourcing the review of toxicology data in the registration application for new Pesticides. This is a very positive development and we have provided the formal consent to the Government on this matter on 31st May 2021. CropLife India will continue to follow up with the Government to seek for fast tracking of the scrutiny and registration of new products.



# STEWARDSHIP

CropLife India has a long history of creating awareness and building capacity on sustainable practices among various stakeholders including farmers, agriculture input retailers, agricultural extension staff, custom officials, key stakeholders and several NGOs. CropLife India & its members continue to work closely with farmers, scientific community and policy makers to address current as well as future challenges.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

### PPE BEHAVIORAL CHANGE PROJECT IN INDIA

Jointly commissioned by CropLife International, CropLife Asia & CropLife India

CropLife International has commissioned Global agency Ideas42 to conduct a behaviour change analysis of how farmers are responding to messaging on the use of PPE in India. In 2019, after auditing a sizable project in 3 provinces in India (2017-2019) in collaboration with CL International, it was found that the project was not achieving desirable results. This was not the only project that had been conducted in India for PPE promotion. Member companies also had PPE drives.

Then with collaborative approach it was decided that we would explore using behavioural science to intervene and find innovative ways to break through our persistent deadlock of the lack of PPE usage among Indian farmers, despite the substantial investments.

India was chosen as a pilot due to the strategic FTO challenges but was intended to be able to scale to the region's stewardship practices in general.

The project was designed & divided into 2 phases.

The 1st phase focused on Problem Definition and Behavioral Diagnosis to get the outcomes.

The 2nd phase will focus on Solution Design and Testing activities.

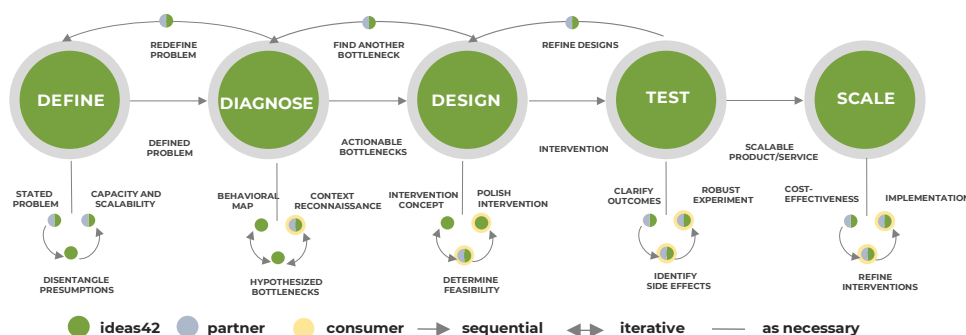
The updates are:

During 1st Phase:

- Conducted pilot interviews with small number of farmers and key stakeholders
- Incorporated feedback from pilot interviews to revise interview guide and outreach protocol
- Prioritized behavioral barriers based on the strength/importance of the barrier
- As we have successfully completed Phase 1 which included the Define and Diagnose stages and made significant progress to understand PPE usage practices and identify the diverse drivers – contextual, psychological, and social – of this behavior. These diagnostic insights are important to follow through on to ensure that steps toward promoting universal usage of PPE are driven by farmer's behavior.

The second phase of the work would be to develop approaches using refined approaches, with ongoing reflection, so as to promote the use of PPE.

The Phase 2 of this engagement will commence from December 2021 to include the Design and Testing stages over 14 months. The objective of this activity is to create and refine a solution(s) to achieve the outcome of interest.





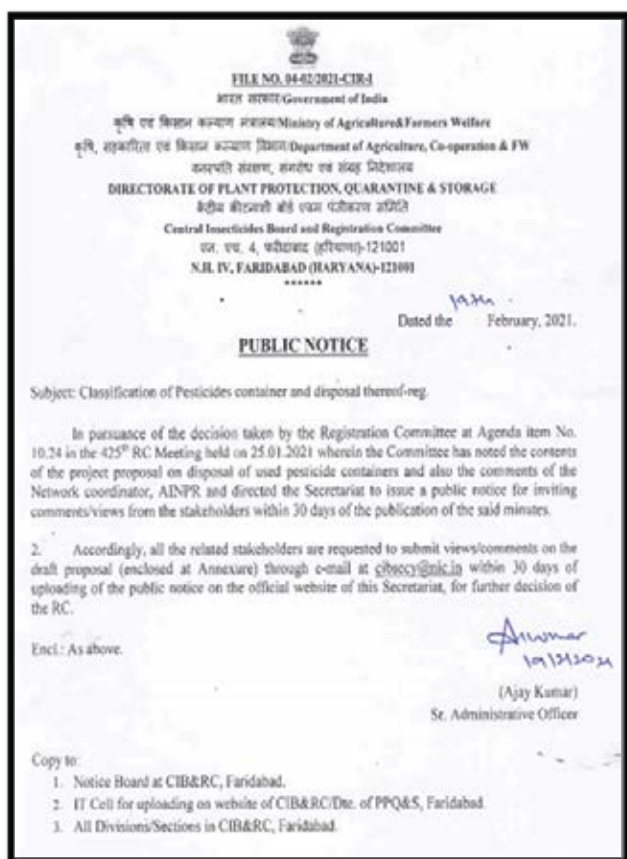


## INDIA CONTAINER MANAGEMENT ADVOCACY

The Container Management task force of CropLife India with the support of CL Int'l have been working on advocating CropLife India's position paper which highlights the need for mapping roles of each stakeholders in the value chain for a sustainable empty pesticide container management ecosystem.

In this regard, the CM task force has been reviewing CropLife International's roadmap prepared for Empty Pesticide Container Management System in India & exploring various other ways to advocate this issue, for example:

- For the purpose of implementing the PWMR 2016 Rules, Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) guidelines were prescribed by the Ministry of Environment, in 2020. All concerned industries are advised to register and comply. In a subsequent development, CIB&RC has sought comments on Empty Pesticide Container Management keeping in line with EPR policy. CropLife India with the support of CL Int'l submitted a response to the CIBRC notification keeping in line with global best practices.
- CropLife India has also proposed to hold an International Symposium on the Container Management involving relevant stakeholders to share Global Learnings and Best Practices from other countries which have established infrastructure, policies and models for viable container management systems.



- The CM task force has also engaged with PROs to understand their capabilities and seek convergence to prepare a commercially viable roadmap for Empty Pesticide Container Management System for India.
- CropLife India Board also looked at ways to estimate the size of the problem- that is type-wise, state-wise break up of EPCs in the marketplace to engage seriously with waste agencies/PRO based on facts and figures to develop and verify a concept for a CMS on state level / opportunity for running a pilot project.
- **In the 429th RC Minutes:** RC decided to formulate a working group/task force comprising experts from DPPQS/CIB&RC, CPCB, State Governments, M/o EF & CC, ICAR and Pesticide industry associations stakeholders to work upon deciding the responsibility for collection and disposal of the empty container & suggest about linking /creation etc. of necessary infrastructures setup. Awaiting communication /Public Notice from the RC decision to proceed further.



## TRIPLE RINSING STUDY WITH AINPPR, IARI, NEW DELHI

- After in-depth discussion with IARI, the project proposal made by CropLife India is accepted by All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues (AINPPR), IARI, New Delhi.
- The formulation list containing all pesticide groups, toxicity categories, formulation types, packaging types etc. has been selected & shared with AINPPR for the Triple Rinsing study based on the analytical capability of IARI laboratory.
- The objective of this initiative is potential reclassification of triple rinsed containers as non-hazardous under HWMR.
- The project is in progress.



## RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT & WHITE FLIES POSTERS

What happens in the farms impacts the entire food chain and goes even further. For example, indiscriminate use of crop protection chemicals leads not only to unnecessary expenditure for the farmers, it may lead to crop losses, development of resistance in pest, presence of excessive residues in the final produce and ultimately impact their incomes. Farmers particularly, those that are engaged in exporting their produce, may face rejection of export consignments and that may cause huge losses.

It is indeed important for the scientific community, government and industry stakeholders to get together find out the scientific options available or to develop a strategy for effective management of whitefly & resistance in India, to avoid repetition of such incidents repeated in the other parts of the country, while deliberating on the development of scientific options to effectively manage future pest attacks.



CropLife India strongly advocates the benefits of resistance management and developed posters to educate the farmers on use of various control methods to protect their crops.



## CROPLIFE INDIA'S STEWARDSHIP BROCHURE

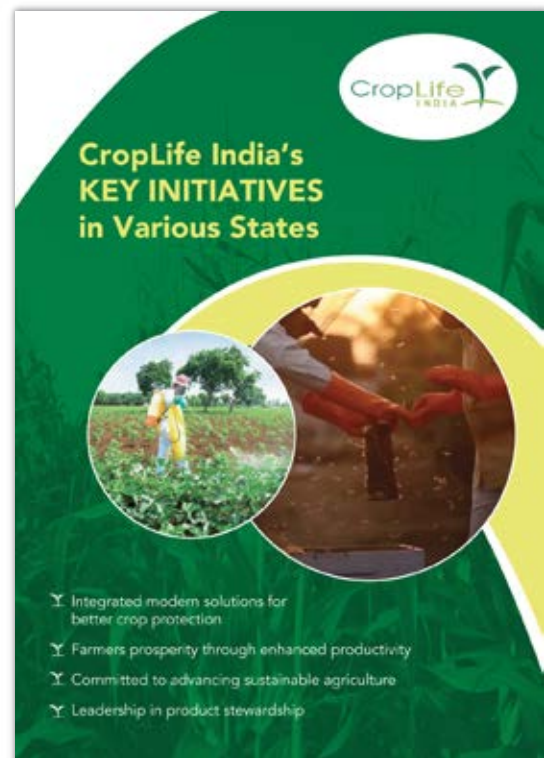
CropLife India has issued its Annual Stewardship Key initiatives Brochure for advocacy & outreach.

The CropLife India's Stewardship Key Initiative Brochure, enlists key activities and achievements during Covid-19 lockdown and continuing pandemic.

The Brochure was well received by the members & key stakeholders.

Please see the link here:

<http://croplifeindia.org/stewardship/>



## VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTATIVE REALITY STEWARDSHIP TRAINING

### (1st Trial Training in Amritsar, Punjab)

In continuation to our discussion on the Training with augmentative and virtual reality tools and to pilot such an approach for providing information to farmers, CropLife India with a support of a global Agency, Maros and CropLife India's member Rallis India team conducted a training program with farmers in Amritsar, Punjab.

Trainees used the phone-based systems to test lower cost versions

### Training Delivery

- » Show the training to get trainees familiar with how to navigate
- » Set up several devices for farmers to test
- » Answer questions on what to do when using the system

### Farmer Trials: Results

- » Training was adjusted for Cultural Nuances
- » Farmers were shown the videos of the training
- » Farmers chose representatives to test rather than every farmer testing with a device
- » Some farmers were uncomfortable using the device and choosing representatives curtailed this concern
- » Farmers voted as a group on the value of the training and the answers to the questions
- » Every farmer got a VR device to take home







## CROPLIFE INDIA'S STAKEHOLDERS OUTREACH PROJECT

### (Promotion of Farmers' Training Film and Stewardship Brochure)

The following three prong approaches have been adopted by CropLife India to advocate & reach extensively to key stakeholders:

- » Communication via Emails to each and every stakeholders
- » Circulation of the hard copies, consisting of Farmers' Training Film in 8 languages & Stewardship Brochure, amongst key stakeholders
- » Awareness programs/events to promote the film at various platforms

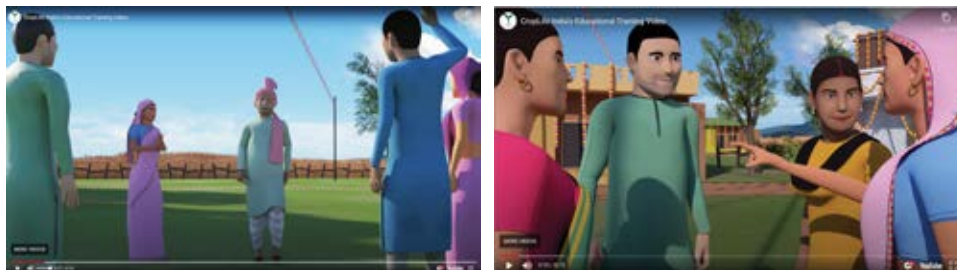
To keep the momentum going, the Stewardship Farmers' Training Films have been shared with key stakeholders, copied on a Pen drive, along with a Stewardship Brochure, via courier, to amplify the film & showcase our efforts towards sustainable agriculture,

The kit was well received by the stakeholders, such as Dr. T. P. Rajendran, Chair, FSSAI-SP on Pesticide residues; Dr. Anupama Singh, Head- Division of Agricultural Chemicals, IARI; MANAGE, Hyderabad; SAMETI, West Bengal etc to name a few.

Also, stakeholders suggested CL India to produce series of such videos that cover other key topics like Container Management, Resistance Management, with strict adherence to recommended label claimed dosage and spray solution etc.

The film was well promoted on social media platforms as well.

Please see the link here: <http://croplifeindia.org/stewardship/>



## CROPLIFE INDIA CELEBRATES ITS 41<sup>ST</sup> FOUNDATION DAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021

CropLife India as an organization has evolved over the last four decades into a formidable voice of the innovative & research driven Crop Protection Industry. Over these years, CropLife India has achieved many milestones and to commemorate these achievements, we have undertaken various initiatives described below:

- A video has been developed to highlight the growth of the organization from seed to a fruit bearing tree. The video can be viewed here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BT0lvv8mYWk>
- A poster has been created to thank our members, leaders and mentors, associated with this organization for their immense contributions.





## CROPLIFE INDIA WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION WITH SAFETY MESSAGES, 08<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021, GUJARAT

CropLife India celebrated 'Women's Day' with Women Farmers (#farm queens) on 08<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in Bharuch District, Gujarat . This was one of a kind event wherein apart from District Govt. Officials, SAU & Member Representatives, more than 180 women farmers & girl students participated and experienced a whole new world, specially designed and organized for them in Bharuch District, Gujarat.

The CropLife India farmer's training film (Gujarati) was screened during the event and a rapid fire roundgame, consisting of key Stewardship & Anti-counterfeiting messages was played. While taking all the safety measures, other activities like non-smoking solar cooking, lemon spoon game, and cultural programs etc. were organized.



CropLife India honoured participants and winners by giving them certificates and trophies along with the goody bags (consisting of masks, sanitizers, etc.) for their valuable contribution to the society.

The event was well appreciated by the State Government officials & women farmers.





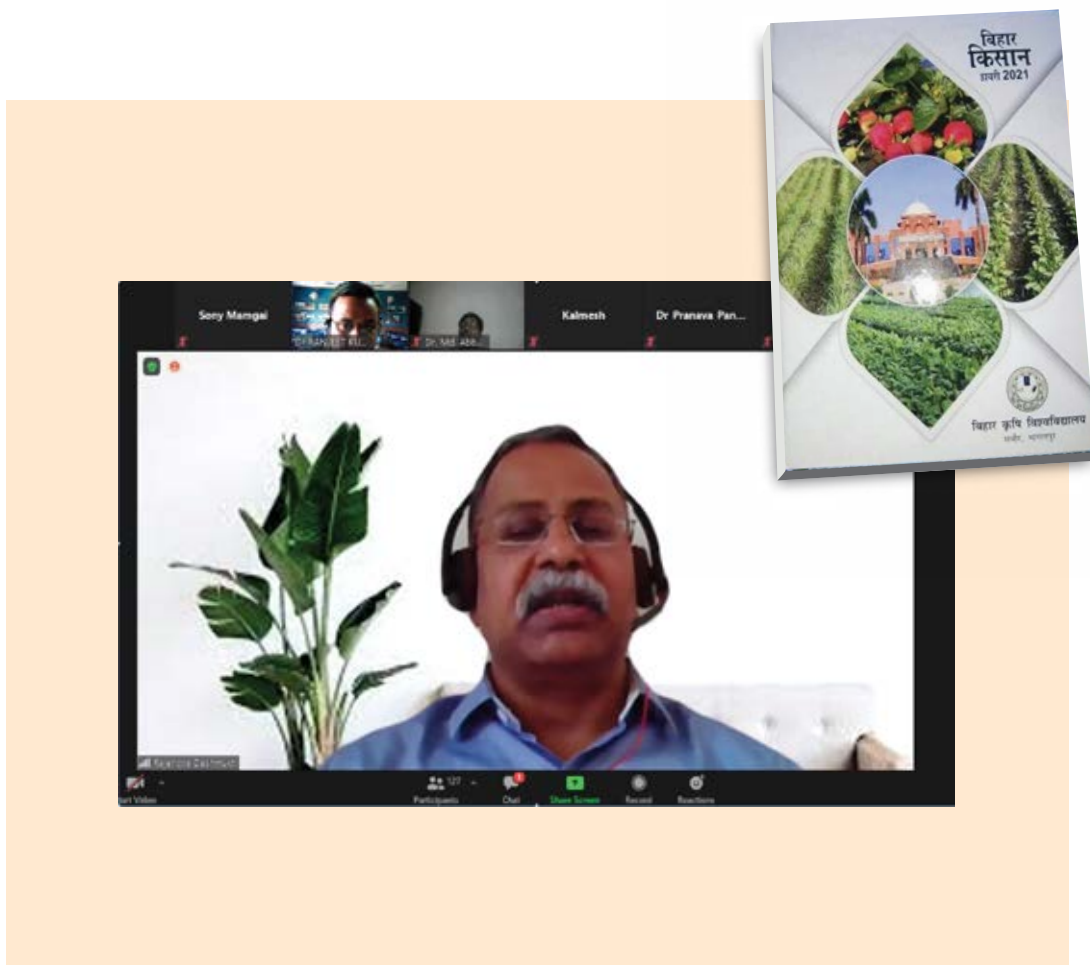
## DIRECTORATE OF EXTENSION EDUCATION BIHAR AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, SABOUR, BHAGALPUR

Bihar Kisan Diary-2021 published by Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour has been appreciated by different Govt. organization, ICAR, Financial Institutions and Private Sectors. The Bihar Kisan Diary -2021 contained technical information about all the crops relevant to the state as well as information about government schemes in vernacular language.

As a part of Stewardship awareness campaign, CropLife India published one-page Farmers' Education Poster in Hindi in this diary and successfully reached to over a lac farmers, policy planner & instructors/ trainers.

This diary has been circulated among all the institutions of ICAR / SAUs & Government authorities too.

In addition, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour invited CropLife India to deliver a lecture on career opportunities in entomological science for grooming the students on 29th July 2021. Dr. Rajendra Deshmukh, Lead-CLI IRAC committee, delivered the lecture on behalf of CropLife India on the said topic and sensitized the students on the career aspects in corporate sector.





## VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) FOR DOCTORS ON PRINCIPLES OF RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT OF ACCIDENTAL AGROCHEMICAL EXPOSURE

Osmanabad, Yavatmal, Jalgaon Districts – Maharashtra 19 July, 2021

The Chief Quality Control Officer (CQCO), Agriculture Dept. Govt. of Maharashtra invited a meeting to discuss awareness programs on safety measures for Accidental Agro Chemicals poisoning in the state of Maharashtra. A state level committee meeting of experts with CQCO was held wherein all concerned Associations were also invited to share their views on the strategy to implement this plan district wise effectively.

The virtual Doctors' Training Program was the result of the said meeting wherein CropLife India in association with Agriculture Department, Govt. of Maharashtra organized a Virtual Conference on Continuing Medical Education (CME) Webinar for Doctors on Principles of Recognition, Management and Treatment of Accidental Agrochemical Exposure on 19th July 2021 via Video Conference.



The Virtual Conference was attended by **around 1000 participants** from government and private hospitals across three districts of Maharashtra – Yavatmal, Osmanabad and Jalgaon. The workshop was part of CropLife India's Stewardship program, which intends to guide the doctors to deal with accidental exposure incidents occurred during improper or unsafe application of agro-chemicals.

**Excellent Training Session was conducted by Dr. Debabrata Kanungo, MD, FCGP** – a globally recognized expert on Medical Toxicology, Human Health Risk Assessment and Food safety - to conduct this interactive session with the medical practitioners. Dr Kanungo has been Former Chairman, Scientific Panel on Pesticide Residues (FSSAI), Former Additional Director General, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, and a WHO recognised expert on the subject.

The training was followed by Q&A Session wherein all the queries of the participants were answered by the expert.

**As the Chief Guest, Shri. Sunil Borkar**, Chief Quality Control Officer, Agri. Dept., Govt. of Maharashtra addressed the participants and shared his inputs.

Present in the Virtual Conference were **Shri. Amol Yedje (IAS), District Collector, Yavatmal; Shri. Kaustabh Diwegaonkar (IAS), District Magistrate & Collector, Osmanabad; Shri. Abhijit Raut (IAS), District Collector, Jalgaon;** other senior Government officials and delegates from our member companies and industry.



CropLife India has developed a **digital edition for Health Practitioners' Handbook** which is hosted on our website.

<http://croplifeindia.org/doctors-manual-register/>



# CROPLIFE INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN AGRICULTURE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Digitizing communications in lieu of face to face meetings

The global pandemic of Covid-19 caused challenges such as restrictions, Health Crisis, Lack of communications, disruption of agro food products supply etc.

CropLife India launched an extensive outreach program by leveraging digital tools and technology.

CropLife India forged new partnerships for the common goal of farmer's awareness thus acting as an effective knowledge partner for the agricultural sector during the ongoing crisis.

As a success, **Over 2 million stakeholders** reached through digital platforms in spite of Covid-19 restrictions.

A **wide scope of stakeholders** including, farmers, Government, extension officers, women, influencers and medical community participated in this outreach.

**Recognition and awards from state governments** that built further trust of CropLife India during the time of crisis

» **Created a CropLife India Farmer's Training Film**, an educational video featuring both Stewardship and Anti-counterfeiting messages for our farmers' welfare; available in eight languages.

<https://youtu.be/FUNt8okgaSg>

» **Developed a video for Health Practitioners'** to provide necessary information to them on 'Recognition, Management & Treatment of Accidental Agrochemical Exposure during this unprecedented time.

<https://youtu.be/Ckrm5nvblqc>

» During the Locust attacks in the country during the crisis, CropLife India had issued an **advisory for farmers and spray management agencies** to follow these recommendations.

» CropLife India took the opportunity to promote drones to control locust, resulting in government to lift restrictions on drone use in agriculture, which continue to advance today.

**Tailoring communications, responding to new safety guidelines for essential farmer workers specific to Covid-19**



» Farmer Education Poster on "Safety points in farming during Covid-19 pandemic" and a video was designed and shared digitally.

» Developed shorter version of the Farmers' Educational Video for quick references

Encouraged our Farm Heroes to get vaccinated for long term safety & delight





# THANKING AND MAINTAINING NETWORK OF FARM HEROES AND INFLUENCERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED & STRENUOUS EFFORTS

Even with the restrictions, CropLife India Stewardship came out as an active voice and support for farmers' welfare.

» Developed Thank you & Congratulations Posters

» Elevated local farmer leaders on regional and global platforms: CropLife Asia's Farmer Forum Webinar Series/CL International's Biotech Food Heroes Campaign/ CL Int'l Interview



» CropLife India Women's Day Celebration \*Farm Queens\* with Safety Messages, 08 March 2021, Gujarat



We also ensured the recognition was felt by women and children, the behind the scenes influencers crucial to the farming community:

» CropLife India Children Rhyming Poster







## PROJECT ON SAFE & RESPONSIBLE USE OF CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS IN MANGO

### for Farmers Safety and Enhancing Quality Yield of the Crop

The CropLife project entitled "Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products in Mango and Litchi for Farmers Safety, Pollinators Conservation and Enhancing Yield of the Crops in West Bengal and Bihar" was started from April, 2019 onwards. The project was running in different parts of Malda districts and several ventures has implemented through this project i.e. survey, awareness, training and input distribution. This two year CropLife India project was initiated in collaboration with ICAR- CISH (Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Regional Research Station, Malda, West Bengal) in Malda, West Bengal & Bihar.

#### The objective of the project was:

- » To create awareness and establishment of blocks on Safe & Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products for safety of farmers and high yield of quality produce of mango.
- » Establishment of Farmers and Dealers linkage for promotion of "Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in mango.



#### Updates:

- » OPERATIONAL AREA: Malda, Murshidabad of West Bengal
- » A total of 57 Safe & RU Awareness cum training programs were conducted in 78 villages of 5 blocks of Malda district, reached more than 1318 mango growers directly.
- » An event was also organized on 26 June 2019, in which more than 400 farmers and prominent dignitaries like Dr PK Chakraborty, Member of ASRB, Govt. of India and other member representatives participated.
- » Identification of progress mango farmers as AAM SEVAK & places as AAM PATHSHALA to raise the flag of CL India Project.
- » Developed the WhatsApp group of progressive mango farmers to support them for adoption of Good Agricultural Practices on Mango



## CROPLIFE INDIA WINS FICCI CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS AWARDS 2021

CropLife India has recently been awarded for Commendable Work for Changing Public Perception in IndiaChem 2021; an event jointly organized by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).

The award was presented by the then Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, in the presence of Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India.

A Press release was issued, which was flashed by ANI and PTI. We have received coverage in Business Standard, India Infoline, Yahoo, The Asian Chronicle, Dainik Bhaskar, The Daily Guardian, Mangalore Mirror, to name a few.





## CROPLIFE INDIA'S IMPACT STORY FEATURED IN CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL'S NEWSLETTER

It's a good accomplishment for CL India to be featured in CL International newsletter, which covers some of the important recent developments.

CL India's Stewardship Story published in CL International's Newsletter – **Stewardship in Action**.

This story has been hosted on CL Int'l Website.

Please find the link here:

<https://croplife.org/crop-protection/stewardship/stewardship-in-action/>



## CROPLIFE ASIA STEWARDSHIP AWARD

CropLife India was awarded for the **Best Digital Contributions to Indian Agriculture during Covid-19 Pandemic Award in 2021** organized by CropLife Asia.





## STABLE POLICY ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORTIVE REGULATORY SYSTEM WILL NURTURE INNOVATIONS AND HELP INDIAN FARMERS

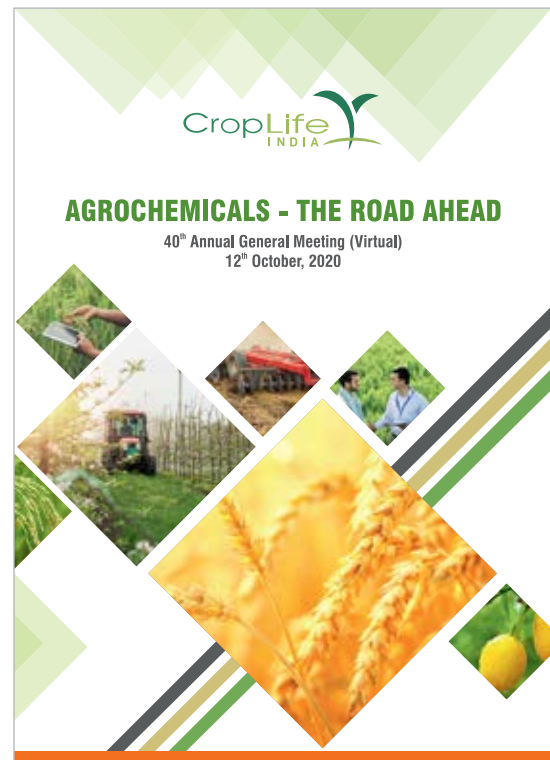
### Government & Agro-Chemical Industry Leaders deliberate on Agrochemicals – The Road Ahead

during 40th Annual General Meeting of CropLife India

CropLife India organized its **40th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** on 12th October 2020, virtually. The event witnessed the congregation of the Hon'ble **Minister of State for Agriculture**, senior Government officials, experts and industry captains on the cause of supporting the farmer.

The Open House – Virtual Conference, included an Inaugural Session, **"Policy level changes required to make Agrochemicals, a Champion sector"**; a Panel Discussion on **"Policy & Regulatory Roadmap for Agrochemicals Sector"** and a Valedictory Session.

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.



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.

### 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. 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; due to poor practices.
- Enhancement of Product Stewardship and Progressive Policies for Minor Crops would eliminate such roadblocks.
- Enabling the use of technology in agriculture, e.g. Drones would help in enhancing efficiency of the farmers and aiding growth of the agriculture industry



## ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

### CROPLIFE INDIA ADVOCACY EFFORTS DURING 2<sup>ND</sup> WAVE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN MEASURES IN INDIA

The continuation of exemption of pesticides manufacturing, distribution and sales during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wave Covid-19, State/District wise lockdown measures was the first step, which helped sustain the momentum towards agrochemicals.

It will be imperative to note that CropLife India had reached out to several Key Stakeholders with the help of several appeal letters citing the importance of agrichemicals (and other farm inputs) in ensuring food security and farmers' sustainability; and requesting that the entire agrichemical supply chain (Import, Manufacture, Distribution, Transportation, Storage and Sale) be allowed to operate during the 1<sup>st</sup> Lockdown period, in the year 2020.

The outreach had resulted in Ministry of Home Affairs has issued two addendums notifying pesticides manufacturing, distribution and sales in the Exempted list.

As the lockdown measures during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wave of Covid -19, were being done at a State and District level, CropLife India reached out to each authority citing the earlier addendum issued. CropLife India closely worked with other allied industry associations to amplify the outreach during the pandemic.

The outcome achieved was that almost all States and Districts exempted pesticides value chain from the lockdown measures; an integral part in sustaining the Indian agriculture.

कोरोना संकट के समय मोदी सरकार द्वारा किसानों को बड़ी राहत  
**लॉक डाउन के दौरान अब नहीं होगी कृषि प्रभावित**

**अब खुल सकेंगी :**

- कृषि उत्पादों की खरीद एवं बिक्री में लिफ्ट सभी एजेंसियां, मंडियां तथा राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अधिसूचित इकाइयां.
- किसान एवं कृषि श्रमिकों द्वारा किसानी कार्य.
- फार्म मशीनरी में लिफ्ट कस्टम हायरिंग सेंटर्स (CHC).
- उर्वरक, कीटनाशक व बीजों की दुकानें, निर्माण एवं पैकेजिंग इकाइयां.
- खेती में प्रयोग होने वाली कटाई एवं बुवाई से सम्बंधित मशीनें जैसे कंबाईड हार्वेस्टर व अन्य कृषि एवं बागवानी में उपयोग होने वाली मशीनों को राज्य एवं राज्य के बाहर लाने एवं ले जाने की छूट दी गई है.

उक्त सभी कार्य करते समय सामाजिक दूरी बनाये रखने के निर्देशों का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा.

**नरेन्द्र सिंह तोमर**  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण, भारत  
विदेश एवं भारतीय राज्यों, भारत सरकार

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# CROPLIFE ASIA'S VIRTUAL DRONE PESTICIDE APPLICATION FORUM,

08<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021.

A first-of-its-kind virtual conference on drone use for pesticide application in Asia was organized by CropLife Asia; which included three days of dialogue and discussion amongst stakeholders from across the food supply chain. The event focused on perspectives ranging from those of regional governments, manufacturers as well as commercial adopters, and experts in the field forecasting future innovations.

The aim was to convene government and industry stakeholders, from both the drone and agriculture industry, as well as from around Asia Pacific and other global regions to exchange knowledge on this technology.

The conclusion was that innovation needs to move at a faster pace in view of the agricultural conditions in Asia, characterized by an ageing or urbanizing population and smallholder farming. However, this will require support from sound regulatory frameworks, financial aid to farmers,

**Day 1: Session 1: Digital transformation and its impact on government agricultural policies**

**Moderator**

**Panel speakers**

- David Frabotta, Director, Market Needs, standards
- Gustavo Palencia, R&D Agricultural Solutions Asia Pac DC
- Amber Dubey, Ministry of Civil Aviation, India
- Dr. Madhu Ravi, Institute of Plant Protection, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)

**Day 2: Session 1: R&D: Technology enablers for pesticide application by drone**

**Moderator**

**Panel speakers**

- Chris Qi, Agronomic Solutions Manager, APAC, Bayer CropScience
- Dr. Wei Wu Huan, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI)
- Chang Chih-Min, Taiwan Agricultural Chemical and Soil Science Research Institute (TACSRI)
- Dr. Nishu Nishu, Rural Development Authority (RDA), South Korea
- Jack Ra, IRI
- Dr. Piyush Mishra, IRI, Services Limited
- Dr. John Andabato, IRI Corporation

**Event summary**

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
The government perspective	The field perspective	The future perspective
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital transformation and its impact on government agricultural policies. India and China share how their governments integrate and enable drones in agriculture policy.</li> <li>Regulatory frameworks for pesticide application by drone around Asia Pacific. Regulators from regions leading in drone adoption share their best practices to ensure efficient and safety of drone pesticide application.</li> <li>Safety Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for pesticide application by drone. Both regulators and industry share standards on usage, training and environmental safety.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R&amp;D Technology enablers for pesticide application by drone. Drone manufacturers share the research and development that goes into their manufacturing towards the safe and effective use of drones for pesticide spray.</li> <li>Commercial adoption of drone for pesticide application in APAC. Case studies from central countries and crops, and the benefits it has brought to farmers in Asia.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emerging technological advancements in drone for pesticide application. Leading drone manufacturers share exciting digital innovations we can expect to see in the future and their impact on farmers and the wider economy.</li> <li>Roundtable Future collaborations to drive best practices in the region. How can government and industry address the existing gaps to advance the use and benefit of drones in agriculture in Asia Pacific and globally?</li> </ol>

**Why Drones in Agriculture?**  
Drones can help address major challenges facing agriculture sector in Asia

Challenge	Benefit of drones
Increasing pest pressure	Monitoring of crop health and precision application of pesticides
Rising production costs	Lower labor and fuel costs, more efficient application of inputs
Dwindling natural resources	Reduced water consumption
Farmer health and safety	Reduced operator exposure

Meet a growing demand for affordable and sustainable food production

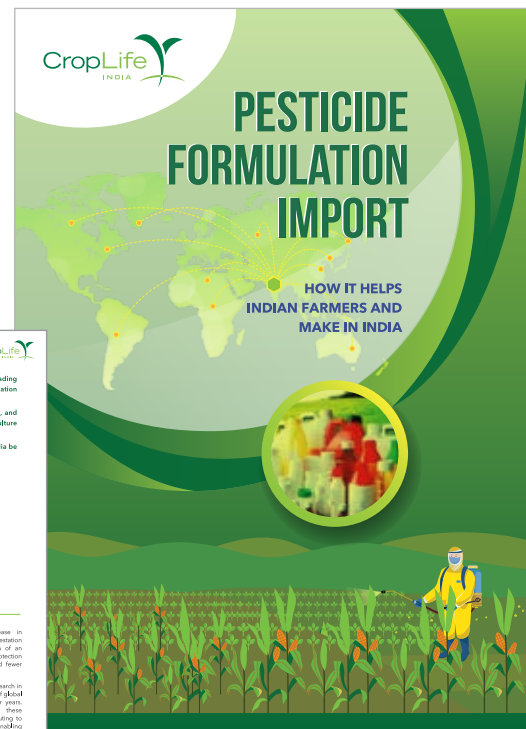


# FORMULATION IMPORT POSITION PAPER AND ADVOCACY

Certain sections of Indian industry have been making unsubstantiated and misleading claims with an agenda of proposing ban or discourage crop protection formulation imports. CropLife India believes this topic needs to be looked at holistically and factually, and not with a narrow perspective, so that stakeholders in the service of Indian Agriculture are not misguided with motivated claims and narrow perceptions.

With this in view CropLife India published a detailed position paper June 2021, covering following aspects:

- » Global Agricultural Chemical Market & Cost of Research
- » Globally Integrated Supply Chain & India's Emerging Position
- » Formulation Imports & Facts



Further, CropLife India proactively communicated our position on this important topic to all key stakeholders and amplified our position through Press Release



CropLife India supports the Government of India initiatives for **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India**. However any hurried decision to increase in custom duty on formulations, or their ban, will send the wrong signal about India's unstable and changing polices which discourages both indigenous and foreign investment in this sector. The changing pest and cropping patters as well as the impact of climate change do need newer and better pesticide products; and our experience suggests the quickest way to introduce latest technology and explore their market acceptance is by first registering formulation only for imports.

Moreover current registration guidelines do allow registration of the technical for local manufacturing based on the formulation import registration. Also once new solutions brought through the route of formulation import get adopted by the farmers, the local manufacturing is commenced for long term objective and to support Make in India concept. Formulations Imports are then converted to the manufacture of formulation and then to manufacturing of the technical in India.

CropLife India believes that any major policy initiative must focus on the interest and benefit of the user/consumer i.e., the farmers and agriculture and the nation; and must be over and above the interests of any sections of the Industry.



## MEETING WITH SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA

A CropLife India delegation met Shri Parshottambhai Rupala, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020, to discuss the issues shared during our AGM held in October 2020.

### Salient issues discussed:

Balaram Committee report - The Minister advised us to share concrete suggestions on how to reduce registration timelines and the reforms required with CIB & RC.

### Formulation Imports

The Minister shared that although there is no intent to raise customs duty or ban Formulation Imports at least from the Agriculture Ministry; however there is a need to create a level playing field and encourage domestic manufacturing and exports wherever possible to make Agro-Chemical a champion sector.

The Minister requested to share concrete suggestions on curbing the Spurious/Counterfeit agrochemicals.



## MEETING WITH SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL



A CropLife India delegation met Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. The objective of the meeting was to sensitize the Minister for fine tuning the Pesticide Management Bill 2020, with more balanced provisions and involving the Industry stakeholders for consultation. CropLife India Flyer on PMB 2020 along with the detailed analysis of the PMB from an industry standpoint was shared.





**Totals to date**  
 Dialogues announced: **1,585**  
 Participants: **105,304**  
 National Convenors: **148**  
 National Pathways: **99**

Food Systems Summit Dialogues: A powerful opportunity to **engage meaningfully, explore collectively and emerge resiliently** for sustainable food systems. **Anyone can be a part of shaping the change – help the world hear all voices of food systems – convene a Dialogue today!**

## CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL & CROPLIFE ASIA’S WEBINAR ON “UNLEASHING INNOVATION TO TRANSFORM LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS”, 18 May 2021

The UN Food Systems Summit Dialogues have provided an important mechanism to create an inclusive process for stakeholders to engage with the Summit. To date there have been over 700 Dialogues held independently and by member States. In May, CropLife International helped organize an Independent Dialogue to better understand the role that innovation can play in delivering future food systems that continue to meet society's expectations while sustaining the livelihoods of agri-food chain actors and respecting planetary boundaries.

It was expected that the Dialogue would help to identify some common global priorities for food systems innovation while also encouraging various regional nuances to come to the surface. With this in mind, the Dialogue's breakout sessions were organized around six major regions: North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, North Asia and South Asia. This dynamic recognizes the complexity both within and between different systems while also allowing for the possibility of a common path forward–based on shared goals, beliefs and experiences.

In terms of embracing multi-stakeholder inclusivity, CropLife International partnered with five organizations (representing diverse stakeholder groups and regions) to enhance the convening power of the Dialogue. These included the Agriculture and Food Systems Institute, Cornell Alliance for Science, Global Farmer Network, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), and Thought for Food. Each of the partners acted as a facilitator for the regional breakout sessions. Having a strong farmer voice in the Dialogue was very important for the discussion. Conclusions from the Dialogue were officially submitted via an official feedback form to the Food Systems Summit organizers.

There were some common overarching takeaways around innovation success stories and future opportunities at the global level, but also some important nuances at the regional and local levels. Some key areas of consensus included:

- >> There is an urgent need for more innovation to help future food systems meet the ever more complex set of expectations that society places on them – from food security and nutrition to livelihoods, ecosystem services and climate mitigation.
- >> Farmers are the foundation of our food systems and have demonstrated time and again that they can rise to the challenge if they are equipped and supported to do so.
- >> Innovation can take many forms – from researching new technologies, to scaling up of existing approaches and applying new ways of working, partnerships and practices.



## PARTICIPATION IN INDIA CHEM 2021 ORGANIZED BY FICCI

17-19 March 2021

India Chem, is the largest event of Chemicals and Petrochemical Industry in India, jointly organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India and FICCI.

The event boasts of congregation of almost the entire Chemical, Petrochemical and Agrochemical industry czars. Apart from the exhibition each segment witnesses deliberations on the burning issues.

The Conclave on Global Agrochemical Industry was organized with the discussion on growth drivers like policy reforms in accelerating the growth in the agriculture sector, improved farmer awareness and incomes, the present scenario, and the way forward, and the self-reliant Indian agriculture sector. The session even witnessed the discussion on key issues with respect to Global Trends, Farmer's Awareness, Training of Farmers, etc.; including some of the critical success factors for Indian agrochemical companies like significant R&D activities, strong brand equity, widespread distribution network, and a robust product pipeline.

**Shri Parshottambhai Rupala, Hon'ble Minister of State**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India presided the session.

CropLife India's views were echoed by **Dr. K. C. Ravi**, Chairman, CropLife India & Chief Sustainability Officer, Syngenta India Limited; **Mr. R. G. Agarwal**, Chairman FICCI - Crop Protection Committee and Group Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.; **Mr. Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch**, Co-Chairman, FICCI Committee on Crop Protection Chemicals & Chief Operating Officer, Bayer CropScience Limited and **Mr. Rahoul Sawani**, Managing Director- South Asia, Corteva Agri science.





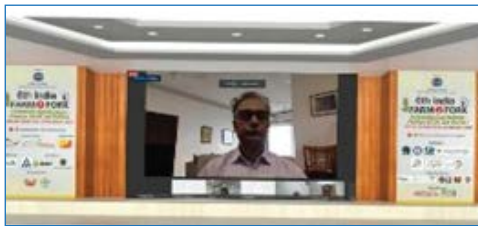
# 6<sup>th</sup> INDIA FARM2FORK International Conference “Aatmanirbhar Bharat - PRODUCE LOCAL SELL GLOBAL”

**A Webinar on Crop & Nutrition Security - For a Billion plus & Exports - Need for Higher Yields and Quality Produce was organized on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**

CropLife India's views were echoed by -

» Dr. K. C. Ravi, Chairman, CropLife India - “Sustainable & Safe Use of Agri Inputs & Technologies”- Crop Health and Protection Chemicals - Boon or Bane

» Mr. Asitava Sen, CEO, CropLife India - Crop & Nutrition Security For a Billion Plus & Exports - Need for Higher Yields and Quality Produce



In the wake of growing concerns of chemical linked diseases and deaths; pesticide residues linked export rejections and increasing preference for organic production; there is need to discuss the pros and cons and design a long term strategy.

## FICCI 9<sup>TH</sup> AGROCHEMICALS CONFERENCE

**Theme: Role of Agrochemicals: Achieving vision of \$5 Trillion economy by 2025**

The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) organized the 9<sup>th</sup> Agrochemicals Conference with a theme: Role of Agrochemicals: Achieving vision of \$5 Trillion economy by 2025 on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

Crop Protection Industry plays an important role played in food, nutrition & health security of our nation. Although our industry's size maybe small in comparison to the overall Chemicals sector, but, the role that this industry plays of an insurance for farmers, is highly critical & at present known to few farmers in a proper way. Extension plays an important role to take this important technology in right perspective & educate the farmers to use pesticides rightly & judiciously as per scientific recommendations and read the label before use. Industry has to play the key role by coming together.





## Industry's views were echoed by –

- » **Mr. Siang Hee Tan**, Executive Director, Crop Life Asia on “Best Global practices and Progressive Policies & Regulatory Framework in Agrochemicals sector”
- » **Ms. Bethwyn Todd**, Asia Pacific-President, FMC Corporation on “Technology and sustainability to drive agrochemical of tomorrow”
- » **Mr. Rajan Gajaria**, Executive Vice President, Business Platforms, Corteva Agriscience shared the Global perspective
- » **Mr. Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch** -Chief Operating Officer, Bayer CropScience Limited for India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka participated as a Panellist in the Panel Discussion on Role of Agrochemicals: Achieving vision of \$5 Trillion economy by 2025
- » **Mr. Rafael Del Rio**, Managing Director, Syngenta on “Mitigation strategies to move towards building a robust industry - increasing production & availability of resources to the end consumers”
- » **Mr. Salil Singhal**, Chairman Emeritus, PI Industries Ltd on “New Pesticide Management Bill and its implications on the Agrochemicals industry”



## CROPLIFE INDIA JOINED JUDGING PANEL FOR INTERNATIONAL CROP SCIENCE AGROW AWARDS 2021

For well over a decade, Crop Science Awards (previously known as Agrow Awards) had recognised excellence in the crop protection and digital agriculture industries worldwide. The prestigious annual awards celebrate the best-in-class scientific, technological, and leadership initiatives.

The Judging Panel includes Senior Global Markets' Analyst; Editor of Global Dailies in the agriculture segment; Agribusiness Intelligence professionals, to name a few.

Mr. Asitava Sen, CEO, CropLife India was invited to join this Judging Panel, second year in a row.

### JUDGING PANEL

**Alan Baylis**  
Nuvistix Innovation

**Matthew Cossey**  
CEO  
CropLife Australia

**Jonathan Shoham**  
Consulting analyst  
Crop Science Market  
Analysis

**Shubao Sun**  
General Secretary  
China Crop Protection Industry  
Association (CCPIA)

**Jackie Bird**  
Former editor  
Agrow

**Lawrence Middler**  
Senior Analyst  
Crop Science Market  
Analysis

**Phil Smith**  
Publishing director  
Agribusiness Intelligence

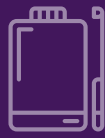
**Dr. SiangHee Tan**  
Executive director  
CropLife Asia

Director  
iFormulate Ltd

**Asitava Sen**  
CEO  
CropLife India

**Darren Stobbart**  
Senior Analyst  
Crop Science Market  
Analysis

**Sanjiv Rana**  
Editor in Chief  
Crop Science Market Reporting  
and Chair of the Judging Panel



# CHANGE MANAGEMENT FOR SAFETY IN MANUFACTURING SUPPLY CHAINS WILL BOOST INDIAN AGROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY TO BECOME A PIVOTAL GLOBAL SUPPLY HUB : CROPLIFE INDIA - FICCI WEBINAR

25th August 2021

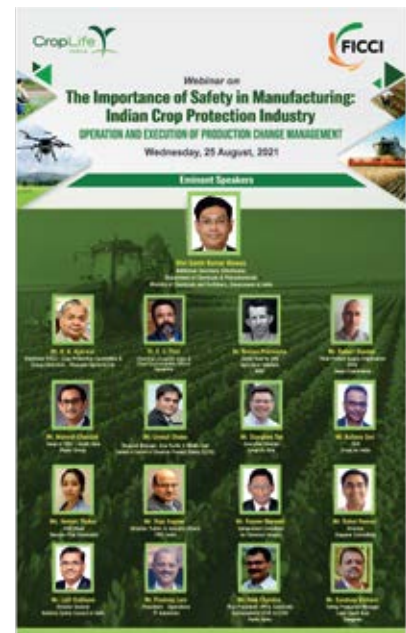
CropLife India and FICCI jointly organized a Webinar on “The Importance of Safety in Manufacturing; Indian Crop Protection Industry”; Operation and Execution of Production Change Management’. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Shri Samir Kumar Biswas, Additional Secretary (Chemicals), Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India.

During the **Panel Discussion 1: Risk Awareness, Safety takeaways and Pathways to overcome Industrial Challenges**, panellists discussed issues related to Policy and Governance; Operational practices; Internal and External Environment and Resources. The deliberations were done at a Strategic level – encapsulating the National Industrial perspective; Operational level – Driving Safety in Operations and the Safety takeaway; enumerating the global point of views. Views were exchanged on some of the major challenges faced to match the agility of operations demanded during the execution of production change management and how Sustainability initiatives can help the Indian industry build a positive image; across the globe.

The Panellists of the **Panel Discussion – 2: Potential Strategies for a Way Forward** discussed the prospective strategies and role of key stakeholders viz. Regulator, Academia and the Industry.

Discussions enhanced governance structure during the times where the world is exploring alternate manufacturing locations revolved around introduction of practical experience in course curriculum, career tracks for process safety professionals with special emphasis on the topic of how best to motivate everyone for taking ownership with putting Safety First and motivating the employee responsible for safety as no one gets a bonus for not blowing up the plant.

The Webinar observed the participation of eminent speakers both from India and global agrochemical industry, viz. Dr. K. C. Ravi, Chairman, CropLife India and Chief Sustainability Officer – Syngenta; Mr. Raju Kapoor, Director, Public & Industry Affairs, FMC India; Ms. Geetali Thakur, HSE Head, Deccan Fine Chemicals; Mr. Lalit Gabhane, Director General, National Safety Council of India; Dr. Roman Prochazka, Global Head for EHS, Agricultural Solutions, BASF; Mr. Pradeep Jain, President – Operations, PI Industries; Mr. Alok Chandra, Vice President- HR & Corporate Sustainability (EHS & CSR), Rallis India; Mr. Robert Stanton, Head Product Supply APAC, Bayer CropScience; Mr. Rahul Raman, Director, Kaypear Consulting; Mr. Mahesh Chandak, Head of HSE – South Asia, Bayer Group; Mr. Sandeep Vichare, Tolling Production Manager Lead- South Asia, Syngenta; Mr. Umesh Dhake, Regional Manager- Asia Pacific & Middle East, Centre of Chemical Process Safety (CCPS); Mr. Rajeev Marwah, Independent consultant for chemical industry; Mr. Sianghee Tan, Executive Director, CropLife Asia and Mr. Manoj Mehta, Director & Head - Chemicals, Petrochemicals and Civil Aviation, FICCI.





## CROPLIFE INDIA'S JOURNEY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

CropLife India's social presence was activated in September 2017 with the vision to gain voice-share in what has become the primary destination for news and updates for audiences across a variety of issues and topics.

We began with posting of updates of the on-ground events on stewardship and then graduated to designing our Social Media calendar. Over the past six months, CropLife India has gained 50,24,456 reach just in Facebook. Since January 2020, we have averaged 35,000+ views daily through our posts and promotions across social media channels.

In the first step of the campaign, we conducted a semantic and thematic analysis of existing content archives and extracted keywords that would help us target the right kind of audiences.

We identified CropLife ecosystem, followed and engaged with their posts. We then researched the most relevant content and scheduled new posts from CropLife India on optimized time of the day for maximum reach and even engineered its frequency.

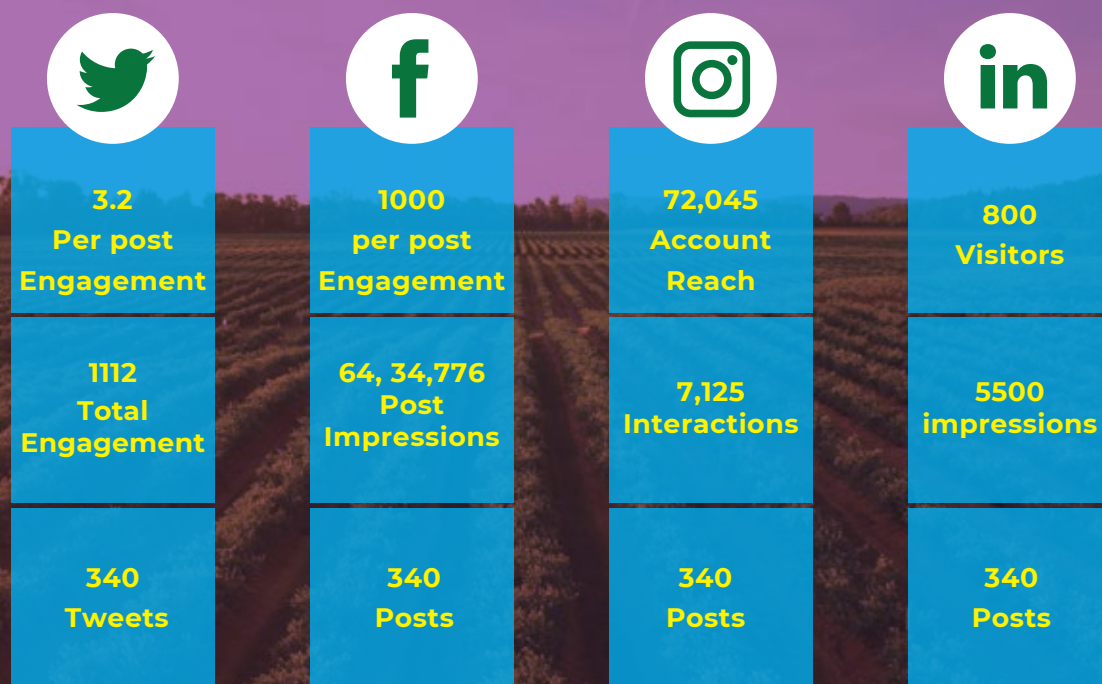
The top performing posts are reposted for maximum optimization of our content and resources. Our approach has yielded the below reach and impact.

## MILESTONES

(Mar 2021 - Sept 2021)

CROPLIFE INDIA EARNED

**64, 34,756** ENGAGEMENT AND MORE THAN **35,756** VIEWS ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, EACH POST EARNING **550** VIEWS ON AVERAGE.







# CROPLIFE INDIA PUBLIC OUTREACH (NEWSROOM)

## VITAL INPUTS

### PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT BILL 2020

# CropLife India's Suggestions, Recommendations

India has vast agro-climatic diversity and limited farmland and needs wide range of crop protection products. According to government sources 15-25% of Indian agri production lost due to pests.

Crop Protection (CP) is a key enabler of the government's objectives of food security, doubling farmer incomes and safer food through newer and better products.

Indian Crop Protection industry is a Net Exporter. It has the potential to become a major global supply hub, supporting the government's objectives for Aamritmahar Bharat, Make in India and Go Global.

#### Facts about Crop Protection Use in India and other countries

Comparative analysis of agriculture productivity in India with other countries is presented:

One of the reasons for lower agri-

culture productivity in India is low use of crop protection solutions. Due to climate change and changing cropping patterns, new pests and diseases are emerging. Farmers need newer products with lower doses/ha, better efficacy, which are environment friendly.

**Objective of PMB 2020**  
The PMB 2020 was expected to reform and create a predictable, forward looking science based policy and regulatory regime for the benefit of Indian Farmers and growth of the crop protection (CP) sector in the following ways.

- Farmers must get quality crop protection products
- Farmers must get environmentally safe, better and more effective products
- Farmers must get access to newer products and technology to mitigate risks of climate change and changing pest invasions
- Healthy competition must ensure choice for farmers and doubling of farmers' income
- Increase investments in local manufacturing and employment, through transparent and efficient regulatory environment
- Facilitate India to become a global hub for agrochemical exports by adopting globally compliant regulatory framework, and on the back of a strong indigenous market
- If above objectives are met, it will result Indian Agriculture to become US\$ 1 trillion economy (currently US\$ 280 billion), due to increased farm productivity.



About the AUTHOR  
**Mr Asitava Sen is Chief Executive Officer, CropLife India**

#### Contribution of Agrochemicals to Indian Agriculture during National Emergencies



**PMB 2020 - A Disillusionment**  
While, the PMB 2020 aims to replace the more than 50 years old Insecticides Act, 1968, a close reading of the PMB 2020 confirms that more than 80% of the

### CropLife India voices concerns over India's proposed pesticide bill



20 Sep 2021 - Crop Science | Headline Analysis

Agrochemical industry association CropLife India has criticised the country's proposed Pesticide Management Bill, 2020, which could replace the Insecticide Act, 1968, if it is cleared by the Lok Sabha (lower house of Parliament). The association has called the bill a "disillusionment" and dismisses "more than 80%" of its provisions as a repetition of the Act that it intends to replace. It claims that the provisions have merely been redrafted, along with the inclusion of a few new definitions.

Asitava Sen, CropLife India's chief executive officer, has called for "major refinements" in the new bill, observing that it omits factors such as accountability of pesticide inspectors and analysts, and legal provisions to support the registration of new products. Mr Sen points out that the bill has done away with timelines for the registration of pesticides and will "seriously discourage and delay" the availability of new products. He suggests that a maximum time of 15 months be provided for registrations, with consequences laid down for missing the deadline.

Furthermore, the association highlights that the proposed legislation extends the government's power to prohibit a pesticide for a period of up to one year in case of concerns over its safety, revising the earlier timeline of 90 days. CropLife India says that a year-long embargo on sales of a product without undertaking a review of the potential problems could "virtually destroy" the offering's future.

The association has also sought a revision of the punitive framework in case of violations. For minor/routine violations that do not involve any criminal intent and do not cause significant harm to public health or environment (such as minor labelling errors, minor deviations from approved quantity of active ingredient), it asks for only reasonable fines (and not imprisonment) to be imposed. CropLife says that only grave offences involving criminal intent and having significant impact on public health and safety should be tried before a criminal court, and punished with imprisonment. Such offences include manufacturing or selling counterfeit or spurious products, or manufacturing or selling products without registration or license. It points out that the government has already implemented this dual philosophy in modern regulatory statutes, such as Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Companies Act, 2013.

#### Bill's progression

The Pesticide Management Bill 2020 is largely regarded as a renewed effort towards updating the dated 1968 law, with a prior attempt (Pesticide Management Bill 2008) having been given up after delays and disagreements. Subsequent actions on the bill are to be decided by the Parliament Standing Committee on Agriculture. While consultations have been sought from various stakeholders, the suggestions are to be reviewed by the government, and the bill ultimately tabled in the lower house of Parliament, the Lok Sabha. CropLife India feels that there is 'ample' scope for modifying the bill's provisions based on feedback from the Committee.

Analyst Contact Details: Akashpratin Mukhopadhyay

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# महाराष्ट्र शासनाचा कृषी विभाग आणि 'क्रॉपलाईफ इंडिया' मार्फत वैद्यकीय व्यावसायिकांमध्ये केली जाणार जागृती

उद्देशाने: वेब विश्लेषणाने संशोधन करणाऱ्या १५ कंपन्यांचे संश्लेषण असलेल्या क्रॉप लाईफ इंडिया कंपनी व महाराष्ट्र शासनाचा कृषी विभाग यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने आज डॉक्टर्सनाठी शाश्वत वैद्यकीय शिक्षण कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. कृषी रसयानांचा परिणाम झालेल्या अफवाती रोगांमध्ये अडथळ्यातून तसे आणि त्यांच्या उपचारांसाठी महिती देणे, तसेच अशा रुग्णांवर उपचार करण्यासाठी वैद्यकीय व्यावसायिकांकडे पुरेसा सुविधा असण्याची खात्री करून घेणे, हा या उद्देशानेच उद्देश होत.

महाराष्ट्रातच वक्तव्य, उद्घोषनाद आणि उद्घोषण विस्तारित करणारी तसेच खासगी रुग्णालयांमधील जवळपास १ हजार वैद्यकीय व्यावसायिकां, यवतमाळचे शिक्षिकां आणि अमोल बेडगे, उद्घोषणाचे शिक्षिकांनी कोटेशन



दिवाकर, उद्घोषणे शिक्षिकांनी अधिष्ठाित राऊट, तसेच अन्य वीरड सरकारी अधिकारी व 'क्रॉपलाईफ इंडिया' मार्फत कोटेशनचे प्रतिनिधी या जर्नल अल कॉन्फरन्समध्ये सहभागी झाले होते. कृषी रसायनांच्या अयोग्य व अनुचित वापरामुळे घडणाऱ्या अपघातांना सामोरे बसू जावे याबाबत डॉक्टरांना मार्गदर्शन करणऱ्या प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमाचा भाग म्हणून या परिषदेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते.

मेडिकल टॉक्सिकॉलॉजी, हेबुन हेल्थ रिस्क असेसमेंट अँड फूड सेफ्टी विषयातील आंतरराष्ट्रीय तज्ज्ञ, वेद सरकाच्या आरोग्य व कुटुंब कल्याण मंत्रालयाचे माजी व्यवस्थापकीय संचालक, 'एफएसएफएसआय' च्या सार्वजनिक फॅसिलिटी ऑन फॅसिलिटी रिसर्चचे माजी संचालक डॉ. देवदत्त कुंभार यांनी यावेळी मार्गदर्शन केले.

# महाराष्ट्र शासनाचा कृषी विभाग आणि 'क्रॉपलाईफ इंडिया' मार्फत वैद्यकीय व्यावसायिकांमध्ये केली जाणार जागृती

## कृषी रसायनांचा परिणाम झालेल्या रुग्णांसाठी उपचार आणि व्यवस्थापनावर ल मेडिकल टॉक्सिकॉलॉजी क्षेत्रातील तज्ज्ञांचे कर्तव्य परिषदेत मार्गदर्शन

**कार्यक्रमाचे सार**  
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कार्यक्रमाचे सार





### CropLife India hails provisions for agriculture in country's budget

24 Feb 2021 - Crop Science | Feature Analysis  
Poojitha S. Srinivasan

Agriculture industry association CropLife India has lauded the Indian government's provisions for the agriculture sector in the national budget, which was presented on February 28. The association observes that the government's commitment to double farmers' income by 2022 is "very evident" and lauds the move to enhance agricultural credit target for the year to Rs 16,000 billion (\$125.7 billion). The association feels that the country's move to redesign the minimum support price (MSP)-based commodity procurement system to ensure price that are at least 2.5 times the cost of production will benefit the sector in the long run. However, CropLife India says that the government could have reduced the goods and services tax (GST) on agrochemicals to 2% from the current rate of 18%, a suggestion that it had put forth, among others, days before the budget was presented. Referring to its stance on stepping up agrochemical research and development in the country, the association also called for a 20% weighted deduction on R&D expenses incurred by companies to promote innovation and the introduction of new technologies.

### CropLife India seeks tax rebates for agchem industry

27 Jan 2021 - Crop Science | Feature Analysis  
Poojitha S. Srinivasan

Agriculture industry association CropLife India has put forth a range of suggestions for the Indian government. It feels that they should be incorporated into the national budget to help accelerate the sector's growth in the country. India's government will present its budget on February 28. The association has proposed that goods and services tax (GST) on agrochemicals be brought down to 2% from the present rate of 18%, while the government should extend a 20% weighted deduction on research and development expenses incurred by manufacturers. Besides, it suggests that uniform basic customs duty at 10% be retained for active ingredients and formulations. The association has already voiced its concerns over a proposal to double the customs duty on formulations to 20%. Referring to the government's recent investigation of the agrochemical industry as a "hampster sector" of the economy, CropLife India's chief executive officer, Anilava Sen, comments that Indian regulatory processes must comply with the international ecosystem if the country is to become a global manufacturing hub. Implementation of a "science-based, progressive and protective regulatory regime" is a must for the sector to thrive, he adds.

#### SAFEGUARDING THE FARMERS

## ROLE OF STEWARDSHIP FOR AGROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY CropLife India's outreach to help safeguard the food security of our nation



Enhancing the awareness of farmers on safe and judicious use of agrochemicals, right time of usage, dosage, safe disposal of containers, etc. is of prime importance and is part of product stewardship.

India has the lowest usage of pesticides per hectare (307 g/ha) as compared to up to 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 gets rejected in international markets for various reasons including lack of awareness of farmers. This can be overcome by effective product stewardship and policies, wherein CropLife India has been contributing immensely.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mr Anilava Sen is the Chief Executive Officer of CropLife India, an industry association of 15 R&D driven member crop science companies, jointly representing approximately 70 percent of crop protection market and responsible for 95 percent of the molecules introduced in India so far.



Sharing the common goal of sustainability and farmers' welfare, CropLife India has been collaborating in the various initiatives of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. *Grow Safe Food* campaign is one of them. Our team has been actively involved in providing hands-on training

to farmers on GAP (Good Agricultural Practices), IPM (Integrated Pest Management), Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products and ensuring quality crop protection products. The *Grow Safe Food* campaign, launched by the Department of Agriculture, Co-operation & Farmers'

### BUDGET EXPECTATIONS Agrochem sector seeks GST cut to spur use of crop protection chemicals

Our Bureau | Bengaluru | Updated on January 18, 2021 | Published on January 18, 2021



Pesticide and agrochemical makers have sought a reduction in the GST in the Budget to spur the use of crop protection chemicals by farmers in the country.

The Pesticide Manufacturers & Formulators Association of India (PMFAI) has suggested reducing GST on pesticides to 5 per cent from the present 18 per cent in line with other agri inputs such as seeds and fertilisers.



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### Maharashtra Govt with CropLife India raise awareness among doctors on accidental agrochemical exposure

July 16, 2021 | AgriculturePost | News & Comment



It is widely understood that safe use of crop protection products helps safeguard farmers' wellbeing and encourages sustainable agriculture.

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### Business Standard

March 18, 2021 23:38 IST | ANI Press Release



CropLife India wins FICCI Award for Changing Public Perception 2021

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Nature Bae Chem reports standstill on loss of Rs 8.04 crore

New Delhi [India], March 18 (ANI/NewsVoice): CropLife India, an association of 15 R & D driven member companies, was awarded for Commendable Work for Changing Public Perception in India in India Chem 2021; an event jointly organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).

The award was conferred for the farmers' education drive on the use of Personal Protective Equipment, which went into a digital mode during



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Chief Sustainability Officer  
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**Mr. Sandeep Vichare**

Tolling Production Manager  
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Syngenta



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FOR YOUR EFFORT IN PRODUCING  
BUMPER CROP EVEN DURING PANDEMIC.**




**DEFEAT COVID 19**  
Get vaccinated along  
with your family.  
Be safe and keep safe.



**Dos and Don't of COVID 19 Awareness Programme**

**Use Double mask**



**Buy only registered pesticides with proper bill and always read the label before use**



**Transport and store pesticides safely away from people, food and animals**



**Maintain social distancing in the fields. Cover your mouth with masks or a clean cloth**



**Wear proper Personal Protective Equipment while spraying**



**Keep safe distance**



**Practice personal hygiene while handling pesticides**



**Triple rinse empty containers and properly dispose them off**



**Frequently wash your hands with soap & water**



**In case of accidental exposure to chemicals, seek medical advice immediately**



Follow Govt. Instructions regularly

[www.croplifeindia.org](http://www.croplifeindia.org)



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