

# CropLife India national conference brainstorms agchem policy ecosystem



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Agrochemical industry association CropLife India's recently concluded annual general meeting saw sectoral players and lawmakers deliberate on a wide range of topics including digital agriculture, and the requirement of new crop protection molecules. The roundtable also involved discussions with the country's pesticide regulatory authorities on expediting registration timelines and streamlining processes to fast-track the introduction of new crop protection chemistries, besides dialogue on the importance of recycling empty pesticide containers.

The two-day event was marked by representatives from the government highlighting steps undertaken to expand the adoption of farm drones and other precision agriculture technologies, besides presenting an overview of financial provisions implemented in the form of subsidies to achieve mainstream usage of such innovations. They also focused on the importance of public-private partnerships for the industry to stay on a "sustained growth path" and urged agrochemical players to expand their presence across various Indian states. Additionally, they stressed the importance of water management, and the need for improved stewardship initiatives.

Industry members, on the other hand, highlighted the need for a "constructive partnership approach" with the country's regulators, observing that a "collaborative ecosystem" would help the sector flourish.

CropLife India's chairman, Dr KC Ravi, sought the establishment of a "predictable, stable and science-based policy and regulatory regime" for the growth of the industry, while other office bearers took up various sectoral concerns and requirements with the lawmakers.

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