

45TH ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025



Integrated
modern
solutions for
better crop
protection

Farmers
prosperity
through
enhanced
productivity



Committed to
advancing
sustainable
agriculture

Leadership in
product
stewardship



National Conference on

Driving Prosperity Through Partnerships...

Role of Crop Protection Industry in the Growth of Indian Agriculture

25th September 2024 | New Delhi



Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal
Hon'ble Minister of State
Independent Charge for
Law & Justice
Minister of State for
Parliamentary Affairs



Shri Ramnath Thakur
Hon'ble Minister of State
Ministry of Agriculture
and Farmers Welfare



Shri Bhagirath Choudhary
Hon'ble Minister of State
Ministry of Agriculture
and Farmers Welfare



Mr. Faiz Ahmad Kidwai
Additional Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture &
Farmers' Welfare
Government of India



Dr. Praveen Kumar Singh
Agriculture Commissioner
Ministry of Agriculture &
Farmers Welfare
Government of India



Dr. Poonam Jasrotia
ADG
(Plant Protection &
Bio Safety)
ICAR



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Secretary, QIRC



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Network Coordinator
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Dr. Vishal Choudhary
Principal Scientist Office
of the Principal
Scientific Advisor to the
Government of India



Dr. Kaushik Banerjee
Director
National Research
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Dr. R. S. Paroda
Padma Bhushan
and Chairman
Trust for
Advancement of
Agricultural Sciences
(TAAS)



Dr. S. K. Yadav
Deputy COO
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Mr. Mariano Beheran
Minister-Agriculture
Attache
Embassy of Argentina



Mr. Sianghee Tan
Executive Director
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Ms. Divya
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Head of Software
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Mr. Ajay Kumar Kalavala
Founder & CEO
iConcept Software
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Mr. Srinivasa Karavadi
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Inera, Absolute Ag



Dr. Bhagwan M. Kapse
President
Jan Jagruti Pratishthan



Anmadata
Gopal Giri
(UP)



Anmadata
Pushendra Singh
(UP)



Anmadata
Kamod Singh
(UP)



Mr. Ankur Aggarwal
Chairman - CropLife India
Vice President
Managing Director
Crystal Crop Protection Ltd. Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.



Mr. Anil Kakkar
Vice Chairman - CropLife India
Vice President
Managing Director
Crystal Crop Protection Ltd. Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.



Mr. Mohan Babu
Vice Chairman - CropLife India
Chief Operating Officer
Bayer CropScience for India,
Bangladesh and Sri Lanka



Dr. K. C. Ravi
Immediate Past Chairman
CropLife India
and
Chief Sustainability Officer,
Syngenta India Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Sarjawan Manhas
Former Chairman
CropLife India
Senior Director and Chief
Sustainability
Officer, Crystal Crop
Protection Ltd.



Mr. Giridhar Ranuwa
Director, CropLife India and
Business Director,
BASF India Ltd.



Mr. Rahul Dhanuka
Director- Crop Life India
and
Managing Director,
Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.



Mr. Amiya Kumar Barbia
Director, CropLife India and
Strategy Marketing Lead
Indofill Industries Ltd



Mr. Raju Kapoor
Director, Public and
Industry Affairs
FMC India Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. John Mathews
Whole Time Director
T Stanes & Co. Limited



Mr. Rajvir Rathi
Lead - CropLife India
Advocacy & Communications
Committee
and Head - Agricultural
Policy & Stakeholder, CPD India,
Pakistan & Bangladesh,
Bayer CropScience



Mr. Rajesh Dhawan
Lead - CropLife India
Regulatory Affairs
Committee & Head Crop
Protection - Regulatory India &
Pakistan & Bangladesh,
Syngenta India Pvt. Ltd



Mr. Manoj Lingeri
Co-Lead CropLife India
Regulatory Affairs &
Head Regulatory Science,
India, Bangladesh,
Sri Lanka,
Bayer CropScience



Mr. Durgesh Chandra
Secretary General
CropLife India

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ABOUT CROPLIFE INDIA

CropLife India is a leading industry association of both Indian and Global R & D driven crop science organizations. CropLife India jointly represents around 70% of the Indian crop protection market and are responsible for 95% of the molecules introduced in the country. Our member companies have an annual global R & D spend of over INR 50,000 crores.

Our member companies were established in India as far back as the 1950s. We continue to work hand-in-hand with the Government to build the agriculture sector – from introduction of several newer and safer molecules, direct investment of building factories, jobs creation, bringing in agriculture innovation and working endlessly over the years with multi-stakeholders to enhance agriculture productivity. All member companies are firmly committed to engage with the farming community to enable Safe, Secure and Sustainable Food Supply.

CropLife India members enable farmers adopt new technologies in agriculture, while providing in depth farmer trainings on good farming practices, including responsible use of crop protection products, container management and spraying techniques promotion of safe, responsible & judicious use of crop protection products under Integrated Pest Management approach.

CropLife India extensively engages with the farming community including dealers and traders for growing safe, secured and nutritious food committed to responsible crop care and crop production for sustainable development of Indian Agriculture.

CropLife India is a not for profit organization, (registered under Section 8 Companies Act 2013) wholly funded by membership. CropLife India is a 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 Progressive Regulations, IPR/Data Protection, Policy & Advocacy, Communications & Outreach, Anti-Counterfeiting and Product Stewardship.

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING INDIAN PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY



OUR MEMBERS

- ❖ ADAMA India Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ BASF India Ltd.
- ❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd.
- ❖ Corteva Agriscience India Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.
- ❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd.
- ❖ FMC India Private Ltd.
- ❖ Indofil Industries Ltd.
- ❖ PI Industries Ltd.
- ❖ Rallis India Ltd.
- ❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.
- ❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd.
- ❖ Syngenta India Pvt. Ltd.

OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- ❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd.
- ❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd.
- ❖ Nisso Chemical India LLP.
- ❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd.



TABLE OF CONTENT

Keynote Message	01
From The Chairman's Desk	02
Banker, Chartered Accountants, Board Meetings	03
Board of Directors	04-05
CropLife India Secretariat	06
Committees	07-12
National Conference 2024	13-14
Regulatory Affairs & Events	15-31
Advocacy & Communications	32-33
CropLife India's Digital Growth Story – A Journey of Engagement and Influence	34-38
Stewardship	49-58
Media Coverage	59-62



KEYNOTE MESSAGE

शिवराज सिंह चौहान
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

D.O. No. 374 /AM



कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण और
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री
भारत सरकार
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली
Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
and Rural Development
Government of India
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

MESSAGE

India's journey towards becoming a **Viksit Bharat by 2047** rests firmly on the shoulders of our farmers. Agriculture is not merely a source of livelihood—it is the foundation of our cultural identity, food security and economic strength. As we look ahead, a resilient, productive and sustainable agriculture sector will be central to realizing our shared national aspirations.

In this transformative journey, the role of science, innovation and agrochemical technology is indispensable to addressing the evolving challenges in agriculture. With the impact of **climate change**, **depleting natural resources** and **rising pest pressure**, the challenges before Indian farmers are growing in complexity. To meet these challenges head-on, it is imperative to provide farmers with **scientifically proven tools**, including modern **crop protection solutions**, that can help safeguard yields and ensure higher productivity.

Agrochemicals have played a crucial role in India's Green Revolution and continue to remain essential for securing our crops from pests, weeds and diseases. Going forward, we must **prioritize innovation**, ensure **timely access to new and effective molecules** and promote **responsible usage** of these products. The Government of India is committed to enabling a **science-based regulatory framework** that supports safe, efficient and farmer-friendly technologies.

Our focus must also remain on **agricultural research and extension services**. We are investing heavily in agri-R&D to develop climate-resilient crop varieties, precision farming techniques and sustainable production models. Technology-driven initiatives like **Drone Didi**, which empowers rural women to use drones for agricultural spraying, symbolize our vision of combining **technology with empowerment** to drive inclusive growth.

Another key pillar of our vision is **awareness**—among both **farmers and dealers**. Farmers must be educated on **safe and judicious use of crop protection products**, the importance of **integrated pest management** and the benefits of **modern tools** like precision application and digital advisory platforms. Similarly, licensed dealers and retailers should be made more accountable and well-informed, as they serve as the **first line of guidance** to farmers in rural India.

We welcome the efforts of responsible industry stakeholders who work in partnership with the Government to conduct **awareness programs**, **training workshops** and **stewardship initiatives** that ensure agrochemicals are used safely and sustainably. It is through such collaborative efforts that we will protect our environment while improving agricultural outcomes.

India's agricultural transformation must be **inclusive, technology-driven and future-ready**. Let us all work together—Government, private sector, scientists, civil society and most importantly, our farmers—to realize the dream of a **Viksit Bharat by 2047**, where every farmer is empowered, every field is productive and every harvest contributes to our nation's prosperity.

I congratulate CropLife India and hope that the Annual Report 2024-25 will inspire many to appreciate and support the agricultural sector. Together, let us continue to work towards a brighter, more sustainable future for Indian agriculture.


(Shivraj Singh Chouhan)

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK



A Science-Led Path to a Resilient and Prosperous Agriculture: The Role of Crop Protection in India's Growth Story

Ankur Aggarwal, Chairman, CropLife India

I take this opportunity to reflect on the pivotal role of the crop protection industry in shaping the future of Indian agriculture. The year 2024–2025 has been both a milestone and a moment of introspection, as we stand at the intersection of opportunity and responsibility.

India's agricultural sector has shown remarkable resilience despite mounting challenges—ranging from erratic weather patterns and climate change to rising pest pressures and shrinking cultivable land. In this context, agrochemicals have been indispensable in protecting crop yields and securing farmer incomes. Over the past year, the crop protection industry has contributed not only to food security but also to the stability of India's agri-based economy.

Looking ahead to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047—where agriculture is projected to contribute over \$1 trillion to the national economy—the crop protection sector emerges as a key enabler. To realize this ambition, science-based policymaking must serve as the foundation for agricultural reform. It is essential for India to adopt regulatory frameworks that encourage innovation, shorten the time-to-market for new molecules, and uphold global standards of safety and efficacy.

The journey of a new crop protection molecule—from discovery to commercialization—typically spans nearly 12 years and requires an investment of around US\$ 300 million. This rigorous process ensures that the products reaching farmers are effective, safe, and environmentally sustainable. For India to emerge as a global hub under the China+1 strategy, it is vital to create an environment that fosters innovation and attracts sustained R&D investment in this space.

Climate change continues to reshape pest dynamics, intensifying threats to major crops. In 2024–25, India witnessed higher infestations of invasive pests such as fall armyworm and leafhoppers, particularly in maize, cotton, and rice-growing regions. Without timely interventions supported by modern crop protection tools, these outbreaks could have had a devastating impact on national productivity.

Equally important is the task of educating and training farmers in the safe and judicious use of agrochemicals. Stewardship programs—developed in partnership with the Government and grassroots institutions—are critical to fostering a culture of sustainability and responsibility.

India's growing role on the global stage is also reflected in our leadership within the industry; which I see this as a testament to the capability and vision of the Indian crop science sector.

The path to a prosperous agricultural future rests on three pillars: science, sustainability, and synergy. Together—with regulators, scientists, industry, and farmers—we must chart a roadmap that ensures Indian agriculture remains productive, climate-resilient, and globally competitive.

I am deeply honored by the unwavering trust placed in me by the Board Members, Committees, and the Secretariat during my first year as Chairman. I extend my sincere gratitude for this continued support. Together, we remain committed to leveraging our collective platform to advance Indian agriculture and to contribute meaningfully to the nation-building journey.

BANKERS

Central Bank of India (GEN)
Ashoka Hotel Branch, Chanakya Puri
New Delhi-110021

State Bank of India (FCRA)
Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001

AUDITORS

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Chartered Accountants
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COMPANY SECRETARY

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Website: www.croplifeindia.org

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors met Four times during the year 2024-25 to discuss key issues confronting the industry and other agenda items.

DIRECTORS

Terms of all the Directors expired at the time of Fourty fourth (44th) Annual General Meeting which was held on 25th September 2024, New Delhi. The following were appointed post elections:-

- ❖ Mr. Ankur Aggarwal was elected as Chairman.
- ❖ Mr. Anil Kakkar was elected as Vice Chairman.
- ❖ Mr. Rajaram Mohan Babu was elected as Second Vice Chairman.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FY 2024-25



Ankur Aggarwal
Chairman, CropLife India

Crystal Crop Protection Ltd



Giridhar Ranuva

BASF India Ltd



Anil Kakkar
Vice-Chairman, CropLife India

Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd



Anuja Kadian

Corteva Agriscience India Pvt Ltd



Mohan Babu
Vice-Chairman, CropLife India

Bayer CropScience Ltd



Rahul Dhanuka

Dhanuka Agritech Ltd



Ramkishan Rao Thanugula

Adama India Pvt Ltd



Ravi Annavarapu

FMC India Pvt Ltd

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FY 2024-25



Amiya Bartia

Indofil Industries Ltd



Susheel Kumar

Syngenta India Pvt Ltd



Prashant Hegde

PI Industries Ltd



Ravindranath Hegde

SWAL Corporation Ltd



Gyanendra Shukla

Rallis India Ltd

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



Toru Tamura

Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd



NK Rajavelu

Godrej Agrovet Ltd



Sajal Kumar Biswas

NISSO Chemical India LLP



Lakshmi Narayanan

T. Stanes & Company Ltd

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 focussed 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.



Durgesh Chandra Sharma
Secretary General



Anjana Sundriyal
Head - Human Resources,
Finance & Compliance



Joydeep Chakraborty
Head - Communications



Dr. Rakesh Kumar Dahiya
Head - Regulatory Affairs



Dr. Surender Kumar
Senior Manager-Stewardship
& Anti-Counterfeit Projects

COMMITTEES

LEGAL



Lead - Tarun Bhalla



Co-Lead - Lalit Tiwari



Co-Lead - Monika Gupta

COMPANY

NAME

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Lalit Tiwari
❖ BASF India Ltd	Tejal Panchamia
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Devdas Baliga Monika Gupta
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Ranjesh Singh Aditya Singh
❖ Corteva Agriscience India Pvt Ltd	Phani Goruganthu
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Devendra Joshi Piyush Kumar
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	Jitin Sadana
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Varsha Sangam Sagar Gaikwad
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Vivek Raizada Upendra Pathak
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Henlynn D'Souza
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	Amit Goel
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Harkirat Singh
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	Subramaniam Iyer P Krishnamurthy
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Mahendra Rao Manasi Kumar
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	Tarun Bhalla Megha Babar
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	R Sasikumar
❖ CropLife India	Durgesh Chandra

COMPANY

NAME

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Srinivasa Rao
❖ BASF India Ltd	Prashant Joshi Yuvraj Chopra
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Hitendra Rana Suchismita Roy Arjun Chaudhary
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Ranjesh Singh Amit Kumar Singh
❖ Corteva Agrosience India Pvt Ltd	Ramesh Kailasam
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Purnajit Bhowmick Girish Ahuja
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	R G Agarwal
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Raju Kapoor Salesh Madiratta Minal Masurekar
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Anil Chaubey Pallavi Shigwan
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Yogesh Agarwal Vidyasagar Yellanki Subrata Das
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	Praful Bhamare K S Thyagarajan
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Sukhbir Malik P Raja
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	HN Airi
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Ravi Hegde
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	R Vaithyanathan Mallika Verma
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	John Mathews
❖ CropLife India	Durgesh Chandra Joydeep Chakraborty

STATE AFFAIRS



Lead - Raju Kapoor



Co Lead - Ramesh Kailasam

REGULATORY



Lead - Rajesh Dhawan



Co Lead - Manoj Lingeri

COMPANY

NAME

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Arpita Roy Ambesh Dubey Rakesha Rajar
❖ BASF India Ltd	Yuvraj Chopra Anirban Gangopadhyay Prahlad More
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Manoj Lingeri P Suresh Neha Sawant
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Ranjesh Singh Tariq Anwar
❖ Corteva Agrosience India Pvt Ltd	Shekhar Varshney Subhash Singh
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Sushil Mishra Ashok Kumar Girish Ahuja
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	Geetanjly Malik
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Deepa Kathuria Nabonita Ganguly
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Sushil Gather Navin Kumar Patle
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Prajawal P Nalavade Jitendra Pathak
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	Praful Bhamare
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Narsimha Murthy K J Srivalli Remant Kumar
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	Amitava Sanyal Amit Kaushik Manish Jain
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Ravi Hegde Anand Jha
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	Rajesh Dhawan Preeti Agarwal Hemant Pandey
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	Manoj Manikandan A Prabha
❖ CropLife India	Rakesh Dahiya

COMPANY**NAME**

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Srinivasa Rao
❖ BASF India Ltd	Yuvraj Chopra
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Rajvir Rath Arjun Chaudhary
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Ranjesh Singh Amit Singh
❖ Corteva Agriscience India Pvt Ltd	Neetu Kapasi Ruchira Saini
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Sohit Satyavali Girish Ahuja
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Raju Kapoor
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Anil Chaubey Simran Bhav
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Amiya Kumar Bartia Vrishali Hirlekar
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	K. S. Thyagarajan Praful Bhamare
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Narsimha Murthy
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	HN Airi
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Ravi Hegde
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	R Vaithiyanathan Mallika Verma
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	Bakul Joshi
❖ CropLife India	Durgesh Chandra Joydeep Chakraborty

ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION

Lead - Rajvir Rath



Co Lead - Raju Kapoor

STEWARDSHIP



Lead - Manish Deshpande



Co Lead - Gunjan Bisht Mehta

COMPANY

NAME

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Ambesh Dubey
❖ BASF India Ltd	Gunjan Bisht Mehta
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Sushil Pandey
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Amit Kumar Singh Ranjesh Kumar Singh
❖ Corteva Agriscience India Pvt Ltd	Shekhar Varshney Manish Deshpande
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Sohit Satyavali Rajat Malhotra Girish Ahuja
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	R G Agarwal
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Sony Mamgai
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Anil Chaubey Simran Bhav
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Prajwal P Nalvade Vrishali Hirlekar
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	Divyakant Jain
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Amol Jadhav P Raja
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	Garima Pandey
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Ravi Hegde Satyajeet Ramchandra Keshri
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	Chidambar Phadinis Mallika Verma
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	Dr Bakul Joshi
❖ CropLife India	Surender Kumar

COMPANY**NAME**

❖ Adama India Pvt Ltd	Lalit Tiwari
❖ BASF India Ltd	Gunjan Bisht Mehta
❖ Bayer CropScience Ltd	Rajeev Angrias
❖ Bharat Certis Agriscience Ltd	Ranjesh Kumar Singh Amit Kumar Singh
❖ Corteva Agrosience India Pvt Ltd	Dhiraj Kumar
❖ Crystal Crop Protection Ltd	Girish Ahuja
❖ Dhanuka Agritech Ltd	R G Agarwal
❖ FMC India Pvt Ltd	Sony Mangai
❖ Godrej Agrovet Ltd	Anil Chaubey Simran Bhav
❖ Indofil Industries Ltd	Prajwal P Nalvade Vrishali Hirlekar
❖ NISSO Chemical India LLP	Sajal Biswas
❖ P I Industries Ltd	Divyakant Jain
❖ Rallis India Ltd	Amol Jadhav P Raja
❖ Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd	Prashant Agrekar
❖ SWAL Corporation Ltd	Ravi Hegde Satyajeet Ramchandra Keshri
❖ Syngenta India Pvt Ltd	Sanjoli Bhatt
❖ T. Stanes & Company Ltd	Bakul Joshi
❖ CropLife India	Surender Kumar

ANTI ILLICIT TRADE

Lead - Sanjoli Bhatt



Co Lead - Rajeev Angrias



National Conference 2024

Driving Prosperity Through Partnerships Role of Crop Protection Industry in the Growth of Indian Agriculture

25th September 2024



REGULATORY AFFAIRS & EVENTS

The Regulatory Affairs Group (RAG) is continuously and consistently advocating for science-based approach in Product Regulation and Registration as well as adoption of International Best Agricultural Practices and policies for ensuring the welfare and betterment of farmers, farming community and Indian agriculture.



Key Highlights of CropLife India Regulatory Affairs are:

1) Implementation and operationalization of New Molecule definition

With the advent of climate change, agriculture sector is facing many new and emerging challenges including new pests and diseases complexes. These new challenges render the existing solutions to manage these challenges rather ineffective and demands newer tools and technologies, introduction of new products etc. for Indian farming community. Currently, around 1200 number of pesticide molecules are available globally but only approximately >350 molecules are currently registered in India for use by farmers to protect there diverse crops across the varied landscape and climatic conditions.

Since long (right from the time of Satwant Committee report in 2007), CropLife India is advocating for implementing the definition of new molecule for granting faster registration to new molecule applications. The CIB&RC in its 437th meeting of Registration Committee (RC) defined the criteria for new molecules as **“A molecule, which is applied for grant of registration in India within 5 years of its registration anywhere in the world, may be considered as New Molecule”**. One of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee was effective implementation of granting fast track registration of such new molecules. Later, in 449th RC, the harmonized/ updated guidelines for registration of new products (TI/TIM/FI/FIM) u/s 9 (3) were also framed by the CIB&RC but the recommendations of 437th RC decision could not be implemented for granting the fast-track registrations to new Pesticide molecules/formulations, meeting the defined stipulations.

In November 2023 the RC in its 451st meeting, directed that for new molecules and in case of national exigencies and in any other special case, the process of pre-submission consultation may be adopted to expedite the registration procedure and also for favourable eco-system for promoting export of pesticides. Further, in 453rd RC meeting it was decided to devise a mechanism to expedite registration of new molecules in the country and accord priority to that category of applications u/s 9(3). Afterwards, the 455th RC modified the definition of new molecule as **“any molecule for which a dossier is submitted within five years of being registered in another country or is discovered and being registered in India for the first time in the world”**. This definition was approved in 456th RC and finally the checklist for qualifying criterion for new molecule was published in June 2024 in 457th RC meeting minutes.

Regulatory Reforms Timeline



In August 2024, the CIB&RC updated its online portal and provision was made to allow submission of dossier under "New Molecule" category, for priority scrutiny. The Registration Committee (RC) also proposed a timeline of 1 year from the date of receipt of complete application for priority review and grant of registration for new molecule application.

Currently, the applications which were submitted prior to this decision and qualify under the definition of new molecule are being considered on priority for registration based on the details provided by applicant. This is a historical achievement for the agrochemical industry and a very bold move by the Registration Committee to expedite the faster introduction of new molecules in the country. It has already started bearing fruits as registrations have been granted for couple of new molecules for applications submitted earlier.

2) 3D- Regulatory Reforms for Indian Agriculture and Crop Protection Sector

The 3-D regulatory reforms aim to transform the overall registration process of crop protection sector for the benefits of the farmers. These reforms (Discuss, Decide and Deliver) mean reforms in registration process, modalities for outsourcing of registration application review at Govt Institutes, GLP, 5-Batch Chemical equivalence testing, in process-sampling, minor changes, PRD, 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.

The work on 3-D agenda started when three back-to-back meetings on these regulatory reforms held between February and March 2021, bringing together the Govt. Officials and Industry representatives. Subsequently, CIBRC regularized 9 regulatory data requirements through 427th RC (March 2021). Later on, the agenda was expanded to cover 29 Regulatory issues. As an outcome of subsequent meetings with PPA and Secretary, CIBRC, user friendly Templates of Data requirements and its evaluation for Chemistry, Bioefficacy and Toxicology data were developed by CropLife India Regulatory Affairs Committee. Subsequently, meeting of all association was held in October 2021 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pramod Meherda JS (PP) and the agenda was again re-energized by having a meeting in July 2022 under the chairmanship of Dr JP Singh, PPA to Govt. of India.

The CropLife India delegation also had a meeting with Sh. Arun Baroka, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers in December 2023 and submitted a representation on requesting to take up the pending issues under the 3-D regulatory reforms at the level of Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Gov. of India.

CropLife India followed up for discussion on the 3-D agenda during meetings with Sh. Faiz Ahmed Kidwai Ji, Additional Secretary, MoA&FW. As a result, a larger stakeholder meeting was convened under his Chairmanship in July 2024. The minutes of 2021 meetings in the form of various issues discussed, conclusion arrived and action taken on various topics were discussed at length. It was decided that the all associations will jointly discuss the issues of 3D document to arrive at a consensus and submit their views to DA&FW and CIB&RC. It was also agreed that the points where consensus is not arrived, the same may also be conveyed to DA&FW and CIB&RC through the Nodal Representative.

Consequently, CropLife India took the lead and multiple rounds of discussions held among the regulatory heads of other associations viz. ACF, CCFI & PMFAI and also at the senior leadership level. Thereafter, in October 2024, on behalf of all the 4 major agrochemical associations, a joint submission on the agreed points of 3-D was submitted to Sh. Faiz A Kidwai, Additional Secretary (PP), MoA&FW. On rest of the 3-D agenda points, discussions at the senior leadership level are continuing among these four major associations to arrive at a consensus. Once the consensus is reached, a final joint submission will be made to MoA&FW, Govt. of India.

Protection of Regulatory Data (PRD): PRD Prevents the unauthorized commercial use of safety, health and efficacy data generated by the molecule discoverer owned by the applicant, and is required for registration purposes in India. This is also provided under rule 39.3 of the TRIPs Agreement. Currently, India has only 336 registered products against the globally available ~1250 molecules. Due to changing climate and cropping patterns, new pests, diseases, and weeds are emerging which are posing threat to food security. Therefore, it is necessary to have a wide portfolio of newer and safer chemistries to combat these emerging challenges to ensure food security and farmers prosperity. However, in absence of PRD, the introduction of newer molecules is at a very slow pace.

CropLife India is continuously working to align the whole industry on this important subject. The issue was also discussed at the leadership level of all the major agrochemical associations as well as among the regulatory experts of all these four associations. However, the discussion could not reach to a consensus and the Chairman advised to continue the CropLife India's efforts for advocating PRD.

Two rounds of meeting were held with the experts of the subject of regulatory advocacy group. As advised and agreed by the members, different versions of presentations are prepared in both the languages- Hindi and English to present before the Ministers and the policy makers.

3D AGENDA

Key Milestones in Indian Agriculture Regulatory Reforms

Feb-Mar 2021

Three key meetings
with Govt & industry

3G

**Mar 2021**

427th RC meeting: 9
regulatory data
reforms formalized

Oct 2021

CropLife submitted a
follow-up letter

**Oct 2021**

Meeting chaired by Dr.
Pramod Meherda, JS
(PP)

July 2022

Reform process re-
energized via a review
meeting

**Dec 2023**

CropLife India delegation
met with Sh. Arun Baroka,
Secretary, Min. of Chemicals
& Fertilizers, Representation
submitted to DCPC

July 2024

Major stakeholder
meeting chaired by Sh.
Faiz A. Kidwai

**Dec 2023**

Meeting held among major
National level Crop Protection
Associations

Oct 2024

Joint submission made
by all Associations



3) Obligations under Plastic Waste Management under EPR

The Crop protection industry is working towards ensuring compliance of the Plastic Waste Management Rules - 2016, Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging and subsequent notifications as being released from time to time. However, while doing so, Industry is still facing few practical challenges in the implementation of PWM Rules. Some of these challenges relates to the (i) The Brand Owner using Category I (rigid) plastic packaging for their products shall have the minimum obligation to reuse such packaging (size-wise and year-wise target prescribed), (ii) Obligation for use of recycled plastic content, (iii) end of life disposal in case of empty pesticide containers, (iv) recycled content obligations etc. Many of guidelines on PWM under EPR are to be implemented and followed from the FY 2025-2026 cycle.

The Crop Protection Industry is governed by the Insecticide Act, 1968 under The Insecticides Rules, 1971 as amended from time to time. Certain provision of the IA, 1968 and Rules thereunder prohibit the use and recycling of empty pesticide containers as they fall under the hazardous material. The Regulatory Affairs Group of CropLife India submitted a representation to Chairman-CPCB on 05th March 2025 for appraising the practical challenges faced by the crop protection industry. The Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change published a draft gazette notification G.S.R. 365 (E) dated 03rd June 2025 for making certain amendments in the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016.

Following this draft notification, a delegation of CropLife India had a fruitful meeting with Sh. V.V. Yadav, Additional Secretary & Chairman-CPCB and appraised him about the challenges faced by the agrochemical industry in the implementation of PWM Rules, highlighting the relevant sections of IA, 1968 pertaining to management of empty pesticide containers. The Chairman-CPCB advised the CropLife India delegation to submit its representation and assured them of necessary help. Subsequently, CropLife India submitted its comments and suggestions on the draft gazette notification, and requested for grant of general exemptions to crop protection industry from Reuse, Recycled Content & End of life Disposal Obligations under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

4) Gazette notification on product label and leaflets

A joint submission (by all the four associations) on objections to the amendments to Insecticides Rules 1971 proposed vide Notification No. GSR 894(E) dated 13-12-2023, was made to JS(PP) on 12th January 2024. The joint representation highlighted the issues which were not being addressed by the Government. It was also requested to the Ministry that the Rule 19 of the Insecticides Rules, 1971 have been amended multiple times in the last 3 years. All these amendments have to be read together to understand the precise requirements for labelling insecticides. This had led to serious confusion within the Industry as to how the label is to be designed. Hence, a request was also made to issue a consolidated Notification capturing the amendments notified by all the aforesaid 2019, 2020, 2023 Notification in order to provide a clear picture to the industry as regards the labelling requirements.

Subsequently another gazette notification No. GSR 368(E) dated 03-06-2025 was published by the MoA&FW notifying further amendments to the Insecticides Rules, 1971 Through this gazette notification the Ministry has accepted many of the suggestions given by the industry, thereby, providing substantial relief to the industry. However, on a closer look it was observed by the industry that some critical suggestions provided by the industry have not been considered and accepted while issuing the 2025 Notification, thereby, leaving several practical difficulties faced by the industry unaddressed. A few important unresolved issues are:

- ❖ Difficulty to accommodate the desired information on label and leaflet in two languages and the specified font sizes on ultra-small and some small packages.
- ❖ Insufficient time for transition and implementation of the amendments
- ❖ Permitting manufacturers to sell the existing stock containing the old labels till their date of expiry
- ❖ Granting relaxations in respect of small labels at par with ultra small labels

A joint representation covering all the above points in detail was submitted to Joint Secretary (Plant Protection), MoA&FW in July 2025. Efforts are continuing to resolve these issues through discussion among the govt. officials and industry representatives.

5) Update and Issues related to MRLs

To speed up the process of fixation of MRL, CIBRC has given online access to FSSAI for doing parallel scrutiny of residue data. On 22nd August 2024, CLI submitted a representation to Chairman, SPPR for MRL fixation of the products approved in last two Registration Committee meeting i.e. 456th meeting held on 30th May 2024 and 457th meeting held on 26th June 2024. A representation was submitted to Additional Secretary, MoA&FW on 6th September 2024. Again, on 9th September 2024, CLI requested the Secretary, MoA&FW for his intervention because the products approved during the previous two Registration Committee meetings i.e. 456th meeting (held on 30th May 2024) and the 457th meeting (held on 26th June 2024) were still under consideration by FSSAI. The minutes of these meetings were not issued to CIB&RC and FSSAI insisted to notify them through the Gazette. Similar representations were also submitted to Secretary, MoH&FW as well as to Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare.

Notifying MRLs through gazette is a very time-consuming process, as the last gazette notification on MRLs was published in 2018. Such delays are hindering the introduction of new technologies that could significantly benefit Indian farmers. CLI proposed issuing registration certificates based on provisional MRLs, a practice followed by many other countries.

After multiple rounds of submission and meeting with FSSAI official, on 18th September, a draft gazette notification was published by FSSAI on MRLs. Subsequently, CLI submitted a representation on this draft gazette notification on 26th Sept. 2024 to CEO, FSSAI, highlighting the glaring issues/mistakes, inclusion of MRLs of banned products, non-inclusion of products approved in SPPR meeting post April 2024 etc. in the gazette notification and also requested for an appointment to appraise the issue personally. On 20th December, a delegation of CLIN and ACFI met Sh. Rajiv Wadhawan, Advisor, and also Ms. Punya Salila Srivastava, Secretary, MoH&FW and appraised them about the issue and difficulties of non-issuance of the registration certificates due to insistence by FSSAI for Gazette publication of MRLs. It was assured to the delegation that they are well aware of this issue and trying to find out a solution at the earliest.

Simultaneously, in order to issue the registration certificates, the RC devised an affidavit and started issuing the certificates after submission of affidavit by the applicants. However, other associations have made representation to RC for minor change in the language of affidavit. The RC in its 462nd meeting deliberated on the small change in the language of the affidavit as "That the deponent affirms that the registrant shall comply with the conditions of the registration and undertakes that the Deponent shall not violate /breach the tolerance limit as fixed and finally notified by FSSAI".

The issue of exemption for submission of MRLs proforma when MRLs are already established by FSSAI, was also appraised to Dr. Archana on 11th December 2024 meeting at CIB&RC. Also, the rationale for exempting the products whose MRLs are below the Codex was explained to her during the meeting.

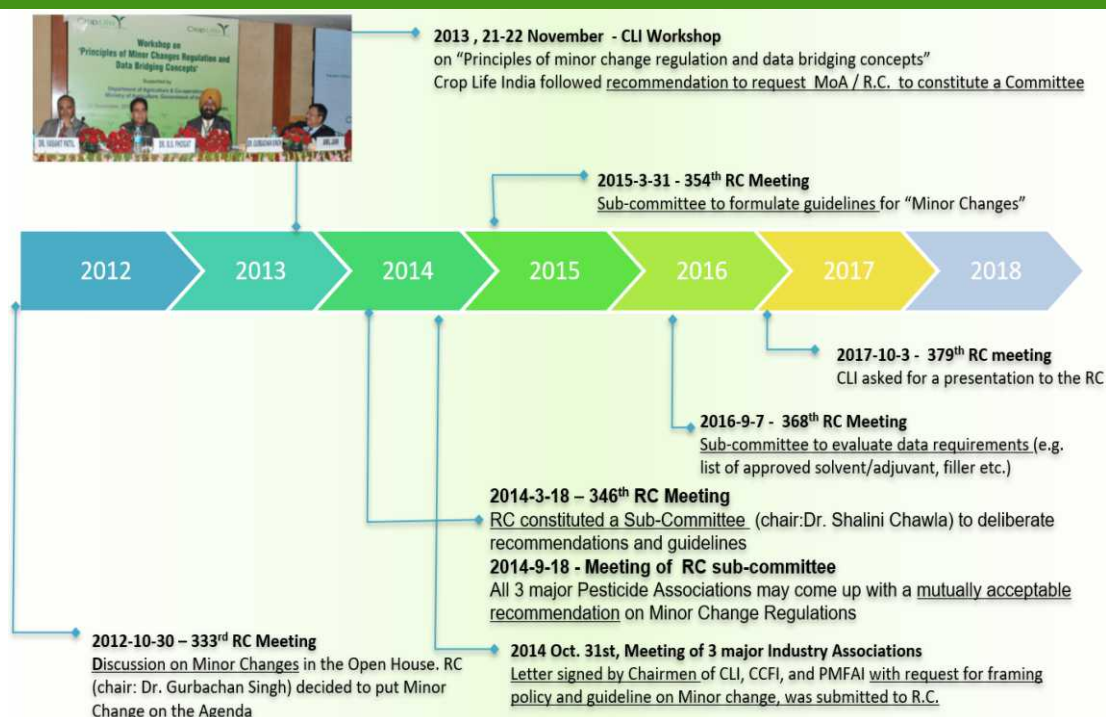
In early 2025, sudden queries were raised by FSSAI while setting National MRLs, i.e seeking residue data in fruits “with peel” and “without peel, acute reference dose etc. While, member companies of CLI are most rightfully generating the residue data, taking the relevant portion of commodities as per the guideline / SOP documented vide minutes of 396th meeting (special) of the Registration Committee, but still members were receiving the queries from SPPR for providing the data beyond those commodities specified in the reference document. Then, a representation was submitted to Advisor, FSSAI and also to Chairman, SPPR to ask data in conformity with SOP. The new requirement as per international guidelines, if has to be introduced, then well-defined formal guideline should be published and with enforcement on prospective trajectory.

6) Minor Changes in Formulation of Pesticides

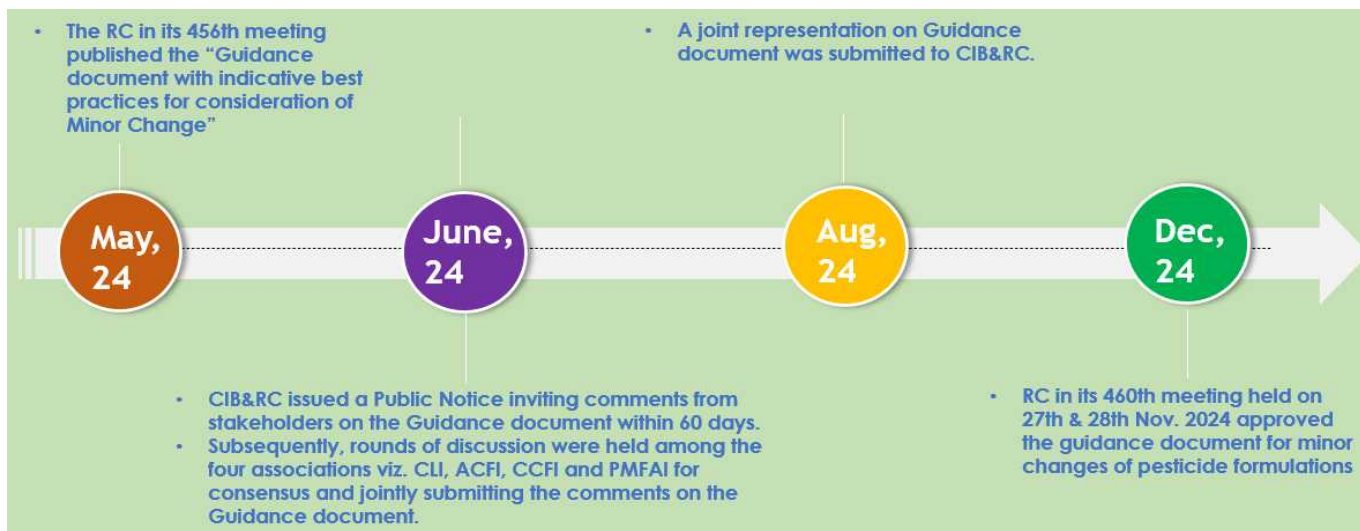
CropLife India continued its efforts on the progress of Minor Change regulation so that it can see the light of the day. After the publication of a Guidance document with indicative best practices for consideration of minor change in the minutes of 456th RC meeting, a public notice was issued by CIB&RC on 22nd June 2024. Through this public notice, CIB&RC invited the comments on this Guidance document within a period of 60 days from all the stakeholders.

Subsequently, CropLife India spearheaded the initiative of bringing all the other associations together (ACFI, CCFI & PMFAI). After many rounds of discussion among the regulatory experts of all these associations as well as with the support of Leadership Team of all the associations, consolidated comments and suggestion were prepared on the Guidance document published by CIB&RC and finally submitted to Secretary, CIB&RC on 21st August 2024. Finally, the Registration Committee in its 460th RC meeting held on 27th and 28th December 2024 approved the guidance document for minor changes in pesticide formulation. This is very significant milestone achieved after years of hard work, perseverance by Regulatory Affairs Group of CropLife India and with support of other major crop protection associations.

Chronological Progress of Minor Change Regulations in India



Renewed Efforts in 2024



7) Development of Biostimulants Regulation in India

In September 2024, biostimulant Gazette Notification No. S.E. 3922 (E) dt. 12.09.24 on "Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) (Fourth) Amendment Order" having specifications of 11 biostimulant products was published. CropLife India submitted its representation on this gazette notification regarding certain issues in the gazette notification so as to bring out more clarity in the published notification. These issues were related to dose rate, number of applications, specific gravity, bulk density, tolerance limit, method of analysis of AI and tracer molecule, HSN code for import of biostimulant, extension of timeline for sale of products not yet included in the Schedule VI etc.

On 17th December 2024, CropLife India requested the MoA&FW for extending the timeline for sale of products which were not included in the Schedule VI, beyond 22nd February 2025. Subsequently, the 17th March 2025 gazette notification had extended the validity of Provisional Registrants of biostimulants till June 16th June 2025.

On 26th May 2025, the specification of another 34 biostimulant products was published by MoA&FW through gazette notification, leading to specifications to a total of 45. These specifications of 45 biostimulant products represent a very small fraction of total number of product applications still pending with the INM department.

The gazette on method of analysis (MOA) of the biostimulant standards was also published by the Ministry on 10th June 2025. For verification of method of analysis published in the gazette, all State and Central laboratories need equipment and training to check the bio-stimulant specifications. This was impossible to achieve in a window of 6 days (as the validity of provisional was ending on 16th June 2025) because getting the manufacturing and sales permission from the State agriculture department requires about 3-4 months' time, owing to many processes / steps, documentation, procedural formalities being involved. Further, the published standards also need to be validated for errors and corrections by Government of India. On 03rd July 2025, CropLife India and BASAI jointly submitted their comments / suggestions on the Gazette Notification S.O. 2539 (E) dt. 09.06.2025 related to Method of Analysis of biostimulants.

For liquidating the huge inventory of the products (manufacture or imported till 16th June 2025) lying with the industries in their warehouses, amounting to several crores of rupees, industry made several requests to the Ministry for extending the validity of G3 permission for at least another 6 months i.e. upto 31 December 2025. This would prevent the unnecessary hassles to industry at the State authorities' level, financial losses to the manufacturers, as well as short supply of biostimulant products to farmers as the present situation has also interrupted the supply of bio-stimulants to farmer community during the ongoing peak farming season.

In the absence of any response from the Ministry on extending the validity of provisional registration beyond 16th June 2025 as well as on those pending regular registration for which the data has already been submitted, the industry filed the petition in court as a last resort on 29th July 2025.

Subsequently, on 18th July 2025 the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi disposed-off the petition with the following directions:

- a) The manufacturers/importers of biostimulants whose products have been included in Schedule VI will make their respective applications with the authorities/State Government concerned for completion of the formalities within three weeks from today and on receipt of such application, the authority/State Government concerned shall take a final decision as expeditiously as possible, say within next six weeks. If application to the authority/State Government is made by the manufacturer/importer, whose product has been included in Schedule-VI, within the time stipulated herein, such manufacturer/ importer shall be permitted to manufacture, sell, offer to sell and import its products till the decision on the application to be preferred by such manufacturer is taken by the authority/State Government concerned.
- b) Those manufacturers/importers whose applications for inclusion of their products in schedule-VI have been rejected will not be able to operate unless their product is included in Schedule VI on any subsequent application which they may make, if such subsequent application is permissible to be made under law.
- c) The manufacturers/importers whose applications are pending or in respect of whose applications certain deficiencies have been pointed out by the Union of India shall also be permitted to operate till final decision is taken on their applications for inclusion of their products in Schedule VI. Such applicants shall, however, make the deficiencies good within four weeks from today and once any representation intimating that the deficiencies as pointed out by the Union of India have been made good, appropriate decisions which may be permissible under the law shall be taken by the Competent Authority within next two weeks.

The Hon'ble High Court also made it clear that the benefit of this order shall be available only to the members of the petitioners' associations and other petitioners as per the list enclosed along with the writ petition.

8) CROP portal for Registration of Pesticides

The web based 'Comprehensive Registration of Pesticides'(CROP), developed by Centre for Good Governance has proved to be very successful in streamlining and expediting the the overall registration process of pesticides. Continuous improvement in this online system is happening over time. The issues encountered by the applicant are brought to the notice of CIB&RC for timely resolution. From time to time, RAG consolidates the important CROP portal related issues encountered by CLI members. On 11th March 2025, a consolidated list of all online related issues (during registration and post registration) was submitted to Secretary, CIB&RC.



To resolve these issues, it was decided to take 4-5 issues at a time for discussion with CIB&RC in Friday's meetings. In the year 2024-2025, the below listed issues were taken-up for discussion for their successful resolution by discussing in multiple Friday's meetings.

- ❖ Guideline on tank mix/ twin pack approval (F/F, I/I/ I/F etc.)
- ❖ Import for export guidelines
- ❖ Schedule Inclusion of molecules approved in 67th CIB meeting for Gazette publication
- ❖ Drone approval with Label & Leaflet
- ❖ Ultra small & Small label missing for 9(4) FIM registrations. The 9(4) FIM registrations issued with only one Label along with leaflet
- ❖ Updating Crop Portal Database
- ❖ Guidelines simplified for some categories, but checklist not updated under Crop portal
- ❖ Additional Units for Dosage per Hectare
- ❖ Label and Leaflet issues
- ❖ Regularization of Shelf-life for 2 years
- ❖ MRLs
- ❖ Parked applications

With the full support of CIB&RC secretariat, this process has been very helpful in resolving the online issues which keep coming from time to time.

9) Strategic Regulatory Review and Planning (SRRP) meeting:

The SRRP meeting was organized by CropLife Asia from 10-12th June 2025 at Jakarta, Indonesia. Regulatory Affairs Group Lead Mr. Rajesh Dhawan, RAG Expert Member Mr. Subhash Singh and Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Head- Regulatory Affairs, CropLife India participated in this annual meeting. The RAG Co-Lead Mr. Manoj Lingeri, Expert member Mr. Pralhad More and Mr. Yuvraj Chopra joined as online participants. The main objective of the meeting was to ensure the long-term freedom to operate in the agricultural industry whereby crop protection products are accepted as an integral part of agriculture. The meeting aimed to build societal trust, increase resiliency of decision-makers, collaborate with stakeholders, be visible in public dialogue, utilize a digital strategy, challenge, and develop strategies for addressing emerging concerns and create like-minded coalitions, amongst other goals.

CropLife India was requested to share their achievements on three major topics viz. (i) priority evaluation of new molecules, (ii) minor changes in formulation of pesticides and (iii) Crop grouping implementation. Detailed presentation was made by CropLife India on these above three topics, apart from brief update on other topics of relevance such as developing regulation of biostimulant, labelling notification, KYC update by CIB&RC to weed out ghost registrants, 3-D reforms, glyphosate application through PCO only etc. The efforts of RAG of CropLife India were very much appreciated. CLI team also made presentation on OpEx plan for India, and Dietary risk assessment in breakout sessions.



10) Litigation Update on Pesticide Ban in Punjab

Following the 2024 Notification issued by the Punjab State Government, CropLife India (CLI) moved an application to amend its writ petition to include a challenge to the said notification. In parallel, the State Government submitted a detailed Investigation report on pesticide residues in Basmati rice (dated 29.01.2024) to the Central Government.

After hearings on 11th and 12th July 2024, the Hon'ble High Court allowed CLI's amendment and directed the Central Government to evaluate the report and take a final decision to prevent repetitive bans and losses to stakeholders.

The Registration Committee (RC), in its 458th meeting held in August 2024, noted that the report lacked key scientific data and directed the Secretariat to obtain the requisite information from the Punjab Government. Despite follow-ups, no data was received, as confirmed by the Union Government during a hearing on 28 January 2025. The RC reiterated this position in its 463rd meeting held on 09 April 2025.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Government issued a fresh Notification (S.O.29) dated 09th May 2025, imposing a 60-day ban on specified insecticides for use on Basmati rice, effective from 01 August 2025. The Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) filed a writ petition challenging the notification, in which CropLife India joined as an intervener. Following hearings on 17th, 23rd and 30th July 2025, the **Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court stayed the impugned notification.**

11) Crop Grouping Implementation

In July, 2024, the Regulatory Affairs Group of CropLife India successfully organized a one-day workshop for enabling scientific deliberation amongst the relevant stakeholders, titled "Crop Grouping Principles for Establishment of National MRLs". Diverse stakeholders from MoA&FW, ICAR, FSSAI's SPPR, CIB&RC, Government Research Institutes, Commodity Boards, CROs, Independent National and International Experts including ex-JMPR experts, Fraternity from Media, Academia and Regulatory Experts across the Industry participated in the workshop.

The sub-committee under the Chairmanship of ADG (PP&B), also submitted its final recommendation to CIBRC in July 2024. In September, 2024 the RC in its 458th meeting considered the recommendations of the Sub-committee and then on 23.09.2024 issued a public notice on the accepted Crop Grouping proposal for inviting the comments from the stakeholders within 60 days, including comments from FSSAI (report / recommendations are in line with CLI's proposal).

After receiving the comments from FSSAI, CIB&RC on 15th April 2025, invited industry comments on the recommendations of 85th SPPR meeting on "Crop Grouping", which is mainly based on CODEX principles. FSSAI's main observation or recommendation were:

- ❖ **Minimum eight data set is mandatory for OECD calculator to calculate the draft MRLs with minimum uncertainty.**
- ❖ **Currently with four data points OECD calculation reflects the message "High uncertainty of MRL estimate due to small dataset."**
- ❖ **This is essential for extrapolating Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for the commodities within the respective group, according to OECD guidelines.**

On the recommendations of SPPR, CLI & ACFI jointly submitted their comments to CIB&RC on 29th April 2025.

Subsequently, the SPPR in its 90th meeting held on 25th July 2025, invited all the major pesticide associations to present their views on the observations made by them on the Crop Grouping proposal. The CLI & ACFI jointly made a presentation to justify their comments / suggestions on the observation and recommendation of SPPR. All the other major pesticides associations (CCFI, PMFAI) also made similar comments in line with CLI views. After hearing from all the associations, it was informed by the Chairman-SPPR that they will now deliberate and discuss internally for taking any further decision on this matter.

12) Update on Revision of IS 6940

The detailed comments submitted by CropLife India to BIS on IS 6940 were discussed in the BIS meeting held on 13th April 2023 and were in line with the submitted comments. After 13th April 2023 meeting and after incorporation of comments from CLI and CIB&RC, the IS 6940 document was put in wide circulation for comments from the stakeholders. CLI further provided its comments. Another letter on FAO WHO tolerance limits by CLI was submitted on 13th September 2024. Thereafter, the comments received were discussed during the FAD1/Panel V meeting held on 19th Sept. 2024.

Regarding the inclusion of tolerance limit in IS 6940, Panel has not agreed, stating that as per the nature of document, it cannot be added because it is about the Test method and test parameters only. Also, they highlighted that tolerance is product specific and it would be challenging to fulfil the tolerance if loading is 0.01% like GA formulation. Dr. Archana pointed out that during the drafting of document, industries had previously agreed to keep tolerance limit out of IS 6940.

CLI explained the issues being faced by the industry while importing the material for which BIS have not yet published and harmonized the document with global standards. So, this document can be used as ready reckoner for Customs, STPL/RPTL, exporting countries etc. CLI also explained that FAO already gives the general tolerance in their manual so it can be incorporated in IS 6940 as well with the condition in footnote that product's tolerance may vary as per the type of formulation.

The issue of not considering the tolerance limit by the Panel was discussed with Secretary, CIB&RC on 11th Dec. 2024 by the CLIN delegation. It was agreed to submit a revised representation to incorporate the tolerance limits with the addition of up to 1% tolerance limit in the revised IS 6940 under General section, which will help industry while developing the products having $\leq 1\%$ active ingredient in formulation. It will also help as a reference as many a times Custom authorities have such queries on permissible tolerances.

In February 2025, BIS published the final document of IS 6940. But the tolerance limits proposed by CLI were not included in this final document. Then on 18th March, 2025 again a representation along with supporting documents was submitted to CIB&RC for inclusion of the tolerance limits.



13) Imposition of QCO on certain Agrochemicals

In Dec. 2024, BIS had moved a proposal for making Quality Control Order (QCO) mandatory for six pesticides i.e. (i) Atrazine Technical and its formulations, (ii) Ametryne Technical and its formulations, (iii) Pendimethilian Technical and its formulations, (iv) Metribuzine Technical and its formulations, (vi) Tebuconazole Technical and its formulations, and (vi) Propiconazole Technical and its formulations. The imposition of such QCO is against the EODB.

Subsequently, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship JS (Chemicals) in the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers on 16th December 2024. In this meeting, CLI delegation vehemently opposed the QCO implementation for pesticides and also submitted a joint representation (CLI+ACFI) to JS (Chemicals), DCPC on 18th December 2024.

CLI emphasized that the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of agrochemicals (insecticides) are governed under robust regulation viz., Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Insecticides Rules, 1971. The enforcement of QCO is not relevant for agrochemical sector, as unlike general chemicals, agrochemicals are governed under a specific Act / Rules and most stringent regulatory system is already in place. In addition to various provisions under the Act/Rules, the regulatory approval process also includes the pre-registration verification of samples w.r.t to specified quality parameters by the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC). The quality check enforcement can be done / being done at various levels viz. during manufacturing, transportation, storage and sale including at the ports for imported agrochemicals.

Furthermore, as per the provisions under Insecticides Act, 1968, a Certificate of Registration (CR) is issued by the CIB&RC only after scrutinizing the formulae and verifying claims made by the importer or the manufacturer with regards to the quality specifications, traceability, efficacy and safety to human beings and animals. This registration certificate contains detailed information on the composition of the product / purity and impurity profiles of the product as applicable. The registration holder is obligated to comply with the specified composition/ specifications / conditions as stipulated on the Registration certificate.

Moreover, product specifications (also containing relevant quality parameters) as per BIS format are also required to be proposed as part of the product registration process, which is generally published at a later date post grant of registration of the product under Insecticides Act, 1968.

The CIB&RC and State Agricultural Departments already monitor product quality through sampling and enforcement. The current market oversight, combined with penalties for substandard products, act as deterrents against low-quality insecticides. Strengthening these enforcement mechanisms might be rather seen as a better alternative to introducing mandatory BIS certification of Crop Protection Products. For new products, mandatory BIS certification could delay market entry, impacting the availability of critical insecticides during the sowing and growing seasons.

Additionally, implementing quality checks based on BIS standards for products manufactured in other countries may not be reasonable, as each country has its own regulations in place to maintain the quality of locally produced goods. To prevent import of products not meeting the declared / mandated quality parameters in India, provisions under the Insecticide Act and Rules are robust enough, including quality check inspections at Customs, random sampling from markets, and checks at manufacturing premises and storage facilities. These multi-layered quality assurance measures effectively address the issue, and adding further procedural requirements would only create unnecessary hurdles.

14) Restriction on Use of Glyphosate Order through PCOs

The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, through Gazette Notification No. 2268 (E) dt. 06.07.2020, proposed to restrict the use of Glyphosate only through Pest Control Operators (PCOs) basis health hazards and risk to human beings and animals. CropLife India submitted its representation to the Minister of State for Agriculture in March 2021 stating safe profile of the product and requesting for referring the matter to an independent Expert Committee for the peer review. A joint meeting of members of CropLife India was organized with the Hon'ble MoS, Shri Rupala in April 2021 to reiterate the request and seek further guidance. It was advised by the Hon'ble MoS, Shri Rupala ji to identify the alternate models for safe application.

The minutes of 427th RC meeting stated that it was decided that all 9(3) registrants of Glyphosate formulations and other stakeholders may be heard to understand their views regarding proposing restriction on use of Glyphosate through PCOs. Simultaneously, the discussions with MoA & FW for having definition for “non-cropped area” also progressed well and the definition as mutually agreed between Industry and PPA led sub-committee, was approved in 440th RC meeting.

A final notification S.O. 5010 (E) dated 21.10.2022 restricting the use of Glyphosate through PCOs was published on 25.10.2022. The notification was jointly contested by all the three associations as well as United Planters Association of South India (UPASI) and Farmers in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. Subsequently, a stay was granted by the Hon'ble court on this final notification.

In the subsequent hearing, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in its order dated 14.02.2024 has recorded that the “learned counsel for the Union of India fairly states that as this Court is in the midst of final hearing, the impugned notification shall not be implemented till the disposal of the writ petitions. This statement was accepted by this Court and the Union of India was held bound by the same”.

Progress in 2024-25: On 18th October 2024, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (PP) with the industry representatives to discuss the issues related to restriction on use of Glyphosate.

Simultaneously, in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the matter was listed for hearing on 13.12.2024 Ms. Arunima Dwivedi, CGSC submitted that the Respondents have trained over 16,000 PCOs so far. It was also submitted by Ms. Dwivedi that there is an ongoing dialogue to address the issues raised by the farmers and manufacturers, and that the parties are trying to arrive at an amicable resolution.

On 17th April, 2025 the matter was listed before a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court comprising the Chief Justice and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela. Since the Central Government has called the stakeholders for a discussion, the matter was mentioned by the Advocate for the Union of India to the Court and also requested for an adjournment on the said basis. The Court has recorded the statement of the Advocates for the parties that the parties are trying to discuss and resolve the issue. Accordingly, the matter was adjourned to 24.07.2025.

Continuing the advocacy efforts, a joint Representation by all the major associations (CLI, ACFI, CCFI & PMFAI) was submitted to Joint Secretary on 16th July 2025 after the discussion held between the industry and government official in the MoA & FW on 25th June 2025. In the joint representation, industry reiterated its request to withdraw the notification mandating use of Glyphosate using PCOs.

Again, a meeting with the industry representatives was organized on 30th July 2025 under the chairmanship of JS (PP), MoA&FW, wherein the minutes of the 25th June 2025 meeting were reviewed. The industry again reemphasized on the safety profile of Glyphosate.

Quarterly Meetings of Regulatory Affairs Group (RAG) of CropLife India

The Regulatory Affairs Group (RAG) of CropLife India holds regular quarterly meeting with among its members for resolving various regulatory issues arising from time to time with different department and Ministries of the State and Central government. During the year 2024-24, four RAG meeting were held. The details of these are as below:

- ❖ 04th September 2024 at BASF India, Navi Mumbai- 24 participants
- ❖ 12th December 2024 at PI Industries Ltd., Gurugram – 20 participants
- ❖ 08th March 2025 at hotel Grand Mercure, Mysuru, Karnataka- 18 participants
- ❖ 19th June 2025 at FMC office, Gurugram – 21 participants



Participants of RAG meeting held on 8th March 2025 at Grand Mercure, Mysuru

Participation in BIS mandatory workshop for Technical Committee Members on 'XMLisation of Standards and Online Standards Development'

Recently, as BIS prepares to launch the XML format of Standards and Online Standards Development (OSD) platform, it started organizing a series of Workshops on XMLisation of Standards and Online Standards Development, designed to provide hands-on training and familiarize Technical Committee Members with the latest advancements in the standardization process. These workshops will ensure seamless adaptation to the digital transformation of standards development and enhance members' engagement in consensus-building and technical discussions. It will also enable members to retrieve useful information from the standards.

As a member of FAD 1 committee, Dr Rakesh Kumar of CropLife India participated in this workshop held on 02nd July 2025 at Ahmedabad. The workshop sessions focused on hands-on training on the OSD platform, SMART Standards, XML format of standards and hands-on exercise to retrieve useful information from the standards, ensuring that technical committee members are well-equipped to contribute effectively to national and international standardization as well as to implement them.



CropLife India's participation in the BIS workshop on "XMLisation of Standards and Online Standards Development" held on 2nd July, 2025 at Ahmedabad

National Stakeholder Consultation on Pesticide Residues

CropLife India participated in the National Stakeholder Consultation on Challenges in Monitoring Pesticide Residues in Food Commodities, held on 13 February 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), the event brought together officials from FSSAI, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, CIB&RC, NRC Grapes and other leading experts, united in the common cause of ensuring safe food.

The consultation highlighted diverse perspectives. A farmer representative called for clearer pesticide labeling, multilingual leaflets and greater farmer participation in awareness programmes such as webinars to promote responsible pesticide use.

Representing CropLife India, Mr. Raju Kapoor, Co-Lead of the Advocacy & Communications Committee, addressed critical issues and proposed actionable solutions for a safer food chain. He emphasized the need for time-bound collaboration among farmers, CIB&RC, FSSAI and the industry to resolve residue-related challenges. He called for a dedicated portal to provide easy access to all regulatory updates, inclusion of newly approved pesticide molecules to aid food processors and exporters and greater transparency in approval processes.

Mr. Kapoor also addressed misconceptions about pesticide use, urging efforts to counter myths and misinformation that cause unwarranted consumer concerns.

He advocated for improved laboratory infrastructure and the standardization of testing protocols, noting that inadequate facilities remain a significant compliance challenge.

Reiterating the industry's commitment to safe food practices, he urged support for industry-led initiatives to build a science-driven, safe and sustainable food chain for India's agricultural future.

CropLife India commends the unified approach demonstrated at this consultation and looks forward to continued partnerships that strengthen the crop protection and food safety ecosystem.



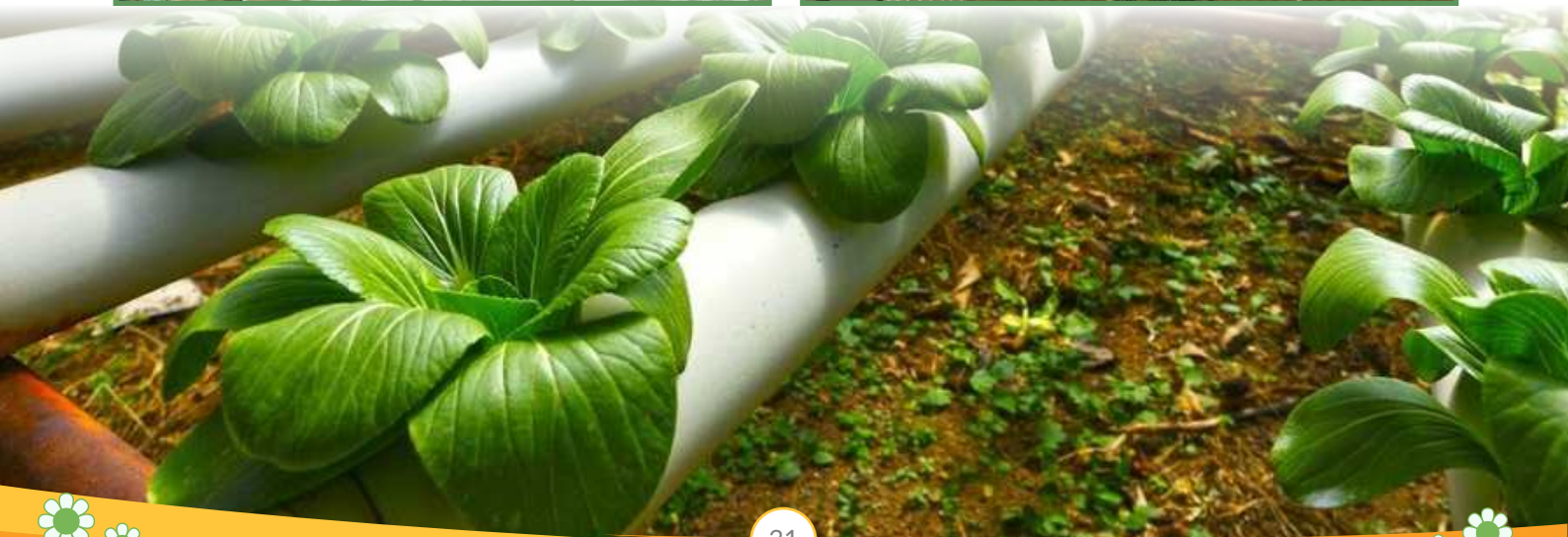
4th Asian Congress for Alternatives to Animal Experiments (4ACAAE) & 7th Annual Meeting of SAAE-I

CropLife India participated in the 4th Asian Congress for Alternatives to Animal Experiments (4ACAAE) and the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments – India (SAAE-I), held under the theme “Non-animal Approaches: Concept, Validation and Regulatory Acceptance”. In the session on “Non-animal Approaches for Pesticide Toxicity Testing”, global and Indian regulatory perspectives, scientific challenges and policy recommendations were actively discussed.

The panel featured Dr. S. K. Jain, Senior Consultant (Toxicology), CIB&RC; Mr. Rajesh Dhawan, Head – Regulatory Affairs Group, CropLife India & Senior Regulatory Specialist, Syngenta India; Dr. Ankita Pandey, Senior Science Policy Advisor, PETA India; Mr. Vipin Saini, CEO, BASAI Agri; and Dr. Archana Sinha, Secretary, CIB&RC.

Representing CropLife India, Mr. Rajesh Dhawan stressed the importance of harmonizing India's Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) standards with OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) test guidelines to ensure global acceptance and scientific robustness. He outlined the challenges faced by industry and researchers in meeting these standards, particularly in reporting requirements and data interpretation. Mr. Dhawan highlighted advancements in non-animal testing approaches that are gaining traction across scientific domains and pointed to the global shift—especially since 2017—towards adopting non-animal methods for acute toxicity studies, reflecting the momentum towards more ethical, humane and scientifically sound practices.

CropLife India remains committed to supporting innovative, validated and internationally accepted non-animal approaches that align with global best practices while ensuring safety, compliance and ethical integrity in pesticide testing.



ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

The CropLife India Advocacy & Communications Committee aims to deepen and broaden its engagement with stakeholders, positioning itself as a proactive participant in key policy dialogues.

We seek to expand our reach across a diverse spectrum of stakeholders—including politicians, policymakers, and civil society—at both the central and state levels. This will be achieved through strengthened communication and outreach efforts, leveraging media and other platforms to foster informed and constructive dialogue.

“BASMATINET: A DIGITAL TRACEABILITY FRAMEWORK INSPIRED BY GRAPENET TO SAFEGUARD EXPORTS AND FOOD SAFETY”

Advocating Since 2020: CropLife India Pushes for Basmati Research Centre in Punjab

From Field to Fork: Ensuring Basmati Purity through Comprehensive Traceability in Punjab

CropLife India supported a landmark workshop led by the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, aimed at promoting **Basmati.NET** — a digital traceability system inspired by the successful **GrapeNET** model used in grape exports. The Workshop was held on **16th April 2025 at Punjab Khedi Bhawan, Chandigarh**. The initiative seeks to enhance Basmati rice export readiness, reduce chemical residues and ensure food safety through stakeholder integration and lab-certified traceability.

Key Highlights:

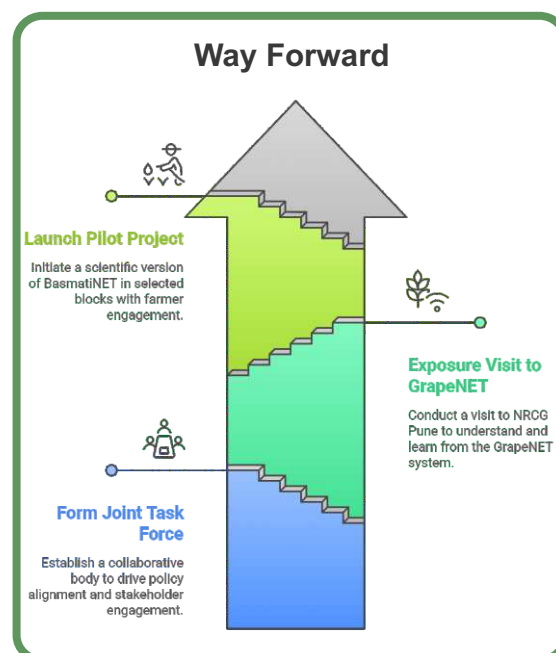
- ❖ **Stakeholder Participation:** Included government, research institutions (PAU, PBTI, NRCG), exporters and crop protection companies.
- ❖ **Success of GrapeNET:** Demonstrated the value of digital traceability in reducing rejections and improving export credibility.
- ❖ **Pilot Project at Chugawan:** Early success validates the feasibility of Basmati.NET's implementation.
- ❖ **Infrastructure Ready:** 48 NABL-accredited labs under APEDA are available; PBTI proposed as National Referral Laboratory.
- ❖ **Farmer-Centric Focus:** Emphasis on training, good agricultural practices (GAP) and pre-shipment residue verification.
- ❖ **Industry Recommendations:** Avoid ad-hoc bans, ensure science-based regulations and support phased withdrawal of high-risk pesticides with viable alternatives.

Outcomes & Recommendations:

1. **Formation of a Joint Task Force** (Govt., PAU, PBTI, APEDA, industry).
2. **Technical Exposure Visit** to NRCG Pune to study GrapeNET.
3. **Expansion of Pilot Projects** across more blocks with active farmer engagement and industry support.

CropLife India's Role:

CropLife India continues to advocate for traceability, responsible stewardship and sustainable agriculture. The association remains committed to supporting the Basmati.NET initiative and collaborative solutions for export compliance and farmer livelihoods.



Key Concepts:

- ❖ **Traceability as per EU Regulation (EC No. 178/2002):** Ability to trace food and substances through all stages of production, processing, and distribution.
- ❖ **GrapeNET Model:**
 - Geographical traceability through unique plot IDs (state, district, sub-district, product, farm).
 - Integration with labs, certification bodies, and government authorities.
- ❖ **BasmatiNET Features:**
 - Stakeholder integration (farmers, labs, exporters, certification bodies).
 - **Access to 48 NABL-accredited labs across India.**

Coordination by the National Referral Laboratory (NRL).

Conclusion :**Replicating GrapeNET's model in BasmatiNET can:**

- ❖ Ensure traceability and compliance.
- ❖ Reduce export rejections.
- ❖ Enhance India's image and ease of doing agri-exports via digital tools and conducts counter checks.

Role of NRL:

- ❖ Establishes Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).
- ❖ Sets and updates the priority list of 273 agrochemicals for monitoring.
- ❖ Standardizes testing procedures across labs (ISO/IEC 17025 compliance).
- ❖ Monitors labs through training, assessments, and random checks.
- ❖ Issues alerts for MRL (Maximum Residue Limit) non-compliance, halting exports.
- ❖ Verifies samples from farms, packhouses, and conducts counter checks.

Export Workflow (Post-MRL Compliance):

- ❖ Consignment creation.
- ❖ AGMARK and phyto-sanitary certification.
- ❖ Container loading.
- ❖ Requires a valid Import Export Code (IEC). and conducts counter checks.



CROPLIFE INDIA'S DIGITAL GROWTH STORY — A JOURNEY OF ENGAGEMENT AND INFLUENCE

In today's hyper-connected world, social media has become the nerve center for information, dialogue and influence. Recognizing this shift, CropLife India embarked on its social media journey in **September 2017** with a clear vision — to build a strong voice in the digital space and engage with stakeholders where conversations increasingly take place.

What began as simple updates from on-ground stewardship events soon evolved into a **strategic, data-driven communication program** anchored by a well-structured Social Media Calendar. This evolution was powered by insights drawn from **semantic and thematic analysis** of our archives, enabling us to identify high-impact keywords, target the right audience segments and post at optimal times for visibility.

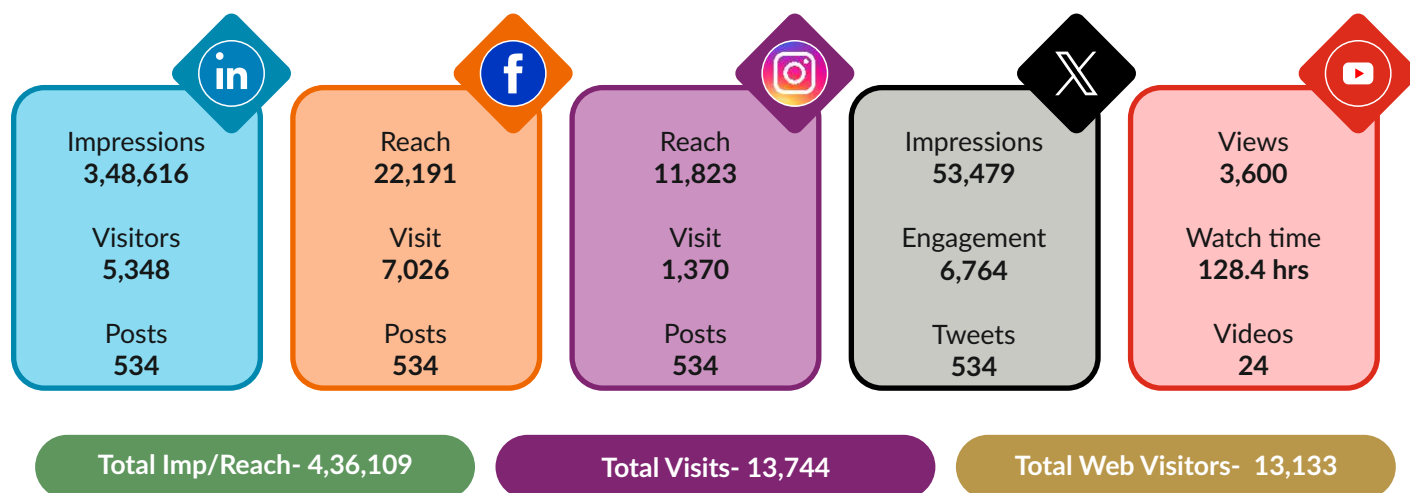
The results speak for themselves. Since inception, CropLife India has generated **4,06,097 impressions across social media platforms**, reaching a wide range of stakeholders — from policymakers and agri-industry experts to farmers and the public at large. Our efforts have been amplified through:

- ❖ Disseminating content across relevant groups and networks
- ❖ Tagging partners to expand post shares and engagement
- ❖ Embedding YouTube links with compelling 'Subscribe' calls-to-action
- ❖ Reposting high-performing content to maximize impact

2024–25 was a milestone year in our digital journey. We provided **real-time coverage** of major events including the **National Conference**, the **Workshop on Farm to Fork for BasmatiNet**, multiple other in-person events and several virtual engagements. For the first time, we hosted **interactive social media contests**, significantly boosting follower growth, sparking conversations and achieving record levels of likes, shares and retweets.

Our website continues to complement our social media efforts, serving as a dynamic repository of information. Regular updates with press releases, event reports and media coverage, coupled with ongoing visual and layout enhancements, ensure an **up-to-date and engaging user experience**.

From its modest beginnings to its current stature as a credible and engaging digital voice, CropLife India's social media presence reflects a blend of **data-led precision, creative storytelling and consistent optimization**. As we move forward, we remain committed to expanding our digital influence — informing, inspiring and engaging stakeholders for the advancement of Indian agriculture.



Engagements

Proposed Insecticides (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 2025

The Haryana Assembly passed the *Insecticides (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 2025* to address the growing challenge of substandard and counterfeit pesticides. The amendment strengthens the existing *Insecticides Act, 1968* by significantly increasing penalties for offenses related to the production and sale of misbranded or substandard insecticides.

Key Provisions of the Amendment:

- ❖ **Stricter Penalties:**
 - First-time offenders: 6 months–2 years jail + ₹1–3 lakh fine | • Repeat offenders: 1–3 years jail + ₹3–5 lakh fine
- ❖ **Cognizable and Non-Bailable Offenses:** Offenses involving substandard insecticides now allow arrest without warrant and are non-bailable.
- ❖ **Stronger Deterrence :** Aims to curb counterfeit/misbranded insecticides by replacing the lenient 1968 Act with tougher enforcement.

Industry Engagement on the Amendment Bill

On 24th March 2025, a delegation from CropLife India, CCFI, ACFI, and PMFAI met Dr. Raja Sekhar Vundru, Addl. Chief Secretary, Haryana, in Chandigarh to discuss industry concerns on the proposed Bill.

Key Discussion Points:

- ❖ Dr. Vundru noted the Bill's importance as part of the ruling party's Sankalp Patra and confirmed bipartisan support for swift passage.
- ❖ Post-passage, the Ministry will focus on Ease of Doing Business and Decriminalization.- Industry cautioned that stringent provisions could create "License Raj"-like conditions, affecting genuine businesses.
- ❖ Concerns were raised over harsh penalties for minor infractions and lack of performance control due to external factors.
- ❖ Consensus emerged on the need for stakeholder consultations and targeted penalties.

Agreed Collaborative Measures:

- ❖ Set up a Joint Task Force (Ministry, Police, Industry) to curb spurious products.
- ❖ Include industry in sampling & testing for fairness.
- ❖ Prioritize NABL accreditation for Haryana labs.
- ❖ Conduct joint training programmes on inspections and enforcement.

Dr. Vundru welcomed collaboration and urged the industry to suggest practical remedial mechanisms. Senior officials from Haryana Agriculture Dept. also attended.



Meeting with Shri Sunil Borkar, Director, Agriculture Department, Maharashtra

A delegation from CropLife India met with Shri Sunil Borkar, Director of the Agriculture Department, Maharashtra on 5th March 2025 at Pune for a detailed discussion addressing key industry concerns and collaborative opportunities. Shri Borkar gave a patient hearing for nearly an hour, demonstrating a proactive approach toward resolving challenges faced by the crop protection sector.

Key Highlights from the Meeting

Strict Enforcement of the Insecticides Act: CropLife India highlighted persistent field-level challenges regarding the sale of crop protection products (CPPs) without valid Principal Certificates (PCs), despite the Department's implementation of the PC process. Shri Borkar acknowledged this issue and introduced the SATHEE portal—an initiative by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare in partnership with NIC—and expressed support for developing a similar dedicated portal for crop protection products. He further encouraged CropLife India to continue engagement with the Central Government on the Integrated Pest Management System (IPMS), with Maharashtra poised to be the first state for implementation.

Farmers' Awareness Initiatives

CropLife India reaffirmed its commitment to stewardship activities focused on the safe and responsible use of CPPs, collaborating closely with the Agriculture Department. The delegation emphasized that combating spurious and counterfeit CPPs requires multi-stakeholder efforts, with awareness drives playing a critical role. Additionally, the importance of issuing cash receipts on CPP purchases was discussed as a mechanism to strengthen supply chain transparency.

Agreed Awareness Workshops Across Maharashtra

- ❖ **Dealers' Workshops:** Recognizing dealers as key stakeholders, Shri Borkar proposed district-wise compulsory workshops, with the Agriculture Department issuing notices. CropLife India will coordinate trainers, materials, and logistics. The program is scheduled from 15th March to 15th May 2025, with Shri Borkar committing to attend 8–10 sessions.
- ❖ **Doctors' Workshops:** Addressing accidental agrochemical exposure, a state-level workshop for doctors will be organized jointly by the Departments of Health and Agriculture.
- ❖ **Extension Officers' Workshops:** CropLife India will update extension officers on the latest CPP technologies to effectively relay information to farmers.

Extensive use of social media (videos, reels) will support wider outreach.

Maharashtra Model for Farmer Awareness

Shri Borkar supported continuing Maharashtra's model, where districts are allocated to individual CPP organizations responsible for farmer awareness. Districts under the Prime Minister's DhanDhanayaKrishiYojna may be taken up for farmer training by CropLife India member companies.

Farmer Mobile Application

Shri Borkar encouraged CropLife India to develop a company-neutral mobile app to disseminate unbiased information directly to farmers, complementing existing member company apps.

Sampling Protocol

CropLife India raised concerns over irregular sampling practices affecting organized sector companies. Shri Borkar agreed to consider adopting robust, centrally controlled sampling protocols similar to those used by NRC Grapes with APEDA's support.

Bio-stimulants Regulation

The delegation discussed recent state notifications impacting members. Shri Borkar informed that Maharashtra had repeatedly communicated concerns to the Centre, but lacking timely guidance, the state proceeded with the notification.



Engagement with Odisha Government on Adhoc Ban on Paraquat

CropLife India reached out to Shri Manoj Ahuja, Chief Secretary of Odisha on 24th February 2025 at Bhubaneswar to discuss the ongoing Adhoc Ban on Paraquat in the State. This engagement follows persistent industry efforts to lift the ban, including earlier meetings with Shri Prem Chaudhary, Director of Agriculture, Odisha.

During the meeting, CropLife India shared concerns regarding the ban's impact on farmers and the crop protection industry. It was conveyed that Shri Chaudhary had informed the delegation that multiple grievances received at the Chief Minister's Office related to Paraquat's alleged role in farmer suicides had led the State Government to impose the ban under discretionary guidelines.

Shri Ahuja expressed understanding and empathy toward the industry's position, acknowledging that the ban may not serve the best interests of the government, farmers, or the industry. He assured the delegation that he would undertake a thorough review of the matter.



Footprint Across Industry Forums

CropLife India participation at IPFT's 35th Foundation Day Symposium

CropLife India had the honor of participating in the 35th Foundation Day celebrations of the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT) at the *Symposium cum Industry Interaction on "Chemical Safety and Security: Importance, Alternatives and Mitigation"*, held on 30th May 2025 in Gurugram.

CropLife India Chairman, **Mr. Ankur Aggarwal**, graced the Inaugural Session as the **Guest of Honor** and shared thought-provoking insights on the critical importance of chemical safety, sustainable innovation and the future of agri-chemicals.

In his address, Mr. Aggarwal emphasized that chemical safety and security must go beyond regulatory compliance—they are fundamental pillars of responsible industry conduct and societal well-being. He stressed the need for cultivating a culture of accountability and discipline across the sector, especially in the context of India's growing agrochemical landscape.

Reinforcing the values of a science-led, innovation-driven industry, Mr. Aggarwal reiterated **CropLife India's commitment** to sustainable agriculture, stewardship and a farmer-centric approach. He also underlined the importance of stronger collaboration between **industry, academia and government** to enable regulatory capacity building, foster scientific research and promote data-backed decision-making.

To inspire the next generation of scientists and professionals, Mr. Aggarwal concluded his address by recounting an anecdote about **Shri Ratan Tata**, highlighting the power of humility and action in leadership. Referring to a moment where Mr. Tata personally addressed a mechanical issue during a journey—while others were still assessing the problem—Mr. Aggarwal reflected on how true leadership lies in stepping forward, regardless of one's position.



CropLife India at the 16th Agriculture Leadership Conclave 2025

CropLife India actively participated in the **16th Agriculture Leadership Conclave 2025**, held on **9th July 2025** in New Delhi. A key highlight of the event was the **Special CEOs Panel on "The Future of Agriculture"**, which convened visionary leaders to explore **scalable, tech-led solutions** for India's evolving farming ecosystem.

Representing CropLife India, **Mr. Ankur Aggarwal** delivered an optimistic and action-driven vision for Indian agriculture. As Managing Director of Crystal Crop Protection Ltd. and Chairman of CropLife India, he emphasized the urgent need for:

- ❖ **Accelerated adoption** of both global and indigenous agricultural technologies
- ❖ **Enhanced R&D** and localized research to close market-access gaps
- ❖ **Policy-level advocacy** for science-sensitive innovations, including gene editing
- ❖ **Robust implementation frameworks** to ensure that innovations reach the last-mile farmer

Mr. Aggarwal reaffirmed CropLife India's commitment to **research, stewardship and farmer-first innovation**. He underscored that the association, representing over 70% of India's crop protection industry, is steadfast in its mission to support farmers through responsible science and on-ground action.

"What took us 40 years, we can now achieve in less than a decade," he stated. "The opportunity is here. The framework is ready. What we need now is bold implementation and continued advocacy to make agriculture truly future-ready."

Mr. Mohan Babu Rajaram, Vice Chairman, CropLife India & Chief Operating Officer, Bayer Crop Science, brought a global, data-driven lens to the discussion. He noted that while India already ranks among the top five nations in terms of agricultural productivity, **rapid technology adoption and scientific collaboration** are vital to unlocking its full potential. Drawing insights from international examples like the Philippines, he demonstrated how the smart deployment of agri-tech significantly improved yields under similar conditions.

Mr. Rajaram also highlighted the changing profile of the Indian farmer—from a passive recipient to an **active innovation partner**—embracing sustainability, data tools and digital solutions. He concluded by stating that **India has the capability**; what's required now is **speed, openness and ecosystem collaboration**.

The CEOs Panel marked a crucial step in shaping a forward-looking, innovation-centric agenda for Indian agriculture—reinforcing the critical role of industry leadership, policy support and farmer engagement.



CropLife India at the National Agri Input Conclave 2025

CropLife India actively participated in the **National Agri Input Conclave 2025**, held on **25th March 2025**, under the theme: **“Walking the Green Mile towards Viksit Bharat by Ensuring Food Security, Economic Growth and Self-Sufficiency by 2047.”**

A key highlight of the conclave was the **Panel Discussion** on: **“Next-Gen Crop Protection Technologies for Balancing Yield and Ecology: The Miles Ahead for Viksit Bharat 2047.”**

The discussion delved into the evolving regulatory and technological landscape of Indian agriculture and the pivotal role of **next-generation crop protection technologies** in supporting the nation's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision.

Key takeaways included:

- ❖ **Regulatory frameworks** must adapt to **regional and climatic diversity**, requiring a broader consensus, especially regarding the registration and regulation of chemical products.
- ❖ The future of agriculture lies in **novel molecules, advanced formulations and data-driven precision tools** that address emerging pest resistance and improve yield outcomes.
- ❖ Concerns were raised over the **acceptability of international data**, especially for newer crops like avocados, emphasizing the importance of **localized trials and evidence**.
- ❖ Drawing parallels with the **pharmaceutical sector**, experts highlighted India's reliance on imports and the need to **streamline approval systems** to foster domestic innovation.
- ❖ The role of **public-private collaboration** was underscored as vital to accelerating the development and introduction of **genetic technologies and novel chemistries**.
- ❖ **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** was cited as a critical enabler in **optimizing pesticide application**, improving efficacy while minimizing ecological impact.
- ❖ Throughout the dialogue, a strong emphasis was placed on **balancing industrial growth with national priorities**, ensuring that innovation aligns with long-term sustainability and food security goals.

CropLife India's presence in this high-impact discussion reinforced its position as a **science-led, innovation-driven stakeholder**, committed to shaping a future-ready regulatory and technological ecosystem for Indian agriculture.



CropLife India at the Sustainable Agriculture Summit (SAS) 2025

CropLife India participated in the **Inaugural Session** of the **Sustainable Agriculture Summit (SAS) 2025**, organized by the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**. Held under the theme: **“Cultivating a Greener Future: Innovation, Resilience, Sustainability,”** the summit brought together key stakeholders from across the agriculture value chain to discuss forward-looking solutions for sustainable farming in India.

Representing the crop protection industry, **Mr. Ankur Aggarwal** delivered a compelling address, emphasizing the urgent need for **innovative green technologies** to meet the demands of India's rapidly growing population. He noted that while agrochemicals play a pivotal role in crop protection and productivity, they are often perceived negatively. To overcome this, the industry must double down on promoting **integrated pest management**, **judicious use of chemicals** and the adoption of **bio-pesticides**.

Mr. Aggarwal underscored several priorities:

- ❖ The need for **stronger policy support and data protection frameworks** to encourage global and domestic innovation.
- ❖ **Awareness and capacity-building** at the farmer level to ensure the effective use of new technologies like **drones** and **personal protective equipment**.
- ❖ The importance of **collaborative action** between government, industry and research institutions to create a future-ready agricultural ecosystem.

He urged the Government to enact **decisive reforms in R&D and regulatory systems** and called on platforms like CII to push for the development of a **white paper** on sustainable agriculture policy, ensuring that ideas translate into implementation.

“Policy clarity, innovation protection and rapid technology adoption are essential for long-term agricultural success,” Mr. Aggarwal remarked. *“We must work together to cultivate a greener, more resilient future.”*

CropLife India's participation reinforced its commitment to **sustainable agriculture**, **responsible innovation** and its role as a **science-based partner** in achieving India's vision of a **Viksit Bharat by 2047**.



CropLife India at the Traceability & Authentication Forum 2025

CropLife India participated in the **Traceability & Authentication Forum 2025**, held on **17th March 2025** under the theme:

“Path to a Secure Future: Authentication and Traceability for All.”

The forum brought together thought leaders and industry stakeholders to explore innovative approaches in building **trust, transparency and safety** across value chains through authentication and traceability technologies.

A key highlight of the event was the **Panel Discussion** on:

“Championing Originality: Industry Leaders on Tackling Counterfeits”

Representing the agri-input sector, **Mr. Raju Kapoor** of FMC India emphasized the **critical role of authentication and traceability** in ensuring product quality, especially in the farm input industry, where **small and marginal farmers are disproportionately impacted** by counterfeit and substandard products.

He underscored the urgent need to:

- ❖ **Educate farmers** on responsible purchase behavior—such as buying only from **trusted retailers** and verifying packaging or digital authentication codes
- ❖ Implement **robust tracking systems** and **standardized documentation** to curb illegal product movement, especially exports from unknown sources
- ❖ Foster **industry collaboration and public-private partnerships** to strengthen monitoring, build farmer awareness and promote the use of **secure, tech-enabled traceability frameworks**



Mr. Kapoor advocated for a proactive ecosystem that champions originality, protects brand integrity, and, most importantly, safeguards farmer livelihoods.

CropLife India's participation reaffirmed its commitment to **transparency, product stewardship and farmer protection**, highlighting the industry's collective responsibility in building a secure and resilient agricultural supply chain.

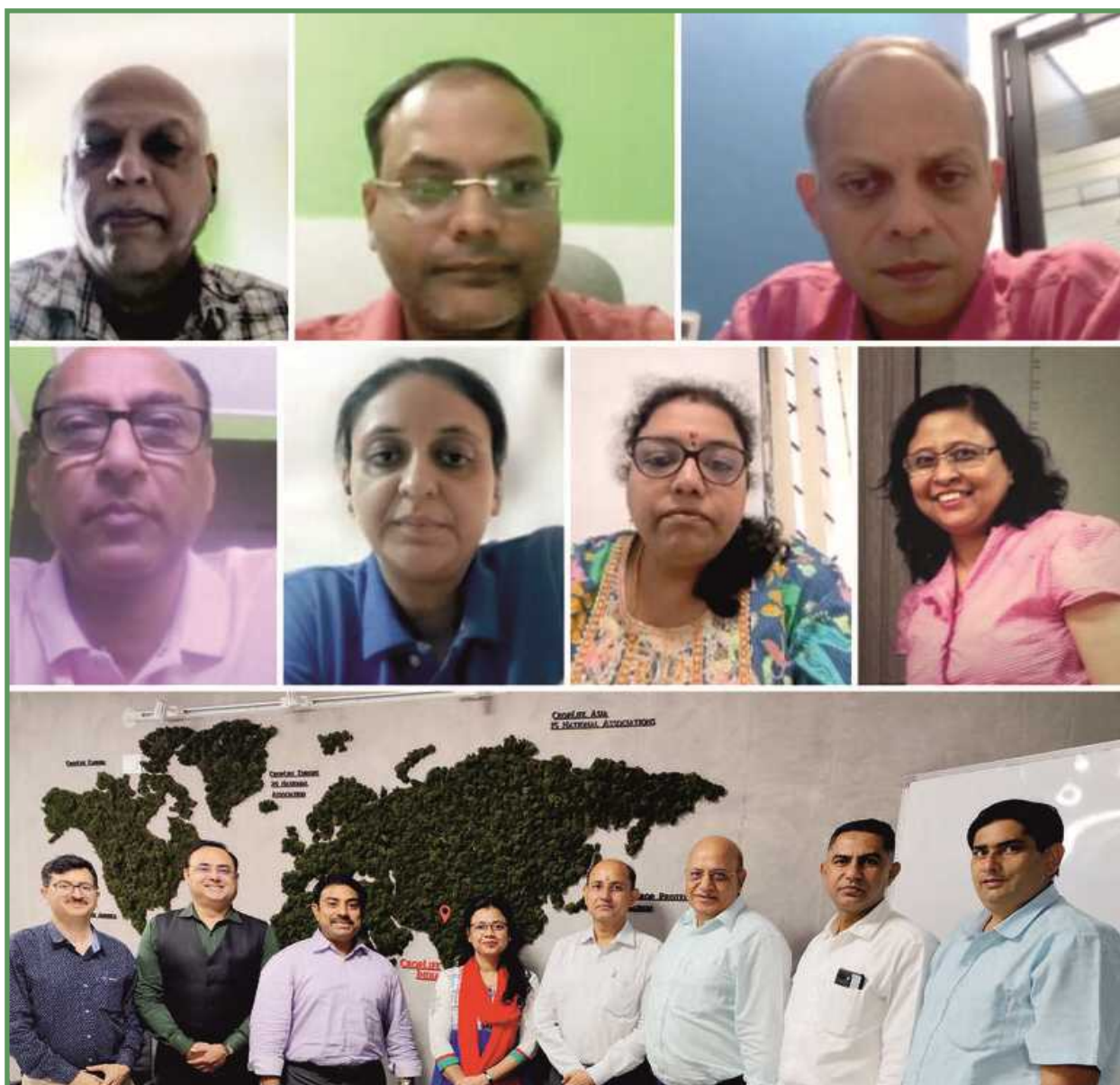
Meetings

Quarterly Joint Committee Meeting | Policy Dialogue | National Conference 2025

CropLife India successfully convened its Quarterly Joint Committee Meeting, bringing together key stakeholders from the crop protection industry to discuss **critical policy issues spanning both Central and State Governments**.

The meeting served as a strategic platform to align industry efforts on regulatory developments, state-level challenges and national policy priorities - paving the way for constructive engagement.

As part of the discussions, **preparations for the upcoming National Conference 2025** were also reviewed, with renewed commitment to advancing the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 and enhancing the role of science-led agriculture.



Expert Talk on Controlling illicit Trade on E-Commerce Platforms

Discussion & Learning from Successful Injunction against India Mart by Syngenta

CropLife India convened an important meeting centered on tackling the growing concern of illicit trade within the e-commerce space, particularly focusing on the sale of crop protection products on 28th March 2025. The online sale of illegal and unregulated products has become a significant and concerning issue.

During the meeting, participants delved into the legal actions recently undertaken against e-commerce platforms, with a particular emphasis on the ground-breaking injunction secured by Syngenta against IndiaMart. This case has set an important precedent and serves as a powerful learning tool for the industry.

CropLife India will explore strategies to leverage the ruling across the industry, balance restrictions on illegal online sales with the potential of legitimate e-commerce, develop industry consensus and engage with the Government regarding e-commerce regulations for Crop Protection Products.



Third Edition of Agro Chem Summit 2024 – Indian Chemical News

CropLife India participated in the Third Edition of the Agro Chem Summit 2024, organized by Indian Chemical News.

Session III – Digitalization, Precision Agriculture and Cutting-Edge Technologies for Crop Protection

This session examined how emerging technologies and data-driven solutions are transforming crop protection, with a focus on enhancing sustainability, efficiency and resilience in farming. Moderated by Dr. Kalyan Goswami (PhD in Public Policy), Director General, Agro Chem Federation of India, the panel featured Mr. Shashank Chaturvedi, Director, HIL Ltd.; Mr. Vimal Alawadhi, Managing Director, Best Agrolife Limited; Mr. K. S. Thyagarajan, Head – Corporate Affairs, PI Industries Ltd.; and Mr. Durgesh Chandra Sharma, Secretary General, CropLife India.

Mr. Sharma highlighted the regulatory challenges facing the agrochemical industry, stressing the need for greater transparency, consistency and stakeholder consultation at both central and state levels. He pointed out that inconsistent interpretations of the Insecticides Act, 1960 and related regulations hinder progress. He also showcased the transformative potential of drones, low-toxicity molecules and digital tools in modern crop protection. Emphasizing the importance of industry–government–farmer collaboration, he concluded that such efforts would streamline regulatory processes, foster sustainability and deliver value across the farming ecosystem.

Session II – Collaborative Models: R&D, Innovation, Biologicals and Biopesticides

This session focused on fostering collaborative models in R&D, innovation and biological solutions to advance sustainable crop protection. Moderated by Ms. Komal Sha Bhukhanwala, Director – R&D and IP, SML Ltd., the panel included Dr. Kamlesh Pai Fondekar, Head – R&D, Godrej Agrovet Limited; Dr. Nagendra Babu Bathini, Principal Scientist, IICT CSIR; Ms. Anuja Kadian, Government & Industry Affairs Director, Corteva Agriscience; Dr. Vishal Choudhary, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India; Mr. Sachin Mundhe, General Manager, Meghmani Organics Limited; Mr. Vipin Saini, CEO, BASAI Agri; and Dr. Smriti Kala, Scientist, Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology.

Ms. Anuja Kadian emphasized the pivotal role of collaboration between academia, industry and government in driving R&D for biological and biopesticide solutions. She highlighted the integration of cutting-edge scientific research with practical applications to meet evolving agricultural needs. Ms. Kadian noted that tailored biological solutions can significantly advance sustainable farming while reducing environmental impact and underscored the importance of robust policy frameworks to encourage innovation and accelerate the adoption of eco-friendly crop protection technologies.



Brand R Communication Summit 2024 – CEO Panel & Farmer Engagement Strategies

CropLife India participated in the *Brand R Communication Summit 2024*, which brought together industry leaders to explore innovative strategies for empowering farmers through impactful communication and engagement.

CEO Panel – The Future of Agriculture and Rural Communication: Innovations for Effective Farmers' Engagement
Moderated by Mr. Raju Kapoor, Director – Public & Industry Affairs, FMC India, the panel included Dr. Ajay Ranka, Chairman & MD, Zydex Group; Mr. Carlos Rodriguez-Villa Förster, MD, AlgaEnergy & VP of the Board of EBIC; Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman & MD, Aries Agro Ltd.; Mr. Anant Kulkarni, Country Lead, ICL Group; and Mr. Manoj Varshney, MD & CEO, IFFCO-MC Crop Science Pvt. Ltd. The discussion underscored the importance of customization, trust and innovation in addressing challenges such as talent shortages, evolving consumer demands and the need for more relevant, accessible information for farmers. Mr. Kapoor emphasized that *simplicity is the fundamental of communication*, playing a pivotal role in shaping the agricultural future.

Mr. Durgesh Chandra, Secretary General, CropLife India participated in the **Panel Discussion – Empowering Farmer Communities through Communication: Strategies for Impact**.

The panel explored storytelling, awareness campaigns and two-way engagement as powerful tools to connect with farmers and address their evolving needs. Representing CropLife India, Mr. Sharma stressed the importance of changing perceptions among stakeholders, highlighting India's position as the fourth-largest agrochemical producer globally. He emphasized that two-way communication is essential to build trust, drive adoption of best practices and ensure long-term agricultural success.



4th Sustainable Agriculture Summit 2024

At the 4th Sustainable Agriculture Summit 2024, Ms. Anuja Kadian, Director, CropLife India; Chair – BRICS WBA Working Group on Food Security and Environmental Safety; Chair – FICCI Taskforce on Sustainable Agriculture; and Government & Industry Affairs Director (Asia Pacific), Corteva Agriscience, underscored food security as a key mandate for BRICS nations in 2024. With the global population projected to reach 9 billion by 2050, she emphasized the urgency for BRICS countries to lead collaborative efforts in ensuring sustainable nourishment and long-term food security. Ms. Kadian concluded by stressing that deeper synergies between member nations will be critical to addressing this shared challenge.

Shri Franklin L. Khobung, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, highlighted India's pivotal role within the BRICS framework. He outlined recent advancements in the Indian agricultural sector, noting the government's focus on agroforestry, soil health and integrated farming systems. These initiatives, he emphasized, are central to driving sustainable growth, building resilience and ensuring the long-term viability of agriculture.



12th Crop Protection Summit 2024

CropLife India participated in the 12th Crop Protection Summit 2024, which opened with the inaugural session on “Diversity & Inclusion in Sustainability & Crop Protection”.

Discussions centered on India's journey towards becoming a *Viksit Bharat* by 2047, with a strong emphasis on empowering farmers through cutting-edge innovations, including GM technology, to ensure calorie sufficiency for a population projected to reach 1.5 billion. As the world's second-largest exporter of agrochemicals, the focus remained on building and strengthening the industry for a sustainable and inclusive future.

The discussion explored how India's crop protection sector can drive the nation's agricultural growth and prosperity. As the fourth-largest producer and second-largest exporter of agrochemicals, India's agricultural trajectory toward 2047 will depend on embracing innovation, expanding Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and sharing farmer success stories to inspire adoption of modern practices. The panel underscored that coordinated efforts—combining new technologies, strategic partnerships between industry and government, and a farmer-first approach—are essential to meet the food and nutritional needs of a population expected to reach 1.7 billion.



STEWARDSHIP



CropLife India is at the leading edge of advocating for sustainable agriculture through a range of initiatives undertaken by its various committees, including Stewardship, Anti-Counterfeiting, Resistance Action Committee (RAC), and the Empty Agrochemical Container Management Taskforce. These committees and task force are dedicated to enhancing the sustainability of Indian agriculture by promoting the safe and responsible use of agrochemicals, ensuring the use of authentic products, raising awareness about the dangers of illicit products, emphasizing the importance of personal protective equipment (PPE), facilitating the safe disposal of empty agrochemical containers (EAC), and advancing smart agricultural practices etc.

(1) **Stewardship: Key activities**

A. Mass awareness pilot project for Small Tea Growers (STGs in West Bengal).

A crisis has erupted in West Bengal on the issue of "the bought leaf factories (BLFs) to procure only green leaves which meet the compliance standards of the food safety regulator and maximum residue level (MRL) parameters". Shri. Pradip Kumar Mazumdar, Hon'ble Minister, Panchayat & Rural Development, Govt. of West Bengal and Former Chairman, CropLife India advocated for a Stewardship Awareness Project for the small tea growers of West Bengal. CropLife India planned a series of 10 workshops on **Responsible Use & PHI (Pre-Harvest Interval) of Crop Protection Products to grow Safe Tea crop** in Jalpaiguri, Coochbihar, Uttar Dinajpur, Alipurduar & Darjeeling Plains districts of West Bengal. Over 2000 Small Tea Growers were educated & sensitized by the expert of Tea Research Association during December, 2024 to February, 2025.

A delegation from CropLife India met with **Shri Pradip Kumar Mazumdar, Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge for Panchayat & Rural Development, Government of West Bengal**, on 14th January 2025 to apprise him of the STGs Project. Shri Pradip Kumar Mazumdar appreciated CropLife India's impactful initiative aimed at educating the Small Tea Growers (STGs) and improve their livelihoods.





17th December, 2024; Chaulhati, Jalpaiguri
West Bengal



19th December, 2024; Natun Basti, Jalpaiguri
West Bengal



8th January, 2025; Lataguri, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal



15th January, 2025; Panbari, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal



17th January, 2025; Ferubari - Jalpaiguri, West Bengal



22th January, 2025; Helapakri - Jalpaiguri, West Bengal



28th January, 2025; Mekhaliganj - Coochbihar,
West Bengal



29th January, 2025; Dupguri – Alupurduar, West Bengal



13th February, 2025; Rajganj – Jalpaiguri, West Bengal



14th February, 2025; Kharibari, Darjeeling, West Bengal



(B) Awareness Campaign for Dealers, Agriculture Assistants & Health Practitioners in Wardha, Maharashtra.

A small delegation had a meeting with Shri S. Borkar, Director of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra on 5th March, 2025. Department of agriculture, Government of Maharashtra advised CropLife India to organize awareness workshops for Dealers, Agriculture Assistants & Health Practitioners in Maharashtra. CropLife India have planned 8 workshops during August -September, 2025 to disseminate the information on Safe & Responsible use & AIT aspects to Dealers, Agriculture Assistants and Health Practitioner's.

The initiative began with inaugural workshop on August 7, 2025, for the Dealers of Wardha Subdivision, at the Training Hall, District Collector Office, Wardha. Following this, a second workshop was conducted on August 8 for the Agriculture Assistants of Wardha Subdivision. Both events were inaugurated by Shri Narendra Fulzele, Additional Collector, Wardha and Ms. K. Vaishnavi Shinde, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, joined as a guest of honour at both workshops. Approximately 120 dealers and 125 agriculture assistants attended these workshop, where they received comprehensive education and sensitization on the Safe and Responsible Use and AIT aspects of CPP.



Dealer workshop on 7th August 2025 at Wardha



Agriculture Assistants Workshop on 8th August 2025 at Wardha



Workshops organised, specifically tailored for dealers and agriculture assistants. Mr. Ramakant Kamble, the Sub-divisional Agriculture Officer, Arvi, graciously inaugurated both workshops and delivered an insightful address to the participants. These workshops educated and sensitized over 100 dealers and 65 agriculture assistants from the Arvi Sub-division on the safe and responsible use, as well as the Anti-Infringement (AIT) aspects, of Crop Protection Products (CPP).



Dealer workshop on 11th August, 2025 at Arvi



Agriculture Assistants workshop on 12th August, 2025 at Arvi

Workshops were conducted in the Hinganghat sub-division of Wardha District, focused on educating Dealers and Agriculture Assistants on the safe and responsible use of Crop Protection Products (CPP), as well as addressing Anti-illicit trade (AIT) aspects August 13th and 14th, 2025, respectively. Shri Aakash Awatara, Sub Divisional Officer Hinganghat, inaugurated and addressed both sessions. The key guests included Shri Sachin Sutar, Taluka Agriculture Officer Hinganghat, and Shri Amol Manthapiya, President of the Dealers Association, Hinganghat. Both the workshops had excellent participation with over 100 dealers on August 13th and 120 Agriculture Assistants on August 14th. The sessions were highly interactive and provided valuable insights into promoting responsible practices within the agricultural community.



Dealer workshop on 13th August, 2025 at Hinganghat



Agriculture Assistants workshop on 14th August, 2025 at Hinganghat

(C) Skill Enhancement Workshop for SHGs/Drone Didis of Karnataka State

In the alignment of facilitating SHGs under NAMO DRONE DIDI initiative, CropLife India in collaboration with University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore, Karnataka State and Department of Agriculture, Karnataka State had successfully organised its second Workshop on Skill Enhancement for SHGs/ Drone Didis on Drone and Safe & Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products at North Block Auditorium, UAS-B, Bengaluru, Karnataka State on 21st May, 2025. A key highlight of the event was **live drone demonstration**, showcasing the application of crop protection products.

Dr. S. V. Suresha, The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences- Bangalore inaugurated the workshop and addressed SHGs/Drone Didis. **Dr. H. S. Shivaramu**, Director of Research, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and **Mr. Shivakumar**, Joint Director of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, were present on the occasion. Approx. 200 participants including SHGs/Drone Didis, Drone Pilots, Students, Agriculture Scientists, Government Officials and Industry persons participated in the programme.



Drone Didi's workshop on 21st May, 2025 at University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore, Karnataka

(2) Anti Illicit Trade (AIT): Key Activities

(A) Farmer Awareness Workshops in Haryana

A small delegation of CropLife India had the opportunity to meet with Shri Nayab Singh Saini, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Haryana and Dr. Saket Kumar, Additional Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Haryana to discuss the agrochemical industry's concerns about Insecticide (Amendment) Bill 2025 and seek their guidance for the same. As discussed during the meeting, to do the different programs for the farmers in Haryana, CropLife India has planned a series of 10 awareness workshops at Karnal, Kurukshetra, Ambala & Yamuna Nagar Districts of Haryana during August -September, 2025 on safe & responsible use of agrochemicals as well as to create awareness for identifying genuine & authentic products, harms of illicit products amongst the Farmers, Agri officials, KVK/SAU scientists with outreach over 6500 farmers.

A small delegation had a meeting on 15th July 2025 with Shri. Rajnarayan Kaushik, IAS, the Director, Agriculture, Government of Haryana and Dr. Pradeep Meel, Joint Director (Quality Control) to apprise them of the upcoming Stewardship & AIT project in Haryana. The both officials appreciated the CropLife India's efforts and assured to support the initiatives. The delegation discussed the Insecticides (Haryana Amendment) Act, 2025 and conveyed the industry's concerns to the Director of Agriculture and the JD (QC), emphasizing that robust laws already exist to curb illicit products, and the primary need is strict enforcement of the current legislation at the field level.



CropLife India started an important project by holding its first workshop on July 29, 2025, at the Integrated Bee Keeping Development Centre (IBDC) in Ramnagar, Kurukshetra, Haryana. Dr. Satyender Yadav, Deputy Director of Horticulture, Government of Haryana inaugurated the workshop. More than 125 people including farmers and others were educated & sensitized on safe & responsible use of Crop Protection Products (CPP) as well as Anti-illicit trade of CPP.



July 29, 2025 at IBDC in Ramnagar, Kurukshetra, Haryana.

CropLife India organized 2nd workshops in a series of 10 farmer awareness workshops on 21st August, 2025 at community hall, Bahadurpur, Radaur, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana. Dr. Sandeep Raval, in-charge of KVK-Damla inaugurated the event. Dr. Narender Goyal and Dr. Anuradha Bali, Scientists from KVK, Dhamla also addressed the participants. Over 150 farmers participated in the workshops and were educated & sensitized on safe & responsible use of Crop Protection Products (CPP) as well as Anti-illicit trade of CPP.



21st August, 2025 at community hall, Bahadurpur, Radaur, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana.

CropLife India successfully conducted the third in a series of ten workshops on August 22, 2025, at KVK-Damla, Radaur, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Sandeep Raval, In-charge of KVK-Damla, with additional addresses provided by Dr. Narender Goyal and Dr. Anuradha Bali, Scientists from KVK-Damla. Over 120 farmers attended the workshop and received valuable information and sensitization on the safe and responsible use of Crop Protection Products (CPP), alongside information regarding the prevention of illicit trade in CPP.



22nd August, 2025 at KVK-Damla, Radaur, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana.

(B) Mass Awareness Pilot Project for Illicit Crop Protection Products in Agra, Mathura & Hathras in Uttar Pradesh

CropLife India's delegation had a meeting on 4th August, 2025 with **Dr. Pankaj Tripathi**, Director, Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh and **Mr. T. M. Tripathi**, Joint Director Agriculture (Plant Protection) to apprise them of the upcoming Stewardship & AIT project in Agra, Mathura & Hathras Districts of Uttar Pradesh. Both officials expressed their appreciation for CropLife India's efforts and pledged their support for these initiatives.

CropLife India also apprised knowledge-sharing workshops for health practitioners, focusing on accidental agrochemical exposure in various states. The Director of Agriculture commended this activity and advised to plan & organize two such training sessions in Varanasi and Lucknow for both private and government doctors in October Month. He assured us of departmental support, logo support, and the participation of hon'ble ministers from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in these activities.



The launch event of the Mass Awareness Campaign against Illicit Crop Protection Chemicals was successfully conducted on 19th August 2025 at Orange Hotel, Agra. The initiative aims to safeguard farmers' interests by sensitizing them about the threats posed by illicit agrochemical products and by equipping them with knowledge on safe and responsible usage of genuine crop protection inputs.

The event witnessed the participation of more than 120 participant (farmers and agrochemical dealers) from the region, alongside the gracious presence of senior government officials, academic leaders, and members of the CropLife India association. Shri Santosh Kumar, Joint Director of Agriculture, Agra, inaugurated the event and flagged off the Van campaign. Over 120 participants, including farmers and dealers, attended the launch event. Notable attendees included Professor Vipin Kumar Agarwal, Dean of RBS College Bichpuri, Agra, and the Deputy Director (Plant Protection), Agra.



Launch event on 19th August 2025 at Orange Hotel, Agra.

3. Empty Agrochemical Container Management in India

CropLife India and its members are engaged in safely dispose of empty agrochemical containers in a way that protects farmers and the environment. The organization is also leading the efforts in policy discussions and has proposed a strategic framework for sustainable management, including the potential reclassification of Empty Pesticide Containers (EPC) as non-hazardous. To facilitate this reclassification, a Triple Rinsing Study is currently in the final stages of discussion with All-India Network Project on Pesticide Residues (AINPPR).

4. CropLife India-Model Farms-Centre of Excellence

CropLife India has planned a significant project focussed on establishing Model Farms-Centres of Excellence to Showcase Sustainable Farming Solutions.

These Model Farms will be the centre for the effective implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Integrated Crop Management (ICM), Integrated Pest Management, Stewardship aspects and various sustainable agriculture techniques.

The centres are strategically planned across five zones—North, South, East, West, and Central to achieve comprehensive pan-India coverage.

Sl.	Zone	Location (Districts & State)	Supporting Company
1	North	Palwal, Haryana	Dhanuka Agritech Ltd
2	East	Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh	Bayer Crop Sciences
3	West	Yavatmal, Maharashtra	Syngenta India
4	South	East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh	BASF
5	Central	Vidhisha, Madhya Pradesh	Indofil Industries

5. International Women's Day Celebration: "Narishakti Mahotsav"

On March 7 2025, CropLife India organized an event called "Narishakti Mahotsav" to celebrate International Women's Day with the objective to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of women farmers to agriculture and economic development. The event took place at Training Hall of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya in Gwalior, MP.

Dr Shelendra Singh Kushwah, Sr. Scientist & Head, KVK presided the function and Dr. S. S. Tomar, Dean, College of Agriculture, RVSKVV, Gwalior graced the event as the Chief Guest. Dr. Manish Deshpande, Ms. Sony Mamgai & Ms. Anjana Sundriyal participated in the event.

Other than to above, approximately 200 women farmers took part in the event. A live demonstration of Drones & live performance by singing troupe were major attraction activities of the event.



Narishakti Mahotsav on 7th March, 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya in Gwalior, MP.

6. National Engagements: Fairs/Event Participation

- a. Awareness created on responsible use of CPP & Anti-illicit in **Indus Food Agritech 2025**, organized by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) with the support of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare & Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying on 9th - 11th January, 2025 at **YASHOBHOOMI, IICC, Dwarka, New Delhi**. The Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Shri Jitin Prasada, inaugurated the event. CropLife India participated as an Association Partner and put a stall in the event and created awareness by one-to-one discussion, specially designed brochures distribution, displaying banners as well as singing specially designed song on theme Responsible Use and Anti Illicit Trade in Hindi Language by folk singers. Over 250+ various visitors visited the stall.



Indus Food Agritech 2025 on 9th - 11th January, 2025 at YASHOBHOOMI, IICC, Dwarka, New Delhi.

- b. **11th MEGA VEG EXPO 2025 (Horticulture, Honey Bee & Potato)** organized by The Horticulture Department of Haryana in collaboration with Maharana Pratap Horticulture University (MHU)-Karnal from **21-23rd March, 2025** at the Centre of Excellence for Vegetables, Indo-Israel Project, Gharaunda, Karnal, Haryana. Shri Shyam Singh Rana, The Hon'ble Minister of agriculture & Farmer Welfare, Government of Haryana inaugurated the 11th Mega Veg Expo on first day and Shri Nayab Singh, The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Haryana, honoured the event as Chief Guest on 23rd March, 2025.

CropLife India also participated and had a stall at the event. We endeavoured to raise awareness over 2000 visitors regarding the safe and responsible use of agrochemicals, as well as information on anti-illicit trade by various activities including one-on-one discussions, the distribution of specially designed brochures, the display of banners, and a performance by folk singers who presented a specially composed song in Hindi on the theme of Responsible Use (RU) and Anti-Illicit Crop Protection Products (CPP).



c. Awareness created on responsible use of CPP & Anti-illicit in the ***Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela – “Unnat Krishi – Viksit Bharat”*** organized by IARI during **February 24-26, 2025 at Mela Ground, IARI, New Delhi**. The Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmer welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, inaugurated the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela and Shri Ram Nath Thakur, Union Minister of State of Agriculture & Farmer welfare, also joined as Guest of Honour.

Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela – “Unnat Krishi”; 24-26 February, 2025 at Mela Ground, IARI, New Delhi.



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CropLife India elects Ankur Aggarwal as the Chairman of the Board, Anil Kakkar and Mohan Babu as Vice Chairmen during its 44th AGM



Mr. Ankur Aggarwal
Chairman - CropLife India
Managing Director
Crystal Crop Protection Ltd.



Mr. Anil Kakkar
Vice Chairman - CropLife India
Vice President
Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd.



Mr. Mohan Babu
Vice Chairman - CropLife India
Chief Operating Officer
Bayer CropScience for India,
Bangladesh and Sri Lanka

CropLife India Welcomes Budget 2025-26, Hailing Government's Emphasis on Productive & Sustainable Farming

Technological Adoption
Integrating modern technologies like drones in farming.

Sustainable Practices
Encouraging eco-friendly farming methods to preserve resources.

Enhanced Productivity
Focus on increasing agricultural output through modern techniques.

Rural Stability
Initiatives to prevent rural-urban migration by improving local opportunities.

Empowerment Initiatives
Prioritizing women and youth in agricultural schemes.

Union Budget 2025-26

"The crop protection industry looks forward to partnering with both the Centre and State Governments to focus on the 100 districts with low productivity."

Mr. Ankur Aggarwal
Chairman
CropLife India

Agrochem makers seek cut in import duty, GST rationalisation in Budget

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

Agrochemical makers look forward to uniform basic customs duty, rationalisation of GST and the introduction of 200 per cent deduction on R&D expenses in the forthcoming Budget.

CropLife, a body of agrochemical makers, has suggested key measures such as maintaining a uniform basic customs duty of 10 per cent for both technical raw materials and formulations and reduction in GST on agrochemicals from the current 18 per cent to 12 per cent. Providing 200 per cent weighted deduction on R&D expenses for agrochemical companies would enhance focus on innovation and R&D, which will enable farmers to access newer and greener crop protection products, it said.

FARMER INCOME

Ankur Aggarwal, Chairman - CropLife India and Managing Director of Crystal Crop Protection Ltd said "The Budget 2025-26 should focus on reforms aimed at increasing farmers' income through productivity enhancement and fostering inclusive and sustainable growth of the agriculture sector. The availability of new formulations through import—whether single molecules or their combinations—plays a crucial role in helping farmers to address the resistance developing in pests and impacts of climate change, and enhance the global competitiveness of Indian agricultural produce. As these innovative solutions are adopted by farmers, local manufacturing begins. What starts as formulation imports eventually transitions to domestic manufacturing".

Further Aggarwal added, "It is crucial that we move away from a dual policy ap-



The government can promote public-private partnerships to develop new crop protection molecules, say experts

proach that restricts formulation imports while promoting exports."

Ravi Annavarapu, President, FMC India said the Budget must prioritise investments in agricultural research and development with a focus on developing new, climate-resilient crop varieties. "We also believe that the cost of farming must be reduced. To this end, we strongly recommend a drastic reduction in import duties and GST on pesticides, ensuring farmers have access to high-quality, innovative products. We recommend the budget to focus on two key areas—making innovative technologies accessible and reducing the cost burden on farmers. This requires minimising levies on farm inputs. Specifically, we propose reducing customs duties on intermediates required for manufacturing pesticides from 7.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent and reducing customs duties on pesticides from 10 per cent to 5%," Annavarapu said. Supporting and expanding Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for the agrochemical and fertiliser sectors will encourage domestic production and reduce reliance on imports, Annavarapu said.

Vimal Kumar, Managing Director, Best Agrolife Ltd said "Reducing GST on agrochemicals to 5 per cent from 18 per cent now would make these products more accessible, boosting productivity and profitability for farmers."

टोकलाई चाय अनुसंधान संस्थान व जलपाईझुडी जिला लघु चाय उत्पादक संघ के सहयोग से आरोगिक की जायेगी कार्यवाही

छोटे चाय उत्पादकों को प्रशिक्षित करेगा क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया

संस्करण, कोलकाता

अनुसंधान संस्थान और जलपाईझुडी जिला लघु चाय उत्पादक संघ के सहयोग से टोकलाई चाय, जलपाईझुडी जिले के किसानों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया और जलपाईझुडी जिला लघु चाय उत्पादक संघ के बीच एक समझौता जमा हुआ है।



क्रॉपलाइफ इंडिया के उपाध्यक्ष और जलपाईझुडी जिला लघु चाय उत्पादक संघ के अध्यक्ष डॉ. जयदीप कुमार शर्मा ने कहा कि यह समझौता छोटे चाय उत्पादकों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए है।

অফ ইন্ডিয়া (এফএসএসএফআই) দ্বারা পরিচালিত নির্দেশিকাগুলি পূর্ণ করার ক্ষেত্রে চা শিল্প একটি উন্নয়নে যাতে সরকারের সাথে কণিগিরে পড়েছে, বিবেচিত শুধুমাত্র অনুমোদিত শস্য সুরক্ষা পণ্যগুলির বাণিজ্য সম্পর্কিত। চা-উৎপাদিত অফলে সবুজ চা প্যাক এবং তৈরি চা পরীক্ষা করার জন্য পরীক্ষাকারীর অফিস একটি মূল চ্যালেঞ্জ ছিল, যা এফএসএসএফআই নিয়মগুলির সাথে অ-সম্মতির দিকে পরিচালিত করেছে। এই পরিচালিত মধ্যে, কুর চা চ্যাবরা সবচেয়ে বেশি ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত।



CropLife is a Network of Global Federations comprising of regional and national associations in **91 countries**.

CropLife India represents:

70%
of Market

95%
Molecules
Introduced

Combined
R & D spend of
6 billion USD



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