

National Conference 2026

AI for Agriculture Transformation

Driving Efficiency, Sustainability & Farmers' Prosperity

17th September (Thursday): 12:30 hrs onwards,
Regency Ball Room, Hyatt Regency, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi

Agenda

Registration – 1100 hrs onwards

Opening Plenary Session AI in Action: Transforming Agriculture Through Data, Intelligence & Innovation <i>The Session explores how advanced technologies are moving from theoretical concepts to practical, on-field applications. The discussion will focus on the practical deployment of intelligent technologies to empower farmers while highlighting the data-driven precision farming, localized AI advisory, supply chain efficiency, and climate resilience and also the role of crop protection industry.</i>		
1230 – 1330 hrs	Welcome Address	Mr. Anil Kakkar Board Director, CropLife India
	Session Moderator	Mr. Rajvir Rathi Bayer Crop Science
	The CIO's Playbook for AI-Ready Agriculture: From Data Foundations to Scalable Innovation	Mr. Umesh Mehta President, CIO Association & Co-founder Young Digital Managers Association
	AI & Cloud for Agriculture	Ms. Sapna Nauhria Director, Public Sector, Asia, Microsoft
		Mr. Amith Singhee Director, IBM Research India
	Satellite Intelligence and AI: Enabling Smarter Crop Protection & Precision Agriculture	Ms Ashwathi Nambiar Director of AI / ML, Satsure
	Precision Agriculture & Smart Farming	Mr. Srinivas Kuchibhotla Partner & Lead – Agribusiness, Technology & Transformation, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP
	Concluding Remarks	Mr. N. K. Rajavelu Board Director, CropLife India
1330 – 1430 hrs	Lunch	

Inaugural Session <i>The Inaugural Session will chart the vision for transforming Indian agriculture into a high-tech engine of economic growth via Artificial Intelligence and advanced crop protection technologies. Centred around the Viksit Bharat 2047 framework, the session highlights how innovation led new technologies supported with national strategies will transition farming from a legacy livelihood sector into a data-driven powerhouse</i>		
1430 – 1440 hrs	Lighting of Lamp & Welcome of the Dignitaries	
1440 – 1450 hrs	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Vice Chairman CropLife India
1450 – 1500 hrs	Theme Address	Chairman CropLife India
1500 – 1505 hrs	Release of CropLife India Knowledge Report & Health Practitioners' Handbook	
1505 – 1515 hrs	Knowledge Report: Key Findings & Insights	Mr. Sunjay Vuppuluri National Head, FASAR, at YES BANK
1515 – 1520 hrs	Video Clipping about CropLife India	Audio Visual Presentation
1520 – 1530 hrs	Address by the Guest of Honor	Shri Tummala Nageswara Rao Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Marketing, Co- operation and Handlooms & Textiles, Government of Telangana
1530 - 1550 hrs	Address by the Chief Guests	Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India
1550 – 1600 hrs	Concluding Remarks	Vice Chairman CropLife India
1600 – 1630 hrs	Tea Break	

Panel Discussion – Smart Crop Protection: *Integrating Active Ingredients, AI & Precision Agriculture*

The panel discussion will focus on the evolution toward sustainable food systems by blending chemical innovation with digital technologies. It addresses the combined deployment of targeted chemical formulations, machine learning, and advanced machinery to optimize farm yields while reducing ecological footprints.

Session Chair – Dr P K Singh & Session Co-chair – Dr Subhash Chand

1630 – 1730 hrs	Welcome Address	Mr Sajal Biswas Director – Business Development Nisso Chemical India LLP
	Global Perspective – Opportunities for India AI-Enabled Agriculture	Dr. Siang Hee Tan Executive Director, CropLife Asia
	Address by the Session Chair & Session Co chair	Dr. P. K. Singh Commissioner Agriculture, Government of India Dr Subhash Chand Secretary – CIB&RC Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India
	Expert Perspectives - Smart Spraying & Precision Equipment	Ms. Rucha Nanavati Chief of Advanced Technologies – Farm Equipment Business, Mahindra and Mahindra
	Session Moderator	Mr. Anirban Gangopadhyay Head Registration and Regulatory Affairs BASF Agriculture Solutions -South Asia
	Artificial Intelligence for Active Ingredients	Dr. Mohana Krishna Reddy Mudiam Director, Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT)
	Drone-enabled Precision Application	Mr. Abhishek Burman, Founder & CEO, General Aeronautics
	Soil Intelligence: Building the Foundation for AI-Driven Smart Crop Health	Mr. Srinivasa Karavadi Partner, Inera Crop Science
	Vote of Thanks	Mr. K S Thyagarajan Board Director, CropLife India

Valedictory Session – CEO's Panel

Shaping the Future of Agriculture: *What tomorrow holds for Indian Agrochemical Industry*

*This session explores the profound structural transformation positioning India as a **globally competitive crop protection manufacturing hub**. As the industry shifts towards adopting new technologies and the chemistries, the session will examine the strategic pivot toward **tech-driven, sustainable, and innovation-led growth models** shaping the future of Indian Agrochemical industry.*

1730 – 1830 hrs	Welcome Address	Mr Bharat Khemka Board Director, CropLife India
	Session Moderator	Ms Aashish Kasad Partner, Ernst & Young
	Panelists	Mr Ankur Aggarwal Executive Chairman and Managing Director, Crystal Crop Protection Ltd. Mr Mohan Babu Chief Operating Officer, Bayer CropScience Dr Gyanendra Shukla MD & CEO, Rallis India Ltd

		• Mr Rahul Dhanuka Managing Director, Dhanuka Agritech Ltd • Mr Giridhar Ranuva BASF Agricultural Solutions, India
	Concluding Remarks & Vote of Thanks	Mr Anil Jain Former Chairman, CropLife India
	Group Photograph	
1830 onwards	Dinner	