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EVENT LOCATIONS



This dossier pertains to the period September 2019 till end March 2021 listing all the activities which CCFI members carried out in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.....and more !!

INTRODUCTION

It is famously said that all great changes are preceded by chaos. The world, as we knew it a year ago, has evolved and adapted to disruption caused due to the pandemic. The crisis led to chaos, but it also brought with it a plethora of opportunities, transformations, and up gradations. Though it all happened suddenly, people have adjusted gradually to the changes brought on by the pandemic including, in the field of manufacturing and field operations particularly in Agriculture.

A SPECIAL NOTE ON COVID19: IMPACT ON INDIAN AGRICULTURE



Corona Virus Disease (COVID19) has affected globally all walks of life. Protecting lives of people suffering from the disease as well as frontline health responders have been the priority of nations. Governments have swung into action since the Corona virus attack created an unprecedented situation. India declared a lockdown from 22nd March 2019 practically for 8 months where certain activities including agricultural operations were partly excluded

Indian Agriculture affected 140 million farm households across the country .This impacted the economy of a very important segment to ensure sustainable food system during & in post-crisis period.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



As an immediate measure the Indian Finance Minister declared an Rs.1.7 trillion package, mostly to protect the vulnerable sections (including farmers) from any adverse impacts of the Corona pandemic. The announcement, among a slew of benefits, contained advance release of Rs. 2000 to bank accounts of farmers as income support under PM-KISAN scheme. The Government also raised the wage rate for workers engaged under the NMREGA scheme, world's largest wage guarantee scheme. Under *PradhanMantri Garib Kalyan Yojana* (Prime Minister's scheme for welfare of the

poor), has been announced. Additional grain allotments to registered beneficiaries were also announced till November 2019 relying on huge buffer stocks in our warehouses. Cash and food assistance to persons engaged in the informal sector, mostly migrants including farm labourers also been announced for which a separate PM-CARES (Prime Minister Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations) fund had been created.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had also announced specific measures that address the “burden of debt servicing” due to COVID19 pandemic. Agricultural term and crop loans have been granted a moratorium of three months by banking institutions with 3 percent concession on the interest rate of crop loans up to Rs.300,000 for borrowers with good repayment behaviour.

GUIDELINES FOR FARMERS



The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has issued state-wise guidelines for farmers to be followed during the lockdown period. The advisory mentions specific practices during harvest and threshing of various *rabi* (winter sown) crops as well as post-harvest, storage and marketing of the farm produce.

IMMEDIATE CHALLENGES



The farming Community faced challenges on account of peak of *rabi* season in India and crops like wheat, gram, lentil, mustard, etc. (including paddy in irrigated tracts) were at harvestable stage or almost reaching maturity. This was also the time when the farm harvests reach the *mandis* (market yards) for assured procurement operations by designated government agencies. Moreover, any severe disruption to the supply of perishable fruits and vegetables, dairy products, fish, etc. having mobilized to meet the increasing demand from a bulging middle class as well as urban and rural consumers, created irreparable damage to the supply chain. The migration of workers from few parts to their native places has also triggered panic buttons, as they are crucial for both harvesting operations and post-harvest handling of produce in storage and marketing centers. The Union Home Ministry, in a very significant move, has notified to exclude movement of farmers, farm laborers and harvesting and sowing-related machines from the purview of lockdown.

Making the food grains, fruits and vegetables and other essential items available to consumers, both in rural and urban areas, was the most critical challenge for Government machinery during the lockdown period. Smooth functioning of the supply chain, with adequate safety measures for the people involved, was of paramount importance. Transportation of public distribution system (PDS) items to last mile delivery agents, by both rail and road, was ensured by respective Government agencies. Distribution of the commodities to vulnerable population, while maintaining prescribed guidelines and protocol, particularly of social distancing, was effectively monitored.

As the ongoing lockdown coincided with the *rabi* harvesting season, farmers across the country looked up to the Government to ensure uninterrupted harvesting of the crops as well as smooth procurement operations. The Union Home Ministry's circular waiving restrictions on the inter- and intra-State movements of farmers/laborers, as well as harvesting and related farm machines, was indeed a step in right direction, while ensuring availability of labourers for critical farm operations.

The sale of dairy products; fish; poultry, etc. has also been hit during the lockdown period as the uptake by the organized industry players has been affected due to shortage of workforce and transport issues. Moreover there was apprehension to consume any non home cooked food.

As weather has been very erratic over past few months in many parts, harvested produce had to be protected from such risks.

MITIGATION MEASURES



With about 85 percent of Indian farm households being small and marginal farmers, and a significant part of the population being landless farm laborers, welfare measures to contain any damage from COVID definitely helped them with sincere implementation. The focus of the Government therefore was to protect the lives of every citizen. However, people living on agriculture and allied activities, mostly those losing their income from informal employment at this lockdown period, had to be provided with alternative avenues (cash transfers) till the economy bounced back.

To sustain the demand for agricultural commodities, investments in key logistics must be enhanced. Moreover, e-commerce and delivery companies and start-ups need to be encouraged with suitable policies and incentives.

The MSMEs running with raw materials from the agriculture and allied sector or otherwise, also needed special attention so that the rural economy did not collapse.

ROLE OF FPOs



To obviate the immediate concerns of scarcity of farm labor, policies must facilitate easy availability of machinery through state entities, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) or custom hiring centers (CHCs) with suitable incentives. It is also suggested to explore leveraging MGNREGA funds to pay part of the farm labour (with farmers paying the balance wage amount) to lessen the monetary burden on the farmer, while ensuring wage employment to the landless laborers and workers.

LOAN WAIVERS & CREDIT FLOW



Agriculture in India is a State subject, however agricultural activities, being interconnected in neighboring regions, agri-sops or benefits must not distort the market scenario. Waiver of farm loans, evidences suggest, have not fully benefitted the majority of small and marginal farmers. Rather, it affects the future credit behavior of the borrowers and thus negatively impacts the agricultural credit culture altogether. As the *kharif* (rainy/wet) season of 2021 is fast approaching, institutional lending of crop loans should be expanded and facilitated for smooth (and sufficient) flow of credit to borrowing farmers. Agri-inputs – seeds, fertilizers, agro-chemicals, etc. – have to be pre-positioned for easy availability. Private sector must play a significant role with necessary policy support.

Relaxation of the norms by Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) allowing farmers to sell their produce beyond the designated *mandis* will certainly ease the burdens of farmers. State Governments must gear up their machineries for smooth procurement operations of farmers' marketable surpluses at MSP (minimum support price) or through other price support schemes.

It will be thus very appropriate to focus attention on the agriculture sector as a growth engine and also to bring resilience in food (and nutrition) security. At this critical stage,

where climate change is already adversely impacting the agriculture sector, productive investments, including on research and innovation, would be very purposeful.

Structural reforms such as land leasing, contract farming and private agricultural markets, etc. have long been advocated to bring enhanced investments into the agriculture sector and to push its growth. However, there has not been uniform implementation of these legislations by State Governments and so the full potential of the sector is unrealized. These reforms need significant political will.

FOCUS ON NUTRITIONAL SECURITY



With a burgeoning population, there is a corresponding rise in food demand in India. However, the negative externalities of the Green Revolution, particularly the environmental trade-offs and staple cereals fundamentalism, have since been realized. It is thus desirable to switch over to a suitable model with a far stronger nutrition focus where diets are more diverse. A post-COVID situation offers that unique opportunity to repurpose the existing food and agriculture policies for a healthier population.

EXPORT POTENTIAL



There have been global concerns, rather speculations, on restriction of exports of agricultural commodities by a few global players. India, being trade-surplus on commodities like rice, meat, milk products, tea, honey, horticultural products, etc. may seize the opportunities by exporting such products with a stable agri-exports policy. India's agricultural exports are valued at 38 billion US Dollars in 2018-19 and can rise up further with conducive policies. Development of export-supportive infrastructure and logistics would need investments and support of the private sector that will be in the long term interests of farmers in boosting their income.

2021 LOOKS PROMISING



Many climate models predict a favourable current year. This is indeed a good news in the COVID scenario, assuming agriculture can practice largely unscathed.

Government of India has now increased its focus on nutrition (besides food)- security and raising farmers' income (rather than enhancing farm productivity). Changing the consumer behavior with suitable programs and incentives is already in the agenda. For all these to happen, the existing landscape of policy incentives that favor the two big staples of wheat and rice has to change. Focus has to be on horticultural crops, dairy poultry, bee keeping etc.

We thrust this year would be on Indigenous Manufacturing, Less dependent on imports of technical and Readymade formulations with increased exports globally to make India a major production hub for Agrochemicals.

Designing agricultural policies, post-COVID19 scenario, must include these imperatives for a food systems transformation in India.

ROLE OF CROP CARE FEDERATION OF INDIA

Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) is not only the oldest but an apex federation of over 50 Indian Manufactures dealing in Agriculture inputs like pesticides, fertilizers, seeds and farm equipment with Pan India presence. The basic purpose is of advancement of Crop protection and safety of farmers during Field operations and storage.

CCFI serves as a responsible interface between Government and Industry at all levels including farmers, researchers and scientists. We are instrumental in framing of Governmental policies, proposed market regulatory reforms, technologies adoption, and research and extension, information technique in agriculture and in generating rural employment for the benefit of our stake holders namely corporate trade, channel partners, farmers and their contract labour.

It is our endeavor to ensure farmers prosperity by taking up extension work and demonstration to help small and marginal farmers to minimizing their crop losses and increase their income.

We emphasize to train women farmers' who play a key role in both agriculture and non agriculture sector particularly in grain storage, Dairy and Bee keeping activity.

ROLE OF MEMBERS ON “MAKE IN INDIA”



Our members represent major agrochemical corporates who not only have their manufacturing facilities but constitute almost over 90% of the exports to 130 Countries globally giving credence to the fact that Indian Agrochemicals are well accepted across the world.

This is in line with government policy “Atmanirbhar Bharat” or promoting “Make in India”. The effort is to become self reliant, curtail surge in imports primarily from China which had till now made Indian manufacturing non viable in certain molecules. The business model of our members is fundamentally focused on not only manufacturing Technical grade but also intermediates and formulations which are presently being imported.

The geographical coverage of our members is in deep pockets of the country throughout the consumption seasons. We give the options to the farmer to use the best possible agrochemicals based on the recommendation in the Package of Practices by Agricultural Universities and State Governments.

Another area of misconception is an Indian Research and Development (R&D). Our members spend lot of time and money on research and development to develop new technologies indigenously.

PESTICIDES IMPORT: COUNTRY WISE



India's Pesticides Import. Alarming Acceleration!

Rank	Country	Apr- Nov 2019	Apr- Nov 2020	Growth
1	China	3467	4328	25%
2	USA	826	970	17%
3	Singapore	178	580	226%
4	Japan	331	454	37%
5	Germany	219	428	95%
6	Others	1871	1849	-1%
Total Import		6892	8609	25%

Source: Ministry of Commerce Database(Accessed on 25th December 2020)

Unit: Rs. Crore

- 50% of the imports comes from China. It was <10% 15 years ago.
- India 's pesticides import has surged 25% in the first 8 months of current fiscal due mainly to import friendly regulations.
- Imports mainly constituted formulation Imports by MNCs and traders.
- Import surge lowers domestic industry's capacity utilization and increase cost. As the scale and the cost suffer, export competitiveness would erode. A double whammy.
- Unless regulated with tariff and fiscal measures, increase imports would undermine government's efforts towards Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Atmanirbhar road map towards \$5 trillion economy requires a strong domestic manufacturing sector. India's manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP has slipped from 15.2% in 2016 to 13.7% in 2019 (Source: World bank). This must change.

CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF AGROCHEMICALS



Though India rank 2nd in the World agricultural production of agrochemicals after USA, China and Japan, with global population expected to cross 9bn by 2050 it would be necessary to produce 50% more food, however only 4% of additional land will come under cultivation to meet this demand. It would mean thereby that food and nutrition need of the growing population require a sustainable approach that put thrust on

increase in production against the background of lower yields and decreasing farm sizes.

With the emergence of the newer pest India remains one of the lowest in terms of per capita consumption of pesticides at 400gm /ha as against 5 to 7 Kg /ha in UK and around 13 Kg/ha in China .

Country	Value of Agri output(\$bn,2017)	Pesticides Use (tones,2016)	Number of Pesticides Active Ingredients(technical)Registered
China	968	1,763,000	681
India	401	50,410	279
EU	239	368,588	489
USA	193	407,779	323
Brazil	94	377,176	477
Japan	57	51,006	583
Australia	36	50,922	561
World	3342	4116,832	NA

Source:
World Bank Database (accessed on 3rd September 2018)
FAOST at (accessed on 19th September 2018)

India's share in global agricultural output is 12% but India's share in global pesticides use is just around 1%. Countries with smaller agricultural area and production use more pesticides than India- both in variety and volume.

The use of crop protection chemicals can increase crop productivity by mitigating crop losses due to pest and diseases. Insecticides are the largest Sub- Segment of agrochemicals with 55% market share where as herbicides constitute 21% as the fastest growing segment because of non availability of skilled labour on all crops of economic importance like cotton, paddy, soyabean, sugarcane, vegetable and wheat, besides Cereal crops, Oil seeds, Fiber crops, Horticulture and plantation.

NON ESSENTIAL AGRO CHEMICAL IMPORTS MUST STOP



1. Unfair trade practices & cash rebate by countries like China who have increased the prices of raw material to India and reduced the formulation prices

- substantially, which resulted in several Indian producers to stop domestic production of such products.
2. China is been offering 13% to 16% export tax rebate/ cash incentive on export of Agrochemicals to India.
 3. Imports under "OTHERS" category are 86% as few molecules are listed in the Custom Tariff Manual.
 4. Imported quantity by traders is not for their captive use but for resale which has to be curtailed.
 5. To misguided the "CAROTAR" 2020 notification though material is physically shipping from China, showing High Seas Sail (HSS) and invoicing from other countries to avoid disclosing "source of origin" of such consignment.
 6. A false impression is being created of shortages of agrochemicals in India.
 7. Major MNCs have invested in China and have no stakes in India.
 8. Import of Agrochemicals this year 2020-21 is estimated at Rs.12500 Cr. from previous years figures of Rs. 9000Cr. (growth by 38%).
 9. Presently the custom duty on Imports is 10% both on Technical and formulations, which gives no incentive to manufacture in India. There is no value addition in India by importing formulations.
 10. There is no utilization of domestic manufacture facility and no employment generation by such imports.
 11. To counter this anomaly we suggest revising upwards custom duty on all formulation Imports to 30% and custom duty on import of technical to 20%
 12. India has nearly 35% unutilized formulation capacities with various companies including small scale formulators. India has the technology to manufacture variety of formulations, including EC, WB, WG, EW, Granuals and other modern formulation. Despite capabilities and capacities available, India continues to import large volume of formulation, which needs to be stopped.
 13. The capacity for chemicals used for grain storage is in addition to this figure.

TOP 20 AGROCHEMICALS COMPANIES IN THE WORLD (mn \$)

Rank	Company	Sales in 2019	Country
1	Bayer Crop Science	10374	Germany
2	Syngenta	10118	China/Swiss
3	BASF	7123	Germany
4	Corteva	6256	USA
5	FMC	4610	USA
6	UPL	4461	India
7	ADAMA	3611	China
8	Sumitomo Chemicals	2575	Japan
9	Nufarm	2517	Australia

10	Jiangsu Yangnong	1251	China
11	Rainbow Chemical	880	China
12	Huapont Life Science	757	China
13	Nanjing Red Sun	691	China
14	Wynca Chemicals	690	China
15	Kumiai Chemical	663	Japan
16	Nissan Chemical	655	Japan
17	Lianyungang Liben Crop Science	617	China
18	Lier Chemical	586	China
19	Fuhua Tongda	572	China
20	Hubei Xingfa Chemicals	523	China

Source: Phillips McDougall (Accessed on 23rd September 2020)

INDIAN AGRICULTURE



Agriculture today is source of livelihood for 54% of Indian population. India has the second largest arable land of 161m/ha and has the highest irrigated area under irrigation (91m/ha). However the importance of rainfall can be gauged from the fact that 62% of the area cultivated is dependent on monsoon. During 2020-21 all India received 158.5 mm rainfall during pre monsoon 2020 season, which was 20% above the normal figures.

India ranks 2nd largest in world agriculture production with diverse agro climatic condition. No other country grows as many crops as we do because of agro bio diversity. We are fortunate to have abundant sunlight throughout the year. As per government figures almost 14 Cr farmers are involved in direct agriculture and horticulture (Vegetable, Fruits and Flowers) besides Poultry farming, Bee keeping, Livestock (Milk, Fish, Egg and Meat) and mixed farming.

THE FARM LAWS

The reform package introduced by the Government, combines three laws, all introduce through the ordinance route

- First the government has amended the Essential Commodities Act to remove the existing restriction on stocking food produce.

- Second, it has introduced a new law, The Farmer Producer Trade and Commerce Ordinance to end the monopoly of the Agricultural Produce Market Committees and allow anyone to purchase and sell agricultural produce.
- Third, The Farmer (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, has been enacted to legalize contract farming, so that big business and companies can cultivate vast swaths of land on contract basis.

In the Rs. 20 Lakh Cr relief packages announced by the Government, importance has been given to the agriculture sector due to which farmers will be benefited.

ESTIMATE OF FOOD PRODUCTION 2020-21



Second Advance Estimate of production of Food Grains for 2020-21

Crop	Target 2020-21	2 nd Adv. Est. 2020-21
Rice	119.60	120.32
Wheat	108.00	109.24
Coarse Cereals	47.80	49.36
Cereals	275.40	278.92
Total Pulses	25.60	24.42
Total Food grains	576.40	582.26
Oilseeds	369.98	373.11
Sugarcane	3900.00	3976.57
Cotton	360.00	365.44
Jute & Mesta	105.00	97.77

Horticulture Crops: All India

Crop	Est. 2019--20
Fruits	100.44
Vegetables	189.46
Flowers	2.99
Plantation Crops	16.03
Spices	9.75
Total crops	318.67

CHALLENGES OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE



The countries' agricultural output has not been able to keep pace with the growing demand for oilseeds and pulses which are being imported. Significant improvements in agricultural supply chain particularly for perishable goods have saved a lot of crops from deteriorating.

Adoption of new technology especially farm mechanization, use of power sprayer, use of drone application in locust effected area can facilitate increasing productivity. Another area requiring focus is in post harvest facility, warehousing logistics and special cold storage are need of the hour.

ENSURING POSITIVE IMAGE FOR AGROCHEMICALS INDUSTRY



We strive to promote and safe guard the positive image of the industry against the onslaught of negative publicity spread by pseudo activists, scientists with ulterior motive and foreign NGO's who are unsuccessfully trying to malign the agrochemical industry, Indian agriculture and our farming community. We strongly feel, this is undermining the effort of the Indian agrochemicals industry and the Indian farmers who have ensured increased quantum production, resulting in self sufficiency of food in the country.

It is worthwhile to mention that several vested interests in the world, who want to keep India backward, are financing these NGO's for publishing blatant lies to create fear psychosis not only among the rural masses, but also educated urban customers.

NGO's claim that use of crop protective chemicals has increased cancer cases in India. In reality, WHO has not listed any pesticides to be carcinogenic to humans in Group- I list which contains 120 substances considered to be carcinogenic to humans. In states like Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra which have major consumption of agro chemicals the incidence of cancer is lower than all India average. However, Sikkim with negligible use of pesticides and claiming to be organic state has one of the highest incidences of cancer in India.

NGO's also blame that farmer's suicides are rampant in Indian Agriculture. Suicides whether by farmers or non farmers deserve attention and understanding. In terms of share of profession, share of farmer's suicide has decreased over the last few years from 16% in 2004 to 9.4% in 2015 as compared to urban community.

PROMOTIONAL AND AWARENES CAMPAIGNS BY CCFI



Normally awareness campaigns are a measure of how well known a brand, firm, or product is perceived by the end user. CCFI adopted promotional tools like educational films to showcase the activities undertaken by us and our members. We have exclusively developed animation films in different regional languages highlighting various precautions while using agrochemicals right from the time they are procured from authorized dealers, their transportation and storage. Importance of label and leaflet was of immense importance for knowing crop pest matrix, the dosages recommended, steps to make spraying solution etc.

In all our events we emphasized to totally avoid tobacco, smoking and drinking during spraying operation particularly by the contract labour. We also discouraged mixing of two or more molecules in the field. Rather the farmers should be using recommended registered combination products available in the market. We distributed safety kits and ran a competition in several states to reward those operators who used them while spraying.

We have also released four Radio spots, of 30 Sec each, which have also been aired on FM channels.

Crop Care magazines, our safety posters and hand bills in other languages were distributed for easy recall of safety aspects by the farmers. We also prepare our pocket Directory for use by our members listing important government contacts in Center and States.

GROWING AGROCHEMICAL EXPORTS

India's Chemicals Export Agrochemicals Lead the Growth. Faces Fresh Challenges								
Sr. No	Export Intensive Segments	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Growth	CAGR
1	Agrochemicals	1966	2141	2559	3157	3350	70%	11%
2	Pharmaceutical Drugs	16242	16050	16450	18300	19826	22%	4%
3	Dyes and intermediates	2055	2108	2404	2809	2880	40%	7%
India's Total Chemicals export		32165	32779	37560	43761	45022	40%	7%
Source: Ministry of Commerce data base (Accessed on 17 th January 2021)								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the chemicals sector , agrochemicals export had registered the highest growth in last five years. • Sustained performance on the export front requires higher domestic production and robust backward integration. This is under threat now for agrochemicals. • There is surge in import of agrochemicals in this fiscal (2020-21)- enabled by ill conceived policies. 50% comes from China. It adversely impacts domestic manufacturing. Poor capacity utilization pushes up cost of production affecting our exports competitiveness. <p>Needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Tariff measures to check imports. 2) Review of import registration/ regulatory policies. <p>The aim is to achieve Atmanirbhar and enhance exports.</p>								

RECOMMENDATION AS PER PACKAGE OF PRACTICES



Importance of package of practices was emphasized with clear directive to use correct dosage and only on crops recommended. The idea is primarily to educate the farmers of the recommendation on soil type, land preparation, seed varieties & seed rate, seed treatment, time of sowing, preparation of nursery (wherever applicable), spacing

between the rows and plant to plant, inter cropping, irrigation, use of fertilizers, use of agrochemicals (Insecticides, Fungicides, Herbicides), duration of the crops etc. The packages of practices are prepared by the Agricultural Universities of different states based on their field trials separately for Kharif and Rabi seasons.

During training programs, medical experts were of the firm view that the person spraying pesticide should totally avoid liquor, tobacco and smoking as these cause retinal pressure, hypotension, vomiting, diarrhea and salvation. Normally it is being practiced by agricultural contract labour engaged by farm owners. This is being done to stimulate them and cover larger areas during the day long operation which needs to be totally discouraged.

The farmers were convinced that while actual spraying, over 99.5% is water and with protective gear there is no chance of any inhalation or of any accident. The farmers at all location were very receptive, intelligent and interested to understand the correct procedure for spraying.

DEMOLISHING MYTHS ON SPURIOUS PESTICIDES



Indian agrochemical industry has grown exponentially over the years both in domestic consumption and exports. This has been possible on account of quality manufacturing by indigenous producers meeting global standards.

Today with Rs.55000 Cr of annual market, over Rs. 29000 Cr is exported to several countries. We have the capability and capacity to promote "Make in India" policy. However, a false impression is being created by vested interests who are encouraging cheaper imports detrimental to genuine Indian Manufacturers that almost 40% pesticides are spurious or substandard in the market.

The reference frequently made on the basis of a FICCI report of 2015, wherein this figure is always quoted. We are of the view that this is absolutely untrue and inaccurate statement, but tarnishes the image of all Indian manufacturers who have reputation in both domestic market and exports. We also need to mention that all reputed companies

are marketing their agrochemicals through licensed authorized dealers and distributors and strict action is taken for non-compliance of any statutory requirement.

With this in mind we and our members filed RTI applications in all the states through Directorate of Agriculture to collate authentic response on this as word 'spurious' does not figure in the Insecticides Act 1968: only term used is "misbranded" in Sec 3(k).

We sought information for last two years 2017-18 and 2018-19. The summarized findings were analyzed methodically. Of 54932 samples drawn from various districts/states only 1527 samples were substandard meaning thereby that only 2.78% samples were not meeting specification.

Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Tomar has presented similar figures in Parliament stating that during last 5 years 338182 samples were drawn out of which only 3971 sample (1.171%) did not meet specification / sub-standard, where prosecution was initiated (Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 309 Answered on 15th September, 2020).

Claim that upto 50% pesticides sold in the market in certain areas by companies is over exaggerated. This contention is totally false. As per all India Dealers Associations, Pesticides not meeting specification or sample failing should be between 2-3% only, for which blatant propaganda is being carried out by vested interests.

Bio products are not pesticides. We should not confuse with biopesticides laced with pesticides which are flooding the market for which sampling and prosecution should be made mandatory. This is a different category all together and not part of our current survey.

This also tarnishes the image of the Indian Agrochemicals industry where we are committed to manufacture quality products totally meeting specification. This we feel is only to encourage higher cheaper imports which are detrimental to genuine Indian Manufacturers besides there is unnecessary outgo of foreign exchange.

IMPORT LOBBY MISLEADING FACTS



The industry for "Make in India" Government of India policy is all geared up for indigenous production. We would not like to encourage the import lobby on this pretext.

Suitable guidelines may be issued from GOI to stop import of substandard formulations particularly from China. The industry has been demanding since 2018 imposition of ad valorem custom duty of 20- 30% certain molecules.

Indian manufacturers have unutilized capacity in their multipurpose plants, capable of manufacturing these molecules which are presently being dumped in Indian market. It is estimated that only 65% of the installed capacity is presently utilized.

Inferior and substandard quality products finding their way into the country, to the detriment of Indian farmers. The quality of Indian products are found to be even better than that of original producer, in terms of active content and purity profile.

The correct percentage of such sub standard material is now not at all speculative. Companies have to also organize raids and take legal action whenever such an incidence is brought to their notice to safe guard their brands. Unfortunately in the recent past no such worthwhile activities have been initiated, giving the impression that these are being encouraged by vested interest. Yet we are harping on this to our own disadvantage.

As you would appreciate imported pesticides formulation are majorly imported by Multi National Companies and traders. Presently all reputed companies are marketing their products through licensed authorized distributors and dealers and it is their responsibility to safe guards their Brand Image.

Products "misbranded" are primarily on account of margins which are as high as 200% on proprietary or monopolistic molecules or brands imported.

NO DATA EXCLUSIVITY FOR AGROCHEMICALS VIEWPOINT OF CROP CARE FEDERATION OF INDIA

Data exclusivity refers to protection of data submitted by originator (MNC from developed countries) to the regulatory authority for market approval of agrochemicals. Data exclusivity is different from patent protection, which is an exclusive right that prevents others from commercially exploiting the patented innovation for 20 years under TRIPS agreement India allows this protection.

Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) opposes the renewal attempts by multinational companies (MNCs) and importers to achieve data exclusivity regime in India. The agrochemicals industry in India is export intensive, earning valuable foreign exchange byway a of trade surplus. In last five years Indian agrochemical industry earned a trade surplus of over Rs. 50000 Cr. (7-bn) to the country.

Data exclusivity is independent of and can be either in addition to or in lieu of patent protection. It could operate outside the the realm of product patent for patentability. It is one of the prime means for product monopoly beyond patent protection. Data exclusivity

delays the entry of generic version agrochemicals. It creates a Monopoly condition in favour of MNCs.

In 1995, India joined the WTO and the TRIPS agreement. Indian laws do not provide data exclusivity for pharmaceutical and agrochemicals this is perfectly legitimate. Remember the TRIPS agreement does not require countries to grant data exclusivity.

ROLE OF GOVERNMENT



It was suggested that the government needs to be more sensitive to the need of farming community, especially of the small land holders and of poor, living in the backward fragile and marginal areas. With our effort, Govt. has agreed to allow a three year period for dealers to complete their diploma Courses in Agriculture.

ROLE OF MEDIA IN SOCIAL AWARENESS



The role of media could be very effective in addressing certain misgiving of agriculture to the community. The report by media is usually seen to be restricted to raising food prices, shortage of food or certain disasters, casualty death etc which needs factual verification. In fact success stories and interviews with the industry by the media can have positive impact on the policy makers, researchers and consumers.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT SCHEME

1. eNAM

National Agriculture Market (eNAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.

VISION

To promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, removing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promoting real time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.

MISSION

Integration of APMCs across the country through a common online market platform to facilitate pan-India trade in agriculture commodities, providing better price discovery through transparent auction process based on quality of produce along with timely online payment.

2. Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)"

The Government with a view to augment the income of the farm families is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)". The Scheme is in effect from 01.12.2018.

The revised Scheme is expected to cover around 2 crore more farmers, increasing the coverage of PM-KISAN to around 14.5 crore beneficiaries, with an estimated expenditure by Central Government of Rs. 87,217.50 crores for year 2019-20.

With a view to provide income support to all land holding eligible farmer families, the Government has launched PM-KISAN. The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.

Earlier, under the scheme, financial benefit has been provided to all Small and Marginal landholder farmer families with total cultivable holding upto 2 hectares with a benefit of Rs.6000 per annum per family payable in three equal installments, every four months.

Details required from the beneficiary

Responsibility of identifying the landholder farmer family eligible for benefit under the scheme shall be of the State/UT Government.

3. Krishonnati (Krishi Unnati) Yojana

"Green Revolution – Krishonnati Yojana" is an the Umbrella Scheme in agriculture sector that has been implemented since 2016-17 by clubbing several schemes / missions under one umbrella scheme.

The Umbrella scheme comprises of 11 Schemes/Missions. These schemes look to develop the agriculture income of farmers by enhancing production, productivity and better returns on produce.

4. Soil Health Card (SHC)

Soil Health Card (SHC) is a Government of India's scheme promoted by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. It is being implemented in all the State and Union Territory Governments. A SHC is meant to give each farmer soil nutrient status of his/her holding and advice him/her on the dosage of fertilizers and also the needed soil amendments, that s/he should apply to maintain soil health in the long run.

5. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

Objectives of the programme

- To incentivize the states that increase their investment in Agriculture and allied sectors provide flexibility and autonomy to the State.
- To ensure the preparation of Agriculture Plans for the districts and states
- To address the agriculture and allied sectors in an integrated manner
- To achieve the goal of reducing the yield gaps in important crops by maximize returns to the farmers

6. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)

Out of about 141 m.Ha of net area sown in the country, about 65 million hectare (or 45%) is presently covered under irrigation. Substantial dependency on rainfall makes cultivation in unirrigated areas a high risk, less productive profession. Empirical evidences suggest that assured or protective irrigation encourages farmers to invest more in farming technology and inputs leading to productivity enhancement and increased farm income.

The overreaching vision of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is to ensure access to some means of protective irrigation to all agricultural farms in the country, to produce 'per drop more crop', thus bringing much desired rural prosperity.

Objectives

- The broad objectives of PMKSY include
- Achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level (preparation of district level and, if required, sub district level water use plans).

- Enhance the physical access of water on the farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation (Har Khet ko pani).
- Integration of water source, distribution and its efficient use, to make best use of water through appropriate technologies and practices.
- Improve on - farm water use efficiency and enhance the adoption of precision - irrigation (More crop per drop).
- Enhance recharge of aquifers and introduce sustainable water conservation practices like watershed approach towards soil and water conservation, regeneration of ground water and arresting runoff.
- Promote extension activities relating to water harvesting and explore the feasibility of reusing treated municipal waste water for peri - urban agriculture.
- Attract greater private investments in irrigation.

Programme implementation

- Krishi sinchayee Yojana with an outlay of Rs.50,000 crores for a period of 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20) is to achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level.
- All the State and Union Territories including North Eastern State are covered under the programme.

7. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana

The Central Sector Scheme - SAMPADA (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) was approved by the cabinet in May 2017 for the period of 2016-20 coterminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. The scheme has now been renamed as the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)".

It is an umbrella scheme incorporating ongoing schemes of the Ministry like Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure, etc. and also new schemes like Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters, Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages, Creation / Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities.

8. Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan

Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) is an umbrella scheme aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce.

9. Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants

Medicinal Plants form the major resource base of our indigenous health care traditions. The outreach and acceptability of AYUSH systems, both nationally as well as globally, are dependent on uninterrupted availability of quality medicinal plants based raw material. More than 90% of the species used in trade continue to be sourced from the wild of which about 2/3 rd are harvested by destructive means.

Development and cultivation of medicinal plants has been hence covered as a component under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission.

Objectives

- Support cultivation of medicinal plants which is the key to integrity, quality, efficacy and safety of the AYUSH systems of medicines by integrating medicinal plants in the farming systems, offer an option of crop diversification and enhance incomes of farmers.
- Cultivation following the Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACPs) to promote standardization and quality assurance and thereby enhance acceptability of the AYUSH systems globally and increase exports of value added items like herbal extracts, phyto-chemicals, dietary supplements, cosmeceuticals and AYUSH products.
- Support setting up processing clusters through convergence of cultivation, warehousing, value addition and marketing and development of infrastructure for entrepreneurs to set up units in such clusters.
- Implement and support certification mechanism for quality standards, Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), Good Collection Practices (GCP), and Good Storage Practices (GSP).
- Promote partnership, convergence and synergy among stakeholders involved in R&D, processing and marketing in the public as well as private sector at national, regional, state and sub state level.

10. National Mission For Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rainfed areas focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management and synergizing resource conservation.

NMSA will cater to key dimensions of 'Water use efficiency', 'Nutrient Management' and 'Livelihood diversification' through adoption of sustainable development pathway by progressively shifting to environmental friendly technologies, adoption of energy efficient equipments, conservation of natural resources, integrated farming, etc.

Schemes under NMSA

- Rainfed Area Development (RAD): RAD is being implemented by RFS Division
- Soil Health Management (SHM): SHM is being implemented by INM Division
- Sub Mission on Agro Forestry (SMAF): SMAF is being implemented by NRM Division
- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY): PKVY is being implemented by INM Division
- Soil and Land Use Survey of India (SLUSI): Being implemented by RFS Division
- National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA): Being implemented by RFS Division
- Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER): Being implemented by INM Division
- National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF): Being implemented by INM Division
- Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute (CFQC&TI): implemented by INM Division

11. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

The Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), an initiative to promote organic farming in the country, was launched by the NDA government in 2015.

According to the scheme, farmers will be encouraged to form groups or clusters and take to organic farming methods over large areas in the country.

The aim is to form 10,000 clusters over the next three years and bring about five lakh acres of agricultural area under organic farming. The government also intends to cover the certification costs and promote organic farming through the use of traditional resources.

To avail the scheme, each cluster or group must have 50 farmers willing to take up organic farming under the PKVY and possess a total area of at least 50 acres. Each farmer enrolling in the scheme will be provided INR 20,000 per acre by the government spread over three years time.

12. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is the government sponsored crop insurance scheme that integrates multiple stakeholders on a single platform.

Objectives

- To provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases.
- To stabilise the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming.
- To encourage farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices.
- To ensure flow of credit to the agriculture sector.

14. Gramin Bhandaran Yojna

Objective of this Scheme:

Create scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas.

To meet the requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce and agricultural inputs.

Promotion of grading, standardization and quality control of agricultural produce to improve their marketability.

Prevent distress sale immediately after harvest by providing the facility of pledge financing and marketing credit by strengthening agricultural marketing infrastructure in the country.

15. Livestock insurance Scheme

This scheme aims to provide protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death and to demonstrate the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people and popularize it with the ultimate goal of attaining qualitative improvement in livestock and their products.

16. Scheme on Fisheries Training and Extension

It was launched to provide training for fishery sector so as to assist in undertaking fisheries extension programmes effectively.

17. National Scheme on Welfare of Fishermen

This scheme was launched to provide financial assistance to fishers for construction of house, community hall for recreation and common working place. It also aims to install tube-wells for drinking water and assistance during lean period through saving cum relief component.

18. Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF)

The government approved a dedicated Rs 5,000 crore fund to bring more land area under micro-irrigation as part of its objective to boost agriculture production and farmers income.

The fund has been set up under NABARD, which will provide this amount to states on concessional rate of interest to promote micro-irrigation, which currently has a coverage of only 10 million hectares as against the potential of 70 million hectares.

19. Drought Management Plan,

Drought connotes a situation of water shortage for human, cattle and agriculture primarily on account of, though not limited to, significant shortfall in rainfall.

Purpose and scope of the Plan

Drought Management Plan (DMP) is designed to help reduce the time taken in mobilizing resources for an effective response and enable a harmonious relationship among stakeholders. The goal of DMP is to facilitate overall management of the drought situation in a structured and planned manner with the most efficient and optimum utilisation of time, effort and resources so that adverse impact on the community is minimised.

Income transfers, such as the one under the PM- Kisan scheme, which hands out Rs 6,000 annually to landed farming households, will also be included in the income calculation.

The government proposal itself aims to raise the share of farm to non farm income to 70:30 from 60:40, according to the draft proposal being steered by an interministerial team of bureaucrats.

The proposal ambitiously talks of creating huge monolithic farm clusters in various parts of the country. Each cluster will specialize in specific crops, around which a value chain would be created. For instance, each cluster will have markets, warehouses and processing units for value addition. Livestock and rearing of small ruminants as well as scaling up of credit to rural self- help groups are some of the areas the proposal mention. It also talks of further rationalizing interstate farm trade and abolition of mandi fees.

EDUCATIONAL FILMS CAMPAIGN



To create awareness among the farming community, promotional tools like educational films, technical literature, posters and plays (Nukked Natak) were enacted for better understanding of the theme.

Our films highlighted various precautions to be taken for agrochemicals - like always taking original invoice from the dealer, proper transportation, storage under lock & key, keeping out of the reach of children, reading label and leaflet before use, measuring recommended quantity correctly, mixing thoroughly the spray solution, not using combination of insecticides, spraying along the direction of the wind, totally avoiding tobacco, smoking, and drinking during spraying operations, wearing complete protective safety gear, taking bath and washing clothes, antidotes & first aid procedure, destroying of empty containers etc.

In our plan this year is to prepare a video film on our members focus on "Make in India" and endorsing the government policy of "Atamnibhar Bharat".

We now propose to develop short 2 minutes videos for Whats App groups which have greater spread and credibility. Also plans are afoot to tie-up with agri channels for reaching deep pockets and mass base of farmers.

STRATEGY TO DOUBLE FARMERS' INCOME



In 2016 Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi unveiled a strategy to double the income of the farmers by 2022. To achieve this goal, India has implemented a series of agriculture policy and actions since last year, including but not limited to, issuance of soil health cards, crop insurance system, irrigation infrastructure construction, water conservation projects to ensure "More Crop Per Drop", national agriculture market project and loan policy. CCFI at every forum in both rural and urban areas has been highlighting and promoting these endeavors. The Collectorate, Agriculture Department officials, Scientists from Universities and experts actively participate in all the events. Ministry of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare stressed that to double the

income of farmer, it was necessary to improve the farmers awareness on agrochemicals, reduce crop losses (both during pre and post harvest), and guide farmers on proper & judicious use of agrochemicals.

To enable farm produce to be internationally competitive innovative farming practices incorporating the concept of globally accepted Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) within the framework of commercial agricultural production for long term improvement and sustainability is essential. GAP in addition to improving the yield and quality of the products, also has environmental and social dimensions. Implementation of GAP would promote optimum utilization of water resources and eco-friendly agriculture. Its social dimension would be to protect the agricultural workers' health from improper use of chemicals and pesticides. CCFI regards this as a opportune time to promote GAP by taking into account not only the quality and quantity of the produce obtained from a unit area but also care is taken in integrating pre-harvest, nutrient management, pest management, harvesting and post harvest handling.

Revision of MSP by government for major agri commodities by 1.5 times of cost of production would also be a facilitator in increasing farmers income.

The Committee on Doubling farmers income, set up by the government in 2016 calculated that agriculture GDP needed to grow 10.4% per annum in real terms (that is, adjusted for inflation) from 2016-17 to 2022-23 for income to double. In contrast, the agriculture sector roughly grew 2.9% a year during the previous five year of the Modi government. Economists have calculated that for the remaining period until 2022-23, the farm sector needs to register manifold growth to make good the shortfall. This message has percolated down at all village level and the extension workers, KVKs, agricultural universities and state government officials are all geared up to achieve this task, which is now looking achievable by 2022

IMPORTANCE OF FARMERS TRAINING

Mascot

Crop Care Federation of India during the last few years has taken up the task of ensuring that the farming community and their contract labour are trained for proper and judicious use of pesticides and also to reach out in those areas which are affected by outbreak of sudden pest epidemic anywhere in the country. CCFI and its members project themselves and follow the dictum of protecting the environment, human beings, animals and crops.

Farmers training and awareness program has been our key focus area. No other association has taken such a lead on proper and judicious use of agrochemicals both as part of training and field demonstration. We are grateful to our member companies who

have been our fourth coming in not only deputing their field representative but also funding towards the cost of complete PPE kits. We distributed free kits in an eco friendly jute bag comprising of Headgear, Goggles, face mask, Gloves and Apron. It also included a branded T- shirt of CCFI carrying mascot with the theme "Jagrat Kisan – Khushal Kisan" and our logo.

As part of training we have conducted live dummy demonstration using water, with critical precautions in making spray solution, type of nozzle used, upkeep of spraying equipment , following direction of wind, explain label and leaflet etc. Knowledge on various pest and disease on cotton, rice vegetable , sugarcane, soybean, wheat to name, few are shared with gathering. Focusing on sucking pest like white fly and borer like pink ball worm which have been the most critical pest on cotton. On paddy the focus was on stem borers, leaf folders and brown plant hoppers.

The use of Agrochemicals has increased considerably primarily due to the fact that they are extremely effective in controlling various pest disease and weeds. We are happy to note that the adoption of using safety kits has resulted in minimal inhalation cases ensuring farmers health well being.

The role agriculture university subject matter specialist and scientist have facilitated imparting technical knowledge to the farming community Government officials supported our initiative on crop recommendation as per Package and Practices the correct dosage, time of application etc.

Over the last 3 year CCFI has distributed free of cost 75000 complete safety kits. Even during Covid pandemic we distributed them through Government agencies.

This effort has been a lauded by all stake holders and is unparallel in the agrochemical Industry.

Total number of CCFI events and training Programs so far are above 60 on PAN India basis and we we have trained more than 75,000 of farmers and their contract labours for the judicious use of Agro chemicals.



Farmers training Program in Andhra Pradesh

Crop Care federation of India had this first program in the state of Andhra Pradesh on 12th September 2019, wherein in almost 1000 farmers and farm labours were present for the training program. This training was on pink bollworm control on cotton which is pre dominantly grown in the area.

Guntur is the 3rd most popular city in Andhra Pradesh and is known for chilly, cotton and tobacco exports and has largest chilly market yard in Asia. Guntur was chosen as adjoining areas have intensive cotton cultivation and is the head quarter of our several member companies.

Shri. H Arun Kumar, IAS, Spl. Commissioner Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh was the chief guest who was very appreciative of the role played by CCFI and its members by creating awareness on safe use of agrochemicals” for pest and disease control.

Training includes live demonstration with manually operated sprayers where the importance of using the correct doze was highlighted. A comparison was made to differentiate between the correct and incorrect ways of spraying at different stages of the crop cycle.

It was emphasized in order to cover larger areas the tendency of smoking and chewing tobacco has to be totally avoided. Nirmala Pathrawal explains the importance of label and leaflet whereas Harish Mehta talked about precautions to be taken during purchases, storages, preparation of spray solution, actual spraying and the use of right nozzle. There was also demonstration by Adarsh Farm services with their self propelled machine for contract spraying.

20 Trophies were awarded to progressive farmers and certificates were given to all the participants. The trained participants were given safety kits with clear instructions that they be used in any field operations. We also distributed technical literature and screened our educational films.

Earlier during an Industry meeting Shri. H Arun Kumar, IAS, Spl. Commissioner Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh was keen on batch wise testing of pesticides before the sale of them to farmers in Andhra Pradesh. The objective was to ensure that only approved quality of products are made available to the farmer through the trade channel. The government was also keen that corporate operating in Andhra Pradesh sign MOU.

It was explained by the industry strictly follow the Insecticide Act 1968 and Insecticide Rule 1971. Which have adequate safeguard for the interest of the farmer and the industry alike. Sampling is the parts of the act were inspector empowered to draw sample and initiate suitable action in case of sample not meeting specification. Pre sampling is was not a part of existing Insecticide law. More over the proposed pre certification would lead to malpractices and farmers not getting the material in time.

Likewise he was of the view that the MOU in its present format was not acceptable to our members as it is "ultra virus"- against the law and the document is being studied by company secretaries and legal department for their comments.







1st National Agrochemicals Congress Country's Status on Various Fronts of Agrochemicals

The world population is estimated to reach 9.1 billion by the year 2050. This increased population density is projected to raise the demand for food production by 70% in developing countries. The availability of additional agricultural land and resources are limited. The reduction of current yield losses due to pests is a major challenge. Here chemical pesticides will continue to play a role in pest management as more and more target specific and environment friendly product are being introduced. The benefits of pesticides use are high relative to risk. New concepts in crops, human health, resource management , nanotechnology, smart formulation & related science are likely to increase agricultural productivity. With this background, current status of agrochemicals on various fronts will be collated for researchers and policy makers in order to grow agriculture in a suitable manner.

The Society of Pesticides Science India organized the 1st Agrochemicals Congress: Country's Status on various Fronts of Agrochemicals from 13-16 November, 2019 at Dr. B. P. Pal Auditorium, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.

The program was attended by Dr. J C majumdar, Harish Mehta and Nirmala Pathrawal

The congress was aimed at exchanging the most up-to-date knowledge between scientists, R&D personnel, extension workers, students and policy makers in the relevant crucial area of agrochemicals, as well as for identifying knowledge and technological gaps that exist in the field. The congress is aimed to invite eminent speakers so that they bring the latest science, top- tier agricultural research and leading industry perspectives to the forum. We are expecting around 300 delegates from all over the country to participate in the event.

Inaugurating the first ever National Agrochemical Congress in New Delhi, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar exhorted that there is a need to address the issue of and marginal farmers through the generation of knowledge access platforms and provision of basic agricultural inputs at affordable costs. These farmers predominantly comprise around 86% of the farm sector today and their contribution towards the national economy is quite significant. He added that their was a time when the agriculture sector was not fully equipped but now with concerted

efforts of farmers, scientists, and government intervention like direct benefits Transfer, Crop Insurance and other initiatives India's agriculture sector is flourishing and is now a safe sector. By 2050, if the ongoing surge in population continues, tons of more food grains will be required to be produced. It is going to be challenge.

He said that there is an urgent need to shift focus from sustainable production to sustainable agri- food system keeping in minds the climatic conditions and water conservation aspects of the country. To alleviate the stress of the Indian farmers, Farming has to be transformed from low key activity to a fully structured and profitable livelihood profession. A 'Farmer First' approach has to adopted by all the stake holders involved at various levels including government, industry, scientists and extension machinery. He requested all the stakeholders in the farm sector to come together rather than working aloof, in order to make the sector prosperous and thus ultimately contributing to the nation's progress.

The Minister said that farmers in India have been the crusaders of several revolutions in agriculture. What they need now are appropriate technologies and proper skilling. Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), the premier institute of agricultural research and education in the country has made many contributions towards farmers' as well as nations' prosperity through generation and dissemination of cutting –edge technologies for various agro-ecological situations.

The congress is conducted in view of the relevance chemical pesticides still continue to play in pest management as more and more target specific and environmental friendly products are being introduced. The benefits of pesticides use are high relative to their risks. New concepts in crops, human health, resource management, nanotechnology, smart formulations and related science are likely to boost agricultural productivity. With this background, the current status of agrochemicals on various fronts will be collated for researchers and policy makers in order to ensure agriculture grow in a sustainable manner.

Stressing on the need to create awareness about the usage and benefits of agrochemicals Hon'ble Shri Kailash Choudhary, Minister of State for Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare said the agrochemicals have its role to play in facing the future challenge of meeting the food requirement of growing population.

The country is self sufficient in food grains now. But there is a need to change the "sowing pattern" keeping in mind the climate change and adopt new technologies and products to further increase the farm output, he said.

"In this, chemicals have its role. This role should be played properly. Awareness should be created among farmers.

Normally, education training is focused on medium and large farmers who play an important role from production point of view. But the efforts should be put in to take new products to small and marginal farmers who comprise of 86% of the farmers sector, he said.

The event was organized in view of the relevance of chemicals pesticides still continue to play in pest management as more and more target specific and environmental friendly products are being introduced.

Dr. A K Singh Director ICAR- IARI, discussed issues related to crop grouping, number of crop registered as per label claim and was of the view that only 5% of the chemical rarely targeted the pest and 95% is lost in the environment. We have a word of caution on bio products laced with chemicals pesticides which are having the industry.

Dr. Ashok Dalwai, CEO, National Rainfed Area Authority was concerned about India rating in India's Global Hunger Index, he also referred to risk based assessment rather than hazardous waste management. Agrochemicals constitute only 0.4% of the input cost.

Dr. K K Sharma Project Coordinator (Pesticide Residues), Divn. of Agri. Chemicals, IARI talked about harmonization of MRL values, stating that only 84 out of 554 crops have label claim. He was of the view that FASSI findings were misreported, and the industry should only recommend their products only as per the packages of practices of various states.

There are 32 NABL Accredited labs in the country for MRL Fixation he confirmed that out of 2 Lakh samples drawn only 2 to 3% were found to be above MRL value. Out of 290 molecules registered in India, only 100 molecules were in active use. He was concerned about Basmati rice consignment is rejected on account of residue and recommended export/ import inspection council for equalizing agri inputs.

Dr. Anupama Singh Head, Division of Ag. Chemicals, IARI spoke on 31st founder day of Society of Pesticides Science. She talked about the importance of safe and judicious use of agrochemicals.

Dr. Gyanendra Gongal talked about food safety, public health and CODEX standard.

He was of the view that the farmer and their children need to be educated through our campaign, video films and more importantly proper safety measures during application.

Dr. P K Chakraborty, Member, ASRB and Former Assistant Director General (Plant Protection), ICAR was of the view that India cannot afford the luxury of organic food as not only the yields are low the cost to the consumer is not affordable. He estimated the crop losses in horticulture to be higher in the food grains which is the cause of the

concern. In spite of resistance issues, the generic chemicals constitute over 65-70% of the market which is growing.

The number of molecules registered in India is 290 as against 600 in China and 1000 in USA. He also felt that data protection is not of much relevance in India.

Dr. Suresh Pal, Director, ICAR- National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research New Delhi. According to him segment growing is primarily fungicides and herbicides. Exports of agrochemicals can increase many folds as over quality matches global standard and is recommended to diversify crop segment.

Regarding spurious product in the market he was of the view that it is not difficult to locate the source and thereafter prosecution.

Dr. Ajit Kumar, Chairperson, Technical Committee, CCFI is of the view that data protection is not desirable for agrochemical industry. He compared with pharma industry which grants no such data exclusivity. Granting of data protection would flood the country by MNCs which could include obsolete or expired material. Indigenous generic manufacturing should be incentivized. Formulation of Imports without registering of technical should be stopped or registration should be granted simultaneously for formulation and technical prior to import.

Dr. J P Singh, Secretary, CIB&RC, Faridabad, Haryana looked for better coordination between CIB&RC, Ministries, Research Institute and Agrochemical Industry. He was of the view that common name should be prominently printed on the label.

Dr. M L Jat, Principal Scientist and CIMMYT-CCAFS South Asia Coordinator, CIMMYT, New Delhi estimate the crop losses Rs. 1.5 lakh Cr. through the share of agrochemicals is low in the cropping system, the cost benefit ratio is fairly lucrative our mission should be safe use of agrochemicals particularly when skill labor availability is an issue. We must highlight the myths and the negative perception on pesticides as against the actual reality.

Dr. T K Das, Professor, Div. of Agronomy, ICAR-IARI there are over 30000 species of breeds mainly affecting 10 crops in 18 states. Use of chemicals is not only labour saving but cost effective.

Dr. P K Patanjali, Formerly Chief- Formulation, IPFT, Gurgaon, Haryana talked about generic formulation change, use of in capsulation reduction in dosage by use of nano technology. He was apprehensive on use of bio pesticides which presently constitute 15% worldwide.



Mr. Harish Mehta Seen at the 1st National Agrochemicals Congress Country's At IARI New Delhi.



**14th International Crop Science Conference & Exhibition
(ICSCE 2019)
and
Second PMFAI-SML Annual Agchem Awards 2019**

The 14th International Crop Science Conference & Exhibition (ICSCE 2019) organized by Pesticides Manufacturers and Formulators Association of India (PMFAI) took place in Gurugram, New Delhi NCR, India on 14th & 15th November 2019.

The two days event began with warm welcome address by PMFAI President Mr. Pradip Dave. ICSCE is an international platform for Agrochemical/Pesticide companies to develop strategic and sourcing relationships with international pesticide companies and to get updated on current trends in Agrochemical market. ICSCE is an annual international event organized by PMFAI to improve the health of Generic Pesticide Industry and to bring the researchers in the field of agriculture, pesticide manufacturers, agrochemical traders and allied industry under one roof.

Inauguration of the event was by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, National Research Professor and President, Global Research. The inspiring speech of Dr. Mashelkar will reverberate in the minds of all participants for a long time.

With 2000 plus footfall and more than 1000 registered delegates' participation, the event was a resounding success. Delegates from various countries included - Australia, Argentina, Abidan, Brazil, Belgium, Bangladesh, China, Chile, Columbia, Charlotte, Egypt, Ethiopia, Europe, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jordan, Korea, Kenya, Kuwait, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Syria, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Tanzania, U.S.A., United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Vietnam.

The event hosted renowned pesticide scientists and industry experts, who gave presentations on various important topics, brief details of which are as given below:

- Overview of South Eastern Market and Registration Procedures –
Dr. Piyatida (Tung) Pucklai – Regional Business Development Director (Asia Pacific), Dr. Knoell Consult, Thai Co. Ltd.

Novel benign and sustainable adjuvant delivery systems for Agrochemicals and Biosolutions – Mr. Rene Haensel (Global Head-R&D), Evonik Industries AG

Workshop: Overview of Indian Agriculture – Emphasis on Market, Registration Procedure, Know-how of Chemistry & Indian Exports. Companies executives were from Akola Chemicals India Ltd, Sumitomo India, Rallis India Ltd, Coromandel International Ltd.

Workshop: Global Agrochemical Market 2018/2019 with future prospects and with a particular focus on the US market including the Registration Procedures, Status of India GSP benefits, status of US/China Trade and Market – Dr. Bob Fairclough presented the latest trends in USA.

SECOND PMFAI-SML AGCHEM AWARDS 2019

Coinciding with ICSCE 2019, the Second "PMFAI-SML Annual Agchem Awards 2019" was held on 14th November 2019 evening at Hyatt Regency Gurugram, New Delhi NCR. PMFAI-SML Agchem Awards was instituted from 2018 to recognize and honour outstanding achievements in Indian Agrochemical Industry and remarkable contributions, which helps Sustainable growth of Agriculture.

"PMFAI - SML Agchem Annual Awards" which made remarkable beginning in 2018 with permanent sponsorship by M/s. Sulphur Mills Limited, one of the globally known leading Indian Agrochemical Company.

The Award Function begun with Welcome Address by Dr. Samir Dave, General Secretary-PMFAI and Director, AIMCO Pesticides Ltd.

On behalf of Sponsors of PMFAI-SML Agchem Awards M/s. Sulphur Mills Limited, Mr. Deepak Shah, Chairman & Managing Director addressed the gathering.

The Awards for the year 2019 was presented by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, who is also the Chairman of the Award Committee. The Award Committee of independent panel of judges consisting of scientists and professionals scrutinized the award applications.

Given below are Winners in different categories of awards in second PMFAI-SML Agchem Awards 2019.

1. Best Emerging Company: Small Scale Vimal Crop Care Pvt. Ltd.

2. **Best Emerging Company: Medium Scale**
Spectrum Ethers Ltd.
3. **Best Emerging Company: Large Scale**
Heranba Industries Ltd.
4. **Award for Formulation Innovation Award**
Willowood Crop Sciences Pvt. Ltd.
5. **Award for Outstanding Innovation: Chemical Synthesis**
UPL Limited
6. **Company of the Year: Small Scale**
Sandhya Organics Pvt. Ltd.
7. **Company of the Year: Medium Scale**
Agrow Allied Ventures Pvt. Ltd.
8. **Company of the Year: Large Scale**
Insecticides India Limited
9. **Export Excellence Award: Small Scale**
Jeevan Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.
10. **Export Excellence Award: Medium Scale**
Agrow Allied Ventures Pvt. Ltd.
11. **Export Excellence Award – Large Scale**
Meghmani Organics Limited
12. **Social Responsibility Excellence Award**
UPL Limited
13. **Excellence in Stewardship Award**
Bharat Insecticides Limited
14. **Lifetime Achievement Award**

This award recognises the selfless effort to promote the Indian agrochemical industry, the contribution in upticking the image and making India as the global hub.

Padma Bhushan Mr. R.D. Shroff, Chairman & MD, UPL Limited & also Chairman Crop Care Federation of India was bestowed with this honour.

The Award Function was followed by traditional Indian regional dances



Seen at the annual Agchem Awards 2019 ceremony (from left to Right) Dr. Samir Dave, Mr. Pradip Dave, Padma Bhushan Mr. R D Shroff, Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar and Mr. Deepak shah



Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Mr. Pradip Dave, Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar and Mr. Deepak Shah seen lighting the ceremonial lamp.



Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar addressing the gathering.



Mr. Pradip Dave, President, PMFAI addressing the delegates.



Agrovision- Nagpur Central India's Largest Agri Summit

Agrovision 11 included a national workshop Expo and a Conference to educate the farmer about the latest developments in agriculture by showcasing a wide range of agricultural products and services and visitors were glued to the CCFI stall due to its eye-catching appeal and theme which showcased the role of agrochemicals in a lucid manner.

11th edition of Agrovision was held at Reshimbagh Ground, Nagpur from 22nd -25th, November, 2019 covering an area of 15,000 sq mts. This is one of the largest agriculture summit with participation by Ministry of Agriculture and state government of several states.

CCFI put up a very impressive stall at this exhibition venue, which had over 350 participants in seven specially created domes. A separate open area was kept for tractors & farm machinery and cattle. Our theme was on "Achievements made by Indian Agriculture and the role of Agrochemicals" in minimizing crop loses and increasing crop productivity.

The stall drew large crowd of farmers, farm labour and agriculture students. Besides presences of other members, the kits were sponsored by Coromandel International Ltd. and UPL for the distribution at the venue. CCFI and its member companies distributed 2,500 safety kits free of cost to actual farmer users during the four day event.

While conducting the work shop on proper use of agrochemicals. Nirmala Pathrawal and Harish Mehta demonstrated the correct way of using the equipment , making of spray solution, the importance of label and leaflet, besides using the recommended doze with specified quantity of water.

Dr. J C Majumdar and Dr. C D Mayee responded to the queries raised by the farmers where kits were distributed by us. We screened our Marathi films on this subject.

Earlier the event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister Shri. Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Micro. Small & Medium Enterprises. Mr. R D Shroff, Chairman CCFI was among the dignitaries present who was honoured by the Agrovision team

Hon'ble Minister Shri. Nitin Gadkari visited our stall and was appreciative of the efforts by CCFI to create awareness for human safety. Mr. R D Shroff, Chairman also visited CCFI stall where we had arranged troupe to depict the theme by local songs which were popular with the visitors.

Our technical literature, Crop Care Magazine and calendar for 2020 were distributed at the event.



Hon'ble Shri. Nitin Gadkari Minister of Road Transport & Highways appreciating being presented our safety kits by Harish Mehta and Nirjala Pathrawal at our stall.



Mr. R D Shroff Chairman seen with the local dance troupe at our stall with the theme "Strides made by Indian Agriculture"



Distributing the safety kits to women farmers, sponsored by our member company



Layout of the stall



A dummy farmer in the created field was a big hit with the visitors.



AGROTECH 2019- at Akola Focus on Export of Agri Commodities

AGROTECH 2019 was organized by Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, (DPDKV), at Sports Ground Akola in Maharashtra, during 27th – 29th December 2019. The exhibition was a massive fair held in five domes with around 200 stalls besides venues for discussions and seminars. AGROTECH 2019 had additional 30 stalls by women self- help groups.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Mr Prakash Pohare Chairman, of Organic Farming Mission. He pointed out that the agri exhibitions have benefited the farmers of Vidarbha region. He expressed concern that despite many loan waiving schemes the financial condition of the farmers had not improved.

Dr. Vilas Bhale, Vice -Chancellor of DPDKV informed that agri university had developed 171 crops varieties and had designed 32 types of tools and equipments. He presented a review of development brought about by the university and plans that 3 Agriculture College will be open in Vidarbha in the next session.

Mr Dilip Mankar Director (Education Extension) in his introductory speech highlighted the role of the government institutions and corporates in creating awareness on judicious use of agri inputs.

Padmabhushan Dr Vijay Bhatkar Vice -Chancellor of Nalanda University asserted that farming should be considered as a profession like any other career. Mr Subhash Nagar Joint Director, Agriculture Amravati Division, Mr. Sanjay Kapadnis, AMC Commissioner, Mohan Wagh, District Agriculture Officer, Dr. P R Kadu Registrar of the University, were also present on the occasion.

The university celebrated its 121st Anniversary on 27th December 2019.

CCFI had put up an impressive stall to educate the farmers on the positive impact of agrochemicals particularly its use on cotton. Mainstay of agriculture here is cotton, soybean, pigeon pea and chickpea, most of these crops are rain fed.

The stall theme was on 'Significant strides made by the Indian agriculture' ensuring that we retain ranking number 2 in the world in overall agricultural production, thereby ensuring food and nutritional security.

Harish Mehta and Nirmala Pathrawal who participated, also released four Radio spots of 30 seconds each on 90.4 FM radio primarily catering to cotton farmers and on precautions during spraying operations.

Besides our video films, calendars, key chains etc we also distributed Certificates were given during farmers training and demonstration program.

Over 5 lakh people visited 3 days events. Several our members contributed towards supply of complete PPE kits namely UPL Ltd., Coromandel International Ltd., Sumil (an associate company of Sulphur Mills Ltd.), Nichino India Pvt. Ltd. etc.

During the deliberations it came out that selected agriculture and agri based commodities like meat, milk and fruits among other present export opportunity worth USD 97 billion (Rs. 6.9 lakh Cr.) as per data from FAO. There is tremendous potential to export bananas, oranges, chicken, meat and milk products like cheese and buttermilk. India is also focusing on exports of onions and grapes globally.

Another cause of concern was that nearly 30% of Indian farm produce is wasted due to lack of storage and proper transport facility. This is an area where very limited companies like UPL Ltd., Excel Industries Ltd. are working to ensure proper storage of food grains.



Farmers being educated on the advantages of using PPE Kits.



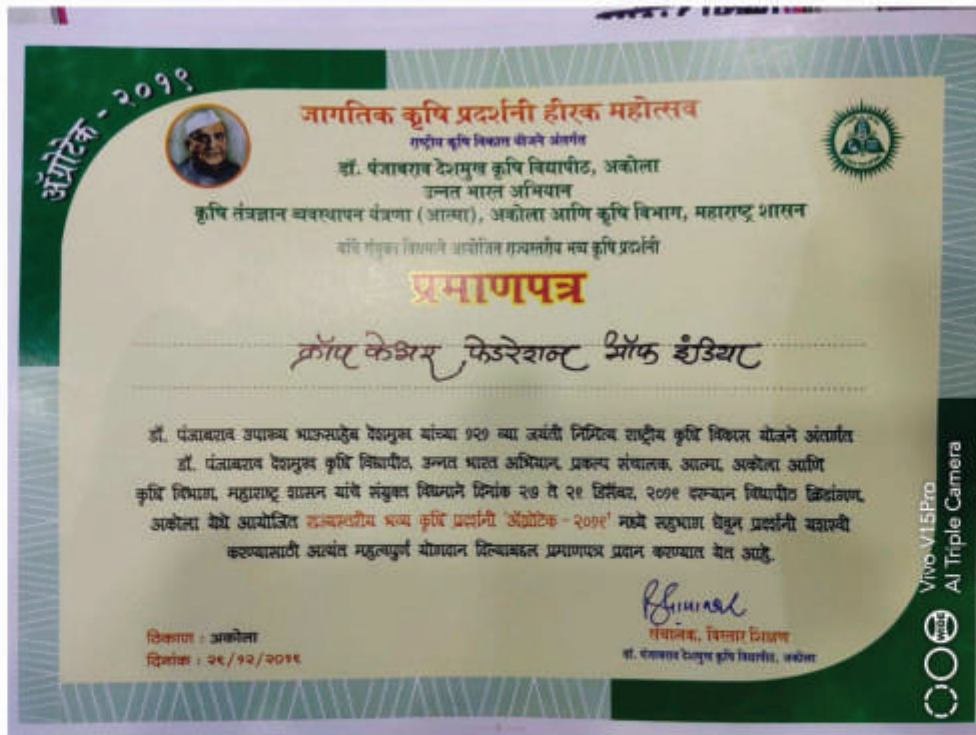
Harish Mehta & Nirmla Patharawal released 4 Radio spots on 90.4 FM Radio.



Visitor to our Stall including Housewives keen on knowing methods to preserve food grain at home



Harish Mehta & Nirmla Patharawal seen distributing New Year calendar for 2021



Certificate awarded to CCFI



Men and machinery restrict locust swarms in the bordering areas in Rajasthan

Suddenly during the Rabi 2019 season, a large-scale attack by locusts was reported from Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jalore districts in Rajasthan wherein all major crops like Mustard, Cumin, Gram and Wheat came under severe impact. The situation became alarming during the end of December 2019 when the farmers reported major losses due to attack from swarms of locusts.

The Indian agrochemical industry which already had a presence in those areas with a network of Distributors, Dealers and Field force took it up as their responsibility to contribute during this national calamity. The Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) also advised the Government of India with immediate remedial steps to tackle the situation and assist the Locust Control Department in those areas to undertake a joint campaign.

The CCFI advised all their Members to mobilize men and material (Pesticides, Spraying Boom Machines and Drones) for effective coverage. Besides, the CCFI advised them on the CIB&RC approved molecules which could be sprayed both on the trees and on the barren land.

A Five-day trip was undertaken during 3rd -7th January 2020 by Nirmala Pathrawal, Executive Director, CCFI and Mr. Harish Mehta, Senior Advisor, CCFI, to not only assess the situation, but to also co-ordinate and supplement the effort of the State Government. The CCFI Members were asked to supply whatever recommended agrochemicals were in stock immediately and free of cost, entirely, for Locust Control. It was observed that the farmers had formed a WhatsApp group to share the appearance of locusts and alert each other for undertaking pesticide spraying operations. It was very heartening to observe that the farmers had brought in their own tractors, spent money for fuel from their own pocket, arranged for the mixing tanks and high-pressure pumps for spraying on the trees and the shrubs. In fact, the CCFI Team and the Members joined the farmers in a pre-dawn pesticide spraying operation as the actual spraying was conducted between 7 and 9 a.m.

A dozen CCFI Member companies came forward to ensure not only to make available the recommended molecules, but even facilitated the farmers in preparing the correct solution and supervised the spraying operation. Over 10,000 litre had been consumed

with effective knock down results. The CCFL had also ensured that the operators were provided with "Safety Kits" as none of them thought it necessary to protect themselves, despite the fact that they were mostly spraying on trees. Based on the request of DD(PP) Jaisalmer, the CCFL had despatched 200 Safety Kits. Additionally, another 200 Safety Kits were made available by the CCFL Member Companies in the affected areas. It was ensured by the Government that these Safety Kits were used mandatorily by the spraying operators to avoid any issues on pesticide inhalation.

The CCFL team also attended a meeting convened by Dr. Om Prakash, Commissioner, Agriculture, IAS, along with Dr. J. P Singh, Secretary CIB&RC, Dr. KL Gurjur, DD(PP), Locust Control and several others to understand the Government logistics so as to depute CCFL Members and Field Force to the designated areas on a daily basis. The State Government had also started procurement on an emergency basis which was distributed through the Co-operative societies on 100% subsidized basis after screening their land records.

Though the farmers resorted to traditional methods of creating noise (beating the drums/thalis) or burning of tyres and rubble to create a smoke screen, it did not give the desired results. The spraying of pesticides was the most effective measure for instant knock down and control. The Government had also used a Jeep mounted Sprayer (ULV) spray of malathion with limited control in this season. The use of Drones in selected areas and the tractor-mounted Boom Sprayer (FALCON) operating in the affected areas also proved to be very effective.

Efforts by the Central and State administration for organizing aerial spraying did not materialize, although the Indian agrochemical industry was ready to support the move.

It must be appreciated and recorded that never ever in the past has there been such a large-scale farmer mobilization movement on a unified basis using their own resources, time and energy to overcome a crisis. That the farmers lined up hundreds of tractors along with spraying equipment at the wee hours of the morning is a testimony to the farmers' ardent efforts.

The farmers were very eager to launch this campaign and were very positive about the outcome and complemented the efforts of the Indian agrochemical industry and the Government at this hour of distress.

However, several marginal farmers who had been affected the most, were looking forward to getting adequate compensation to make up for their losses as no other crop could be sown then. The state governments of Rajasthan and Gujarat have announced a compensation of Rs. 13, 500/- per hectare for a maximum area of 2 hectare.

The CCFI has also recorded the entire operations through videography and interviews and made a film on the locust menace, which has appeared after 26 years.

Massive combined operation by CCFI members. Companies who had given free material

1. Bharat Rasayan Ltd.
2. Gharda Chemicals Ltd.
3. Heranba Industries Ltd.
4. Insecticides (India) Ltd.
5. Krishi Rasayan Exports (P) Ltd.
6. Parijat Industries (India) Pvt. Ltd.
7. Rallis India Ltd.
8. Sulphur Mills Ltd.
9. Sumitomo Chemicals India Ltd.
10. UPL Ltd.



Company executive coordinating the Joint campaign



Members of Insecticides (India) Ltd. (IIL) foundation with their companies banner at the site.



Vehicles being mobilized for early morning spray operations.



Tractor mounted boom sprayer (Falcon) provided by UPL operating in the affected area.



Harish Mehta and Nirmla Pathrawal along with the Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd. team during Locust control operation by using Drones for the 1st time.



Awareness Program in the State Uttar Pradesh

An Awareness Program exclusively Pest & Disease control alongwith KVK UP, LalifpurTibra, Khanjari, BhagapatUttar Pradesh. More than 1000 Farmers had gathered in compounds for who were imparted training on crop pest segment and correct spraying technique. Ms. Nirmala Pathrawal along with company representatives deliberated in the program which was crop specific on sugarcane, andKVK Scientists witnessed the program.

Farmers Training Program Rakhara, Punjab

On the Farmers demand CCFI conducted the safety awareness program in the month of June visited adjoining fields and distributed 350 safety kits. KVK and Department of Agriculture, Punjab witnessed the training.

Using Phosphine as QPS Fumigant, New Delhi

Using Phosphine as QPS Fumigant under WTO-SPS Agreement & minimizing the use of Methyl Bromide under the montreal protocol one day seminar which coincided with “**World Pest Day**” was organized on 6th June, 2020 by Indian Chemical Council (ICC) to give insight into WTO’s Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement relevant to plant quarantine measures. There were several presentation by eminent scientist and was followed by panel discussion which was chaired by Mr. Rajju Shroff, Chairman.

Farmers Training Program in Hyderabad and nearby places

Another important state in view of progressive farmers CCFI conducted the event with 1500 farmers on 12th July, 2020. Ms. Nirmala Pathrawal conducted this program along with representatives of member companies. The major issue with the farmer here was the tendency of mixing of two or more molecules expecting better result. We totally discouraged such a practice, also the use of tobacco and liquor while spraying was to be totally stopped even with the contract labour.



Farmers Training program in Latur, Sholapur, Mohol

Crop Care Federation of India was invited by Oilseeds Research Station, Latur. ORL had organized Linseed day and Farmers Mela on 20th January, 2021 at Oilseeds Research Station, Latur (VNMKV), The even was attended by Ms Nirmala Pathrawal , and Local Industry representatives The main crops grown by the farmers are Linseed, Safola, cotton, sugarcane , pluses , Jawar.etc..

Inspite of ongoing pandemic more than 750 farmers, including progressive farmers and mahila Bachat Gut attended the linseed day and Farmers Mela at Latur districts The farmers present were very enthusiastic to learn. We were surprised to see the farmers growing crops in adverse conditions. Farmer of Latur are growing papaya, pomerganate, chilli, custard apple and other such crops that require little water.

Crop Care Federation of India was invited to educate and make aware the farmers regarding Safety Measures to be taken during the applications of Agrochemicals.

The scientists, and department of Agriculture witnessed the programme and informed that such programme help and encourage the farmers to take safety measures during application of Insecticides.

On 21st Jan 2021, we were invited by the Sholapur KVK scientists and KVK Mohol to demonstrate the right spraying techniques to the Farmers. It was in 2 sessions one the morning and other in the afternoon. In each session there were 500 farmers. There were more farmers coming from nearby village who interacted with us during the sessions , these group of farmers were very happy and welcomed us and wanted more such safety programs and right practice of spraying be held in regularly . There were few dealer present

We also had field visits and small meeting with more 50 farmers in the nearby villages of Latur, Sholapur, and Mohol.

CCFI took the opportunity and explained the farmers as well as the dealers importance of label and leaflet. There should be no mixing of products. Care should be taken while spraying and handling of pesticides. cleaning is important of the spray pump, it should be washed properly before using any new product and then spray, timely spraying helps crop safe from pests.

The Farmers were happy and told that no one ever had done such detailed demonstration and explained them on right methods of spraying , emphasizing on time and on importance of wearing a safety kit before spraying. They thanked CCFI for providing with Safety kits .

Technical literature in Hindi and Marathi was distributed, besides posters on safety measures to be taken while spraying. 2250 safety kits were given free to the farmers



Farmers Training Program in Telengana & Andhra

Event is from 9th to 14th February 2021 in different district of Telengana. Crop Care Federation of India moved to Telangana, based on the demand of various farmers groups and organized Farmer Training Program (FTP). Covering 11 Villages Farmers were present alongwith Departmental officials , KVK Scientists, ARS Scientists , DAAT Centre Karimnagar Scientist, and Progressive Farmers participated in these meetings

We had continuous day and night FTP from 9th Feb 2021 to 14th Feb 2021 covering villages Pothur, Perkapalli, and Malyala

CCFI covered 6 village in Andhra Pradesh, Farmers witnessed the FTP alongwith Departmental officials , KVK Scientists, ARS Scientists, and Progressive Farmers participated in these meetings

The villages covered Rajamundry, Tripuravaram, Aminabadh, Kapugallu, Aarlegudem, Gudibanda, Chimiryala

Besides the training on the proper use we made the program interactive by conducting a Quiz program. Demonstration was conducted on the stage to highlight the importance of making the spray solution, ensuring there is no leakage in the pump, use of different nozzles, safe disposal of containers, direction of wind etc. The farmers were trained on the judicious usage and safe handling of the harmful pesticides while preserving the soil fertility and erosion by them.

Over all CCFI distributed free 2500 safety kits to the Farmers, The program was great success in spite of pandemic the farmers came in large number , they were very enthusiastic to learn. Farmers took pledge that they would judiciously use Agrochemical, and wear safety kit while spraying.





Technology workshop at Kullu, Himachal Pradesh (Apple grower's)

Event was on March 25th 2021 was organized by Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP) "Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project (HP-HDP" with the objective "to support small farmers and agro-entrepreneurs in Himachal Pradesh to increase the productivity, quality and market access of selected Horticulture commodities".

Crop Care Federation of India was invited to be a part of the event. We had entered into a new avenue i.e Horticulture division, as pest issue remained the same as other crops , therefore we got an opportunity to educate the farmers on proper use of Agrochemicals and spray tech., the Apple crop grows to more than 6 ft height thereby the spray operator has to maintain a distance while spraying. The kit which was provided by CCFI had the face shield , these are few very important issues which CCFI emphasis on the safety aspects of its farmers.

It was a great experience meeting the Apple orchid's farmers/ growers. There were more than 250 farmers present who had witnessed the event.

Crop Care Federation of India conducted live demonstration to show the correct and incorrect method right from purchase, storage, while preparing spray solution, selection of equipment, actually while spraying and pest spray operation. Nirmala Pathrawal highlighted the importance of label and leaflet as it was observed that dealer and farmer overlook the guidelines which are printed both on the container label and the multi language leaflet. Farmers visited were distributed safety kits.





THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI | WEDNESDAY | 17 JUNE 2020

Govt may set up expert panel to evaluate industry voice before decision on banning pesticides

Industry has strongly objected to the proposed ban of chemicals, which includes popular pesticides like monocrotophos, acephate, carbofuran, 2,4-D, carbendazim and malathion, which has been widely used to control locusts.



Some of these banned pesticides have been widely used to control locust

The relaxation in exports of the banned molecules, in the addendum to the draft notification, too has done little to calm the nerves of the industry.

The government is likely to form an expert committee soon to study industry's objections to the proposed ban of 27 widely used pesticides, which officials say are harmful.

It has extended the time period for receiving objections and suggestions to 90 days from 45 days given in its initial order on May 14. It has also allowed export of these pesticides after registration with the government.



India exported Rs. 23,000 crores worth of pesticide last year

"Now the time period for accepting objections has been doubled. If industry furnishes documents proving that these chemicals are safe for environment, we may review the decision," said an official.

When the government banned 18 pesticides in 2018, a committee examined industry's objections and suggestions before the final decision. "This time also same procedure would be followed," the official said.

Industry has strongly objected to the proposed ban of chemicals, which includes popular pesticides like monocrotophos, acephate, carbofuran, 2,4-D, carbendazim and malathion, which has been widely used to control locusts.

The relaxation in exports of the banned molecules, in the addendum to the draft notification, too has done little to calm the nerves of the industry.

"Exports are allowed now, but one has to register with the government again, which is again a cumbersome process. It will not help the cause of the industry unless the ban is revoked," said Harish Mehta, senior advisor to Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI), an association of chemical and pesticides manufacturers.

He said that the association and industry have sent strong representations to agriculture ministry and department of chemicals and petrochemicals for revoking the proposed ban.

The department of chemicals and petrochemicals has asked agriculture ministry to hold wide stakeholder consultations before taking any decision in the matter.

"Even if it is assumed that necessary chemical evaluation and socio-economic impact assessment of these pesticides justify their ban for use in Indian agriculture, there may not be adequate ground for banning their production for exporting to other countries who want to use these pesticides with necessary risk management, chemicals and petrochemicals department secretary R K Chaturvedi had said in a letter to agriculture secretary Sanjay Agarwal.

Expert Committee to Review Proposal to Ban 27 Pesticides

Panel to submit report in three months; 66 contentious pesticides under the scanner

Ritraj Tiwari
@thehind02

New Delhi: The government has appointed an expert panel to review industry's objections to the proposed ban on 27 widely used pesticides which officials say are harmful to animals and humans.

"The committee, led by chairman TP Rajendran, former assistant director general of ICAR, is likely to submit its report in three months. His report will decide the fate of those 27 pesticides which the government wants to ban," said a senior agriculture ministry official, who did not wish to be identified.

These are part of the 88 contentious pesticides which are being reviewed for their toxicity. In 2018, the government had already banned 16 of them.

In May 2020, the government said it would ban these pesticides. The government initially gave industry and pesticide companies 45 days to respond to the proposal. Later, after the intervention of agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar, the deadline was extended to 90 days from the date of notification. But the matter remained pending even after 90 days, and now a decision is likely to be taken after the expert committee's review.

Under the Lens

Govt forms expert committee under TP Rajendran to review proposal of banning 27 pesticides

Committee likely to submit report in three months

Pesticide manufacturers say that banning will affect export market badly

Govt claims that use of these pesticides are harmful to animals and humans

In 2018, govt had already banned 16 molecules



"The government's intention to ban pesticides created a furor in the industry. Industry lobbied hard to defer the ban, which resulted in delay," said the official. "The government sought proof and studies from companies manufacturing these pesticides that can show that these chemicals are safe. Now these will be verified separately by the committee."

Among these 27 pesticides which are widely used, and some of these were used to kill locusts recently, industry and companies are said to have strongly objected to, by submitting scientific

evidence.

"We don't have much objection if four pesticides - methomyl, butachlor, dicofol and diazinon - are banned. But we strongly defend usage of the remaining 23 pesticides," said Harish Mehta, senior advisor, Crop Care Federation of India, an industry body.

He said the 27 pesticides comprise 12 insecticides, eight fungicides and seven herbicides, involving 19 formulations.

"All these pesticides are highly effective. We export pesticides worth Rs 25,000 crore to several countries including the US and

these 27 pesticides constitute 40% of it. We don't think these are harmful enough to be banned," said Mehta.

The pesticide manufacturers also fear that the ban may hand over a ready export market to Chinese companies, which are competing directly with Indian companies in this space.

Apart from, the banning will put an additional financial burden on farmers as the cost of these contentious pesticides range between Rs 275-450 a litre as against the cost of their alternatives which are being imported at Rs 1500-2000 a litre.



● ਖਾਦਾਂ ਤੇ ਰਸਾਇਣਕ ਰਾਜ ਮੰਤਰੀ ਮਾਨਸੁਖਭਾਈ ਮਾਂਡਵੀਆ ਯੂ.ਪੀ ਐਲ. ਲਿਮਿਟਡ ਦੇ ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ ਰਾਜੂ ਸ਼ਰਾਫ ਨੂੰ 'ਲਾਈਫ ਟਾਈਮ ਅਚੀਵਮੈਂਟ' ਪੁਰਸਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਕੇ ਸਨਮਾਨਿਤ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ। ਰਾਜੂ ਸ਼ਰਾਫ ਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਸਨਮਾਨ ਦੇਸ਼ 'ਚ ਰਸਾਇਣ (ਕੈਮੀਕਲਜ਼) ਉਦਯੋਗ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਰਸਾਇਣ ਦੇ ਉਤਪਾਦ ਤੇ ਵੰਡ ਪ੍ਰਣਾਲੀ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਨੂੰ ਸ਼ੇਧ ਦੇ ਕੇ ਸਹੀ ਲੀਹਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਲਿਆਉਣ ਲਈ ਪਾਏ ਪ੍ਰਭਾਵਸ਼ਾਲੀ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਬਦਲੇ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਦੇਸ਼ 'ਚ 'ਪੌਦ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ' ਕਿੰਗ ਵਜੋਂ ਜਾਣਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਅਜੀਤ

26-Mar-2021
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<http://epaper.ajitjalandhar.com/edition/20210326/11/2.cr>

Clipping from the Daily Ajit

मोहोळच्या कृषी विज्ञान केंद्रात रब्बी शेतकरी मेळावा

✓ सुराज्य/मोहोळ

महात्मा फुले कृषी विद्यापीठ अंतर्गत कृषी विज्ञान केंद्र, मोहोळ आणि क्रॉप केअर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया, नवी दिल्ली यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने गुरुवारी रब्बी शेतकरी प्रशिक्षण मेळावा पार पडला.

या प्रशिक्षणाचे उद्घाटन मोहोळ कृषी विज्ञान केंद्राचे कार्यक्रम समन्वयक डॉ. तानाजी वळकुंडे यांच्या हस्ते झाले. तसेच क्रॉप केअर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियाच्या कार्यकारी संचालिका निर्मला पायरवाल आणि डॉ. नितीन घोडसरे, कृषी संशोधन केंद्राचे प्रमुख डॉ. ए. आर. पाटील आणि मंडळ कृषी अधिकारी संपत कंठाळे यांच्या प्रमुख उपस्थितीत महात्मा फुलेच्या प्रतिमेचे पूजन करून करण्यात आले.

कार्यक्रमाच्या प्रारंभिकाला डॉ. तानाजी वळकुंडे यांनी या प्रशिक्षणाच्या आवोजनाची पार्श्वभूमी विषट करून शेतकऱ्यांना कृषी रसादनाचा



वापर करताना संपटी कीट वापरण्याचे आवाहन केले. प्रमुख व्यक्ती निर्मला पायरवाल यांनी कृषी रसादनाचा आणि तणनाशके यांचा वापर करताना कोणत्या प्रकारची काळजी घ्यावची याबाबत सविस्तर माहिती प्रारंभिकद्वारे उपस्थित शेतकऱ्यांना दिली. त्यानंतर डॉ. ए. आर. पाटील यांनी रब्बी ज्वारीचे उत्पादन तंत्र याविषयी वीडव्यात माहिती

दिली. डॉ. सुरज मिसाळ यांनी हवामान आधारित कृषी सल्ल्याचे महत्त्व पटवून दिले.

मेळाव्यास सोलापूर जिल्हातील शेतकरी व युवक उपस्थित होते. हा कार्यक्रम वशस्वीरित्या पार पाडण्यासाठी कृषी विज्ञान केंद्राचे तुषार अहिरे, सुवींग ठाकरे, जयंत जायव, रवी साखरे, ज्ञानेश्वर तांदळे, नितीन बागल, अरुण गांगोडे आणि शंकर सुतार यांनी अथक परिश्रम घेतले.

सिखा

ई निविदा

महसंचालक, व्यवसाय शिक्षण व प्रशिक्षण, प्रादेशिक कार्यालय, पोले रोड, शिवाजीनगर, पुणे-०५ Email-store.ropune@dvet.gov.in
फोन नंबर ०२०-२५५३५४१५/४१६

मोहोळ येथील कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रात रब्बी शेतकरी मेळावा संपन्न



मोहोळ/प्रतिनिधी:

महात्मा फुले कृषि विद्यापीठ अंतर्गत कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, मोहोळ, जि. सोलापूर आणि जंभे केअर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया, नवी दिल्ली यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने रब्बी शेतकरी मेळावा प्रशिक्षणाचे आयोजन गुरुवारी येथे करण्यात आले. सदर प्रशिक्षणाचे उद्घाटन कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र, मोहोळ चे कार्यक्षम समन्वयक

डॉ. तानाजी वळकुंडे यांच्या हस्ते झाले. तसेच जंभे केअर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया, नवी दिल्ली च्या कार्यक्षम संचालिका श्रीमती निर्मला पाथरवाल आणि डॉ. नितीन धोडरे या, पी.एल. त्याचबरोबर कृषि संशोधन केंद्राचे प्रमुख डॉ. व्ही. आर. पाटील आणि मंडळ कृषी अधिकारी श्री. संजय कंठळे यांच्या प्रमुख उपस्थितीत महात्मा फुलेच्या

प्रतीभांचे पूजन करून करण्यात आले.

कार्यक्रमाच्या प्रस्ताविकेत डॉ. तानाजी वळकुंडे यांनी सदर प्रशिक्षणाच्या आयोजनाची पार्श्वभूमी विषय करून शेतकऱ्यांना कृषि रसायनाचा वापर करताना सेम्टी कीट वापरण्याचे आवाहन केले. प्रमुख व्यक्ती श्रीमती निर्मला पाथरवाल यांनी कृषि रसायनाचा

उदा. किटबनासके, बुरशीनाशके आणि तननाशके यांचा वापर करताना कोणत्या प्रकारची काळजी घ्यायची असे चार्चाच्या दिशेने फवारणी, शिस्सराशीप्रमाणे प्रमाण, फवारणी वेळ सेम्टी कीट चा वापर आणि फवारणी पंथाच स्वच्छता व हाताळणी याबाबत सविस्तर माहिती प्रारंभिकद्वारे उपस्थित शेतकऱ्यांना महत्व पटवून दिले. त्यानंतर डॉ. व्ही. आर. पाटील यांनी रब्बी ज्वारीचे उत्पादन संत याविषयी थोडक्यात माहिती दिली. डॉ. सुरज मिसाळ यांनी हवामान आधारित कृषी सल्ल्याचे महत्व पटवून दिले.

तांत्रिक सल्लेकार शिवार पेरीचे आयोजन करण्यात आलेले होते. यावेळी डॉ. शरद जाधव यांनी प्रक्षेपावरील पिक संग्राहलयातील रब्बी लंगामाची विविध पिके, त्यांचे वाण, सुधारित लागवड तंत्रज्ञान याविषयी माहिती दिली. श्री. दिनेश

धीरसागर यांनी जैव समृद्ध पिकांचे महत्व व जैव समृद्ध गहू च-उड-४०२८, च-उड-४०५८ प्रात्यक्षिके, परस्वांगेतील विविध फलेभाज्यांचे पोषणमुल्ये व अशाप्रकारील महत्व याविषयी माहिती दिली. या शिबबफे रीदरम्यान पिक संग्राहलयातील अनेक हे पिक विशेष आकर्षण ठरले. कोरछवाह करित घेतल्या जाणाऱ्या या प्रमुख पिकांच्या कीड व रोगाविषयी डॉ. फंकन मडवी यांनी माहिती दिली.

सदर मेळाव्यास सोलापूर जिल्ह्यातील शेतकरी व युवक उपस्थित होते. हा कार्यक्रम यशस्वीरीत्या पार पाडण्यासाठी कृषि विज्ञान केंद्राचे श्री. तुषार अशिरे, श्री. सुयोग ठाकरे, श्री. नंदू जाधव, श्री. रवी साखरे, श्री. ज्ञानेश्वर तांदळे, श्री. नितीन बागल, श्री. अरुण गामोडे आणि श्री. शंभर मुत्तार यांनी अथक परिश्रम घेतले.

कपास पर कीटनाशक उपयोग करने पर १८०० किसानों को प्रशिक्षण

भागपुर - कपास उद्योग के विभिन्न चरणों में कपास के उपयोग पर एक कार्यक्रम हाल ही में चंडीपुर के राजपुरा और धवलमाल के घाटौली में आयोजित की गई थी। कार्यक्रम का आयोजन कृषि महाविद्यालय, राज्य सरकार के कृषि विभाग और केन्द्रीय और विज्ञानियों के साथ एक संयुक्त उद्यम द्वारा किया गया था। चूंकि यह क्षेत्र गुरुामी मोड लॉय के विस्फोट के लिए प्रसिद्ध है, किसानों को किता तहत से औद्योगिकीकरण का उपयोग करना चाहिए, इसलिए इस कार्यक्रम को निर्देशित किया गया। महाराष्ट्र राज्य सरकार के विज्ञानियों द्वारा चिह्नित साल इसी विषय के बारे में मार्गदर्शन किया गया था। फसल चक्र के दौरान नुकसान से बचने के



लिए यह प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया।

प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में कीटनाशकों के डिब्बेबांध की विधि, डिब्बेबांध का समय और इस बीच पानी का उपयोग कैसे किया जाए, इस

पर मार्गदर्शन प्रदान किया गया। इस समय विशेषज्ञों ने डिब्बेबांध में सुरक्षा का ध्यान रखने का आग्रह किया। दस्ताने, नक मास्क और अंजोली का उपयोग करने की भी सलाह दी। विशेषज्ञों ने यह भी कहा कि कीटनाशकों के

डिब्बेबांध के बाद उन्हें उसी समय से पानी नहीं देना चाहिए, या धुलपत्त नहीं करना चाहिए। जमीन केयर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया द्वारा सुरक्षा किट प्रदान की गई। यह कार्यक्रम कृषि महाविद्यालय, राज्य सरकार के कृषि विभाग

और केन्द्रीय के द्वारा संयुक्त उद्यम और विज्ञानियों के सहयोग से आयोजित की जाती है। इस कार्यक्रम को किसानों द्वारा भरपूर प्रतिक्रिया दिया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में कुल सात किसानों को सम्मानित भी किया गया।

टिड्डियों से निपटने के काम आ रहे प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशक

क्रॉप केयर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया के सलाहकार हरीश मेहता का कहना है कि जब देश में टिड्डियों का कहर कई राज्यों और शहरों में जारी है ऐसे में भारत सरकार ने 27 कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने का आदेश दिया है। खास बात यह है की इन 27 प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशकों में 2 कीटनाशक क्लोरपैरिफोस और मेलथिऑन भी हैं जिन्हें भारत के कृषि विभाग द्वारा टिड्डियों पर काबू पाने के लिए इस्तेमाल किए जाने की सिफारिश की गई है। किसानों की मेहनत पर पानी फेर रही टिड्डियों से निपटने में ये प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशक ही काम आ रहे हैं। ऐसे में यह सवाल उठता है की जब यह कीटनाशक इतने कारगर हैं तो इन्हें क्यों बैन किया जा रहा है?

मेहता का कहना है कि सरकार को चाहिए की वह कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने से पहले इनके महत्त्व को समझे और इनके बैन होने से होने वाले दुष्परिणामों को ध्यान में रखते हुए तर्कसंगत निर्णय ले, न की कुछ पर्यावरणविदों के बहकावे या दबाव में आकर ऐसे कदम उठाए, जिससे खेती-किसानों की मुश्किल बढ़ जाए।

भास्कर खास • सीसीएफआई ने कहा- कृषि विभाग ने भी क्लोरपैरिफोस और मेलथिऑन की सिफारिश की है

टिड्डियों से निपटने प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशक आ रहे काम

ब्यूरो | मुंबई

कोरोना संकट के बीच फसलों और फलों पर टिड्डियों के हमले ने परेशानी बढ़ा दी है। पिछले 25 साल में पहली बार इतने बड़ी मात्रा में टिड्डियाँ दल देखे जा रहे हैं। राज्य के विभिन्न इलाकों में भी टिड्डियों का प्रवेश हुआ है। इन टिड्डियों से निपटने में बहते कीटनाशक काम आ रहे हैं, जिन पर सरकार पहले पाबंदी लगा चुकी है। सरकारी अधिकारी भी इनसे प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशकों के इस्तेमाल को स्तनाह दे रहे हैं।

क्रॉप केयर फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया (सीसीएफआई) के सलाहकार हरीश



मेहता का कहना है कि देश में टिड्डियों का कहर कई राज्यों और शहरों में जारी है। ऐसे में भारत सरकार ने 27 कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने का आदेश दिया

है। खास बात यह है कि इन 27 प्रतिबंधित कीटनाशकों में 2 कीटनाशक क्लोरपैरिफोस और मेलथिऑन भी हैं। जिन्हें भारत के कृषि विभाग ने टिड्डियों पर काबू पाने के लिए इस्तेमाल किए जाने की सिफारिश की है। मेहता का कहना है कि सरकार को चाहिए कि वह कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने से पहले इनके महत्त्व को समझे। इनके बैन होने से होने वाले दुष्परिणामों को ध्यान में रखते हुए तर्कसंगत निर्णय ले। कुछ पर्यावरणविदों के बहकावे या दबाव में आकर ऐसे कदम नहीं उठाए, जिससे किसानों की मुश्किलें बढ़ें।

पटाखे जलाकर और ढोल बजाकर भगाए टिड्डी दलों को : अनिल देशमुख



पुणे। राज्य के यह नगरी अनिल देशमुख ने टिड्डी दलों के हमले को रोकने के लिए लोगों से पटाखे जलाने और ढोल पीटने की अपील की है। देशमुख ने अपने करीब विविध क्षेत्र में टिड्डी दलों के हमले के कारण पैदा हुई स्थिति का जयजा लिया। किसानों से बातचीत करते हुए नगरी ने कहा, जब भी टिड्डी दल हमला करें, बासीपों को सतर्क हो जाना चाहिए। पटाखे जलाकर, जलने हुए टायरों के धुं और ढोल पीटकर टिड्डी दलों को भगाया जा सकता है। इससे पहले महात्मा के कृषि नगरी दादा भुले ने बताया कि राज्य में कृषि विभाग

द्वारा करीब 50 प्रतिशत टिड्डी दलों का सफाया कर दिया गया है। भुले ने कहा कि महात्मा ने कृषि विभाग द्वारा करी 50 प्रतिशत टिड्डी दलों को खट कर दिया गया है। टिड्डी दलों पर कीटनाशक का प्रयोग करने के लिए किसानों को विशेषज्ञों से सलाह लेनी चाहिए। किसानों के बहनों का इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है। प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में हम किसानों को विशुद्ध कीटनाशक और सफाया उपलब्ध कर रहे हैं। केन्द्रीय पर्यावरण दल और जनशक्ति परिवर्तन संस्थान के प्रयासों के माध्यम से यह टिड्डी दलों का समाप्त राजस्व, पंचायत, हरियाण और नया प्रदेश में प्रवेश कर चुका है जिससे खेतों में मौजूद काया और तबकियों की फसलों को भरी सुरक्षा हो सकता है। राजस्व इनमें बुरी तरह प्रभावित है। टिड्डी दल धंधे मित्रों ने कई हेक्टोयर की फसलों को चोट कर सकते हैं।

टिड्डियों की तादाद 10 गुना बढ़ी



मेहता बताते हैं कि इन वर्ष टिड्डियों के दल की अबादी पिछले बार के तुलना में 5 से 10 गुना बढ़ी है। जो 1 किग्रा से करीब 200 किलोग्राम की बढ़ी राश कर लेती है। इन कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने के कारण किसान टिड्डियों के समझे असहाय हो जाते हैं। उन्हें भरी सुरक्षा उपाय पड़े हैं। हमारे बीच विभिन्न जगहों को चाहिए कि ऐसे कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने से पहले महत्व वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन करने के बाद ही इन प्रकार के निर्णय लेना चाहिए। जिन कीटनाशकों को प्रतिबंधित करने के इरादे अकेले फिर नए हैं वे कीटनाशक कई विकसित देश जैसे यूरोप, केलोड जपान ब्राजील अर्जेंटीना अस्ट्रेलिया, ओईसीडी (ऑर्गेनाइजेशन ऑफ इकोनॉमिक को-ऑपरेशन एंड डेवलपमेंट जिसने 34 देशों का समर्थन है) में बिना किसी प्रतीबंध के उपयोग में लगे जा रहे हैं। इसलिए इन्हें प्रतिबंधित करने के पीछे जैसा कि बताया जा रहा है पर्यावरण सुरक्षा कारण नहीं हो सकते हैं।

