

# Chairman's Review



Dear Shareholders,

Indian agriculture is evolving quickly and the country's determined pursuit over the last few years to create a strong agricultural foundation to help farmers improve their livelihood is making good progress. The Union Government has been steadfastly pursuing its vision of making farmers the central focus in all activities. While it has unveiled numerous programmes and has a well-defined strategy, one of the aspects that could propel this growth further would be to provide a single unified national agriculture market and facilitate hassle-free movement of agricultural commodities which would enable farmers to sell their produce at the best available prices in the market.

Major players in this sector have contributed using several strategies such as improving crop yields, achieving operational excellence and sustainable creation of value. In this continued quest for improving farmer livelihood, there is scope for agriculture companies and the government to be partners in this transformation journey. Your Company too has played and continues to strive to play its rightful role in this phase.

At Monsanto India Limited (MIL), we have always brought to the forefront several years of experience and expertise in the field of agriculture technologies and have provided farmers some of the most advanced products and know-how that empower them to enhance farm yields. Our focus continues to be towards finding innovative solutions to help India's farmers grow more while using less of the planet's natural resources.

Our hybrid maize seeds from the DEKALB® portfolio are launched after sustained research and testing thereby ensuring that they address a wide range of farmer needs. These hybrids have played a key role in ensuring the country's maize farmers achieve bumper harvests. At the same time, our glyphosate-based herbicides have effectively helped in curbing growth of weeds that have the potential to impact crop yields. In addition, we retain our focus on leveraging information technology in agriculture and our highly advanced IT-based mobile platform *Dr. DEKALB* provides a gamut of

information to farmers anytime, anywhere. A majority of the country's leading maize farmers registered with us enjoy the benefits of these services.

Over the last several decades, MIL's products and services have helped the country's farmers prosper. As we look at the year ahead, we believe our innovative farm solutions will continue to create value for them.

While we continue to focus on our business, we have not lost sight of giving back to society especially the country's rural communities. MIL's CSR activities primarily focus on the areas of promoting sustainable agriculture, health and sanitation, education and integrated community development.

At MIL, our endeavour is to constantly innovate and we strive to continuously engage and provide a holistic environment that supports development and growth for our employees.

As you would be aware, Bayer recently announced the completion of their acquisition of Monsanto globally. We are excited at this merger as this will bring together Bayer's Plant Protection and Biological products and Monsanto's expertise in Seeds, Biotech Traits and Digital Agriculture. This will provide a strong foundation to develop customised solutions that will benefit farmers across the globe including India.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you the shareholders for all the support provided and would like to assure you that we remain dedicated to creating value both for our farmers and shareholders that is sustainable and inclusive.

Yours sincerely,

**Sekhar Natarajan**  
Chairman

