Dr. Kalyan B. Goswami
Executive Director

nsa National Seed Association of India
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act.)

Ref. NSAI/2016/0132

Date : 09-11-2016

Mr. Ajay Singha
Executive Director
American Chamber of commerce in India
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10/11/2016

Dear Mr. Singha,

This has reference to your letter dated 06-01-2016, addressed to Mr. Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Government of India, New Delhi.

National Seed of India (NSAI) is an Apex organisation, representing various seed companies in India and is having 366 members out of which, presently only around 50 seed companies are in cotton seed business, thanks to highly restrictive policy of Monsanto. (We will explain this in later paragraphs).

The vision of NSAI is to create a dynamic, innovative and internationally competitive, research based industry producing high performance, high quality seeds and planting material, which benefit farmers and significantly contribute to the sustainable growth of Indian agriculture. NSAI is also working towards the responsible use of biotechnology for modernising Indian agriculture and enhancing the livelihood of Indian farmers. NSAI is also engaged in activities such as increasing the general awareness about crop biotechnology amongst the many stake-holders, technology upgradation and **engaging in a continuous dialogue with the regulators for establishment of a transparent, fair and equitable regulatory system.**

In this background, we are dismayed to see your above referred letter and found that you allowed yourself to be carried away by misinformation and false propaganda unleashed by the vested interests and you alleged therein that NSAI has a vested interest in keeping technology fee to a minimum. Let it be understood that the trait fee, whatever it is, is paid by the poor farmers of this country. Hence, to say NSAI has vested interest, has no basis. Perhaps you are not aware from 2002 to 2005 Monsanto has fixed his trait fee arbitrarily and unilaterally as high as Rs.1200/- to Rs.1250/- due to which the cotton seed prices have gone up as high as Rs.1700/- to 1800/- from Rs.350/- to Rs.450/-, which was termed by the then Agriculture Minister of Government of Andhra Pradesh as day-light robbery. Copy of news clipping is enclosed herewith. In this background, the then Government of Andhra Pradesh, failing to convince Monsanto to make its trait value reasonable and affordable to the farmers had to approach Hon'ble MRTP

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