

## **ABLE-AG feels positive about BJP manifesto**

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When asked about his response on the BJP manifesto that was released on April 08, 2014, Dr Seetharama Nadoor, executive director, Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises- Agriculture Group (ABLE-AG) expressed his positive reaction. He mentioned, "We welcome the stance of BJP on the issue which seems to be in alignment with the national consensus on the issue. Infact, the present government too has had been maintaining the same position. The evaluation of new technology and regulatory evolution is a part of unanimity on the issue. It is good that they have mentioned this. We hope that the Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) bill would be brought back by the next government."

Dr Nadoor went on to say that the manifesto has mentioned the incorporation of new technologies to boost agriculture and it cannot be taken as a plain refusal to the GM crops. "It is just a part of national strategy to ensure proper regulations which we can understand. The views too have been evolving," said Dr Nadoor.

ABLE-AG aims to accelerate the pace of agricultural growth in India by enabling strategic alliances between researchers, the government and the global biotech industry to increase crop productivity, help meet domestic food security, and contribute to inclusive growth.