50th Annual Report 1997-98

Novartis India Limited

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New skills in the science of life.

The design of this annual report cover relates
to the science of life. A strand of DNA has been
magnified many times, electronically enhanced
and then treated in the colours of Novartis.

Board of Directors

Y. Curmally	Chairman
Dr A.F. Jetzer	Vice Chairman upto 25th June 1998
S. Luedtke	Vice Chairman w.e.f. 26th June 1998
Dr V.S. Sohoni	Managing Director

K.K. Arnoldi
Dr Ch. F. Buxtorf
J.S. Khambata
W.D. Paris
U. V. Rao

Executive Committee

P.K. Apte	Crop Protection
D.S. Gokhale	Seeds
P.P. Krishnamurthy	CIBA Vision
A. Mirchandani	Finance & Legal
Dr R. Mehrotra	Industrial Relations & HRD
Dr P.R. Rao	Animal Health
R. Shahani	Pharmaceuticals
Dr V.S. Sohoni	Managing Director

Company Secretary	M.P. Saranath
Auditors	Messrs A.F. Ferguson & Co.
Registrars & Transfer Agents	Sharepro Services Satam Estate, 3rd Floor Cardinal Gracias Road Chakala, Andheri (East) Mumbai 400 099
Registered Office	14, Jamshedji Tata Road Mumbai 400 020
Works	P.O. Sandoz Baug Kolshet, Thane 400 607
	Santa Monica Works Corlim, Ilhas, Goa 403 110
	Kandla Free Trade Zone Gandhidham, 370 230
	Plot Nos. 629/630 G.I.D.C. Panoli 394 115

Members are requested to bring their copy of the Annual Report to the meeting. Members are also requested to direct all correspondence relating to shares to the Company's Registrars & Transfer Agents, Sharepro Services, at the address alongside.

Annual General Meeting

3.30 p.m., 25th September 1998
Y.B. Chavan Auditorium
Gen. Jagannath Bhosale Marg
Mumbai 400 021

Novartis India Limited has business operations

in the areas of Pharmaceuticals, CIBA Vision®,

Crop Protection, Seeds, and Animal Health.

Novartis India Limited

Novartis India Limited is an affiliate of Novartis AG based

in Basel, Switzerland. The Company has 57,401

shareholders and its shares are publicly listed.

In India the Company has business operations in the

areas of Pharmaceuticals, Crop Protection, Seeds, Animal

Health and Vision Care. Major manufacturing facilities

are located at Santa Monica in Goa and Panoli in Gujarat.

The Company has a wide distribution network spread across the country and 1,834 employees at its various locations. Environment and Safety are a key priority for the Company.

Pharmaceuticals

In 1989, Yashwant Gopal Bane was diagnosed as having elevated growth of uric acid in the blood. A drug regimen had the problem under control till mid-1990 when the treating doctor noticed a huge drop in haemoglobin and a drastic increase in cretinin. A team of doctors comprising nephrologists Dr Ashok L. Kirplani and Dr Hemant Mehta and diabetologist Dr Vijay S. Ajgaonkar recommended dialysis, a painful but necessary process, and subsequently a kidney transplant.

Yashwant Gopal Bane

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Bane, then 57, decided to go in for a kidney transplant and underwent surgery in January 1992 at the Raheja Hospital in Mumbai under attending Drs Ajit Phadke and Umesh Oza. After surgery, he was put on SANDIMMUN® drink solution, an immunosuppressant, to prevent his body from rejecting the foreign organ. Bane was the first person to be put on SANDIMMUN NEORAL® when it was introduced in the Indian market. Today, though retired, Bane leads a fairly active life, going for long walks to keep fit. He does yeoman's service by counselling patients afflicted with kidney problems and advises the needy on taxation matters, his area of expertise.

58-year-old Fakirbhai Bhailalbhai Patel cultivates 70 acres of land in Kural village Karjan taluka of Baroda district, Gujarat. Cotton yield on his farm increased significantly after using Novartis products.

Crop Protection

Cotton is the most important cash crop grown in

Western, Central and Southern India. A significant

portion of Crop Protection's business comes from

cotton farmers. Cotton is susceptible to many pests.

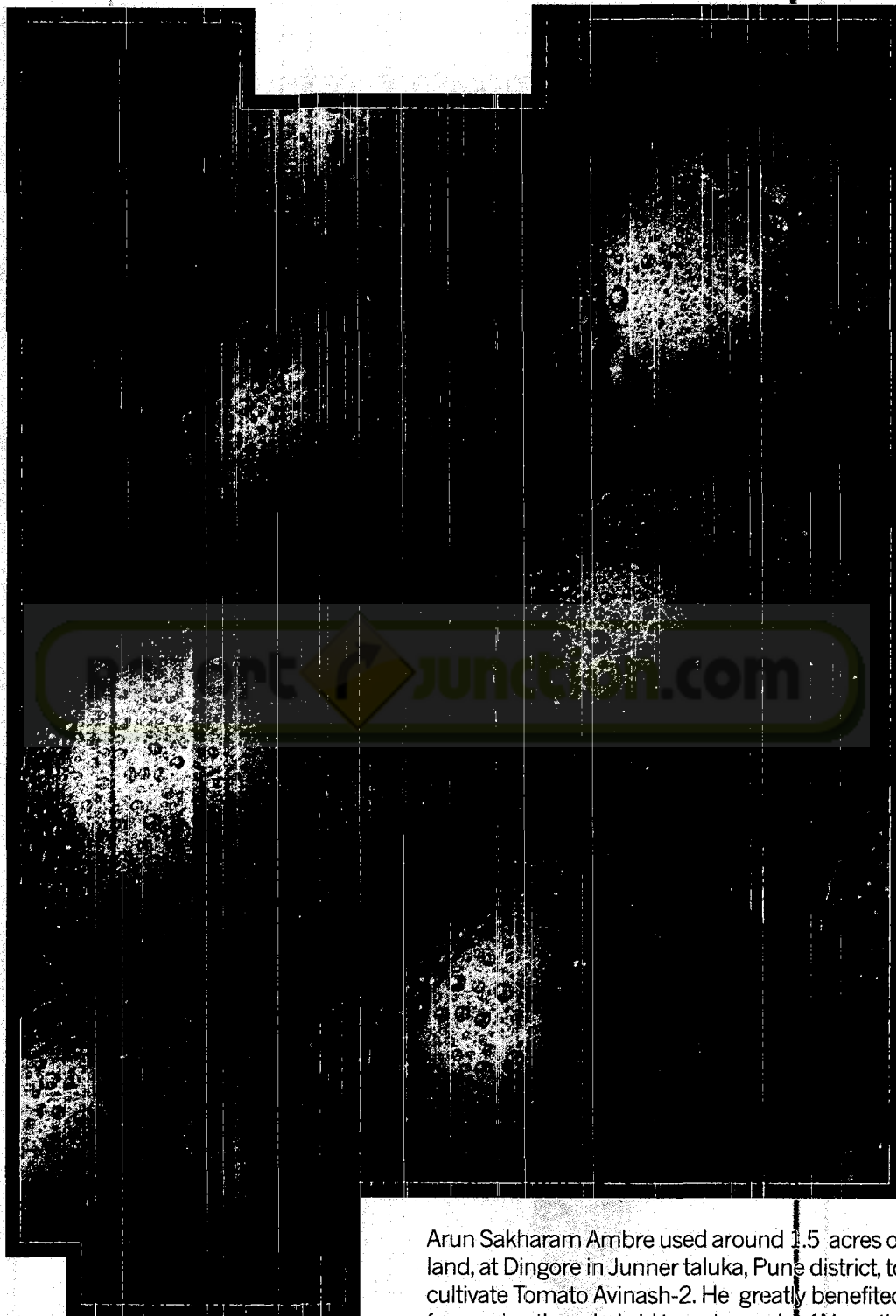Of these, heliothis (bollworm) can be quite destructive

causing heavy losses to the farmer.

Fakirbhai Bhailalbhai Patel

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Fakirbhai Bhailalbhai Patel has been cultivating cotton for the last several years and has faced a recurring problem of heliothis. In 1997, with the help of training and technical advice from Novartis' field sales personnel, he used two of Novartis' novel products CURACRON® and POLYTRIN® C44 to manage heliothis on cotton. This resulted in a healthy crop, increased flowering and fruiting and an increased yield from 7.25 quintals to 9 quintals per acre.

Arun Sakharam Ambre used around 1.5 acres of land, at Dingore in Junner taluka, Pune district, to cultivate Tomato Avinash-2. He greatly benefited from using these hybrid tomato seeds of Novartis. His yield was four times greater than that of other hybrids, also sown by him during the same season.