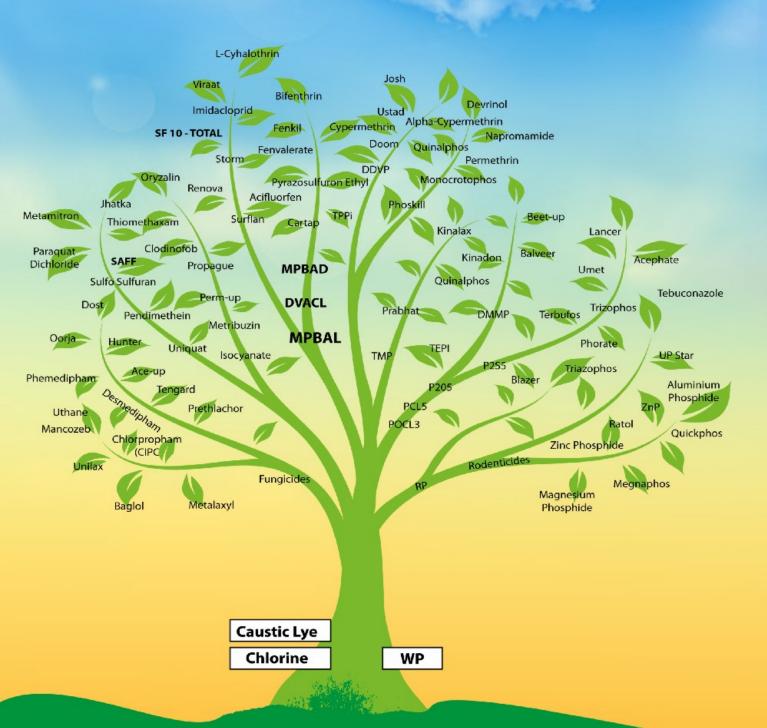


# **UPL PRODUCT PORTFOLIO**





# United Phosphorus Limited - 27th Annual Report 2010-2011 =

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## 27th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2011

Day: Tuesday

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Place: Hotel Green View Hall,

National Highway No.8, G.I.D.C., Vapi, Dist. Valsad,

Gujarat - 396 195.

For assistance regarding share transfers, transmission, change of address, duplicate/loss of shares and other related matters, please write to the Registrar & Share Transfer Agent

Sharepro Services(India) Pvt. Ltd. Unit: United Phosphorus Limited 13AB, Samhita Warehoushing Complex, Second Floor, Sakinaka Telephone Exchange Lane, Off Andheri Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Andheri (E), Mumbai 400 072.

Phone No(s). : 91-022-67720300/344/345

Fax No : 91-022-2859 1568

## **BOOK CLOSURE**

Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2011 to Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2011

# United Phosphorus Limited =

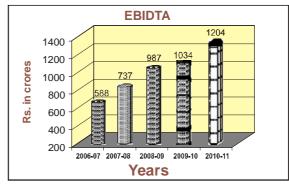
## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE FOR LAST FIVE YEARS

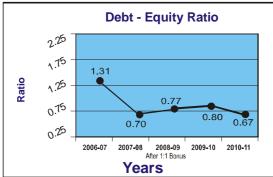
(₹ in Crores)

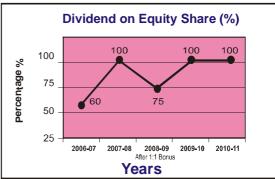
Accounting Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Sales	2311	3516	4802	5290	5650
Total Income	2471	3762	4974	5493	5898
Earnings before Depreciation, Interest, Amortisation and Tax (EBDITA)	588	737	987	1034	1204
Profit after tax & minority interest	258	258	456	526	558
Gross Fixed Assets	2223	2497	2742	2737	2905
Net Fixed Assets	1092	1280	150 <i>7</i>	1508	1594
Net worth	1495	2238	2673	2992	3726
Earning per share ₹	13.04	11.64	9.88*	11.40	12.45
Book Value per share ₹	79.71	101.87	60.81*	68.06	80.68
Debt Equity Ratio	1.31:1	0.70:1	0.77:1*	0.80:1	0.67:1
Net Profit/Sales (%)	11.16	7.36	9.69	9.70	10.46
Dividend on Equity Shares (%)	60	100	75*	100	100
Return on Net worth (%)	17.26	11.57	17.40*	17.15	15.86

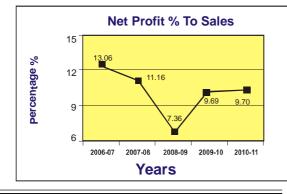
<sup>\*</sup> After 1:1 Bonus

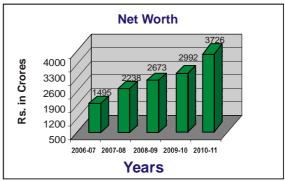












## 27th Annual Report 2010-2011

Chairman & Managing Director

Vice Chairman

- Executive Director

- Director - Finance

- Whole - time Director

- Global CEO of the Group

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MR. R. D. SHROFF

MRS. S. R. SHROFF

MR. J. R. SHROFF

MR. V. R. SHROFF

MR. A. C. ASHAR

MR. K. BANERJEE

MR. PRADEEP GOYAL

DR. P. V. KRISHNA

DR. (MRS) R. RAMACHANDRAN

MR. PRADIP MADHAVJI

MR. VINOD SETHI

MR. CHIRAYU R. AMIN

## **COMPANY SECRETARY**

MR. M. B. TRIVEDI

## **AUDITORS**

S. V. GHATALIA & ASSOCIATES Chartered Accountants

## **BANKERS**

Dena Bank

Bank of Baroda

State Bank of India

Union Bank of India

Canara Bank

IDBI Bank Ltd.

The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.

Axis Bank Ltd.

Andhra Bank

State Bank of Hyderabad

Export-Import Bank of India

ICICI Bank Ltd.

ING Vysya Bank Ltd.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

Uniphos House, C.D.Marg, Khar (West), Mumbai- 400 052 Tel.: 2646 8000 Fax: 2604 1010

## **REGISTERED OFFICE**

3-11, G.I.D.C., Vapi,

Dist.: Valsad, Gujarat-396 195.

Tel.: 0260-2400717 Fax: 0260-2401823

## SECRETARIAL DEPARTMENT

8, Shri Krishna Commercial Centre,

Ground Floor, Opp. Raheja Solitaire,

6, Udyog Nagar, Off S. V. Road,

Goregaon (West), Mumbai- 400 062.

Tel.: 2872 4862 Fax: 2875 3485



**NOTICE** is hereby given that **27th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Members of **UNITED PHOSPHORUS LIMITED** will be held on Tuesday, 26th July, 2011 at 10.00 a. m. at Hotel Green View Hall, National Highway No. 8, G.I.D.C., Vapi, Gujarat - 396 195, to transact the following business:

#### **ORDINARY BUSINESS:**

- 1. To consider and adopt the audited Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2011, Profit and Loss Account for the year ended on that date and the Reports of the Board of Directors and Auditors thereon.
- 2. To declare dividend on equity shares.
- 3. To appoint a Director in place of Mr. J. R. Shroff, who retires by rotation and being eligible, offers himself for re-appointment.
- 4. To appoint a Director in place of Dr. P. V. Krishna, who retires by rotation and being eligible, offers himself for re-appointment.
- 5. To appoint a Director in place of Mr. Pradeep Goyal, who retires by rotation and being eligible, offers himself for re-appointment.
- 6. To appoint a Director in place of Mrs. S. R. Shroff, who retires by rotation and being eligible, offers herself for re-appointment.
- 7. To appoint Auditors and fix their remuneration.

#### **SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

8. To consider and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as an **Ordinary Resolution**:

"RESOLVED THAT in accordance with the provisions of Sections 198, 269 and 309 read with Schedule XIII and all other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force), the consent of the Company be and is hereby accorded to the reappointment of Mr. Vikram R. Shroff, as Executive Director for a period of 5 (five) years with effect from 1st May, 2011, on the terms and conditions including remuneration as are set out in the agreement to be entered into between the Company and Mr. Vikram R. Shroff, a draft whereof is placed before this meeting which agreement is hereby specifically sanctioned with liberty to the Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as "the Board" which term shall be deemed to include the Remuneration Committee constituted by the Board) to alter and vary the terms and conditions of the said reappointment and/or remuneration and/or agreement, subject to the same not exceeding the limits specified in Schedule XIII to the Companies Act, 1956, including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force or as may hereafter be made by the Central Government in that behalf from time to time, or any amendments thereto as may be agreed to between the Board and Mr. Vikram R. Shroff.

**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** where in any financial year the Company has no profits or its profits are inadequate, the said Mr. Vikram R. Shroff shall be paid the aforementioned remuneration as minimum remuneration subject however to the limits prescribed under the said Schedule XIII or any modifications thereof.

**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** the Board be and is hereby authorized to take all such steps as may be necessary, proper or expedient to give effect to this resolution."

- 9. To consider and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modification(s), the following resolution as a **Special Resolution**:
  - **"RESOLVED THAT** pursuant to Section 31, and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 1956, (including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force), the Articles of the Company be and are hereby altered by inserting the following new Articles after the existing Article 3
  - 3A. Subject to the provisions of section 77A of the Act and all other applicable provisions of law and rules and regulations as may be in force at any time and from time to time, the Company may acquire, purchase, hold, resell any of its own fully/ partly paid shares and may make payment out of funds at its disposal for and in respect of such acquisition/ purchase on such terms and conditions and at such times as the Board may in its discretion decide and deem fit
  - 3B. Subject to the provisions of section 86 (a) (ii) of the Act and all other applicable provisions of law and in accordance with Companies (Issue of Share Capital with differential voting rights) Rules, 2001 and any other Rules and regulations as may be in force from time to time, and necessary approval from members, the Company may issue equity shares with differential voting rights as to dividend, voting or otherwise on such terms and conditions and at such times as the Board may in its discretion decide and deem fit.

## NOTES:

- A MEMBER ENTITLED TO ATTEND AND VOTE AT THE MEETING IS ENTITLED TO APPOINT A PROXY TO ATTEND AND VOTE INSTEAD OF HIMSELF AND SUCH PROXY NEED NOT BE A MEMBER. The instrument appointing proxy in order to be effective should be duly stamped, completed and signed and should be deposited at the Registered Office of the Company not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting.
- 2. All documents referred to in the accompanying Notice are open for inspection at the Registered Office of the Company on all working days except Saturdays between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. up to the date of 27th Annual General Meeting.
- 3. Members/Proxies should bring the Attendance Slip duly filled in for attending the meeting.
- 4. The Register of Members and The Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Saturday, 16th July, 2011 to Tuesday, 26th July, 2011 (both days inclusive).

## 27th Annual Report 2010-2011

- 5. The Members are requested to kindly send all their correspondence relating to the change of address, transfer of shares, etc. directly to the Company's Registrar & Transfer Agents Sharepro Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Unit: United Phosphorus Limited, 13AB, Samhita Warehousing Complex, Second Floor, Sakinaka Telephone Exchange Lane,Off Andheri Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Andheri (E), Mumbai 400 072, quoting their Folio Number and in case their shares are held in dematerialised form, the intimation of change of address should be passed on to their respective Depository Participants.
- 6. Payment of dividend as recommended by the Directors, if declared at the Meeting, will be made on or after 1st August, 2011 to the Members whose names stand in the Company's Register of Members on 26th July, 2011 and to the Beneficiary Holders as per the Beneficiary List provided for the purpose by the National Securities Depository Limited and Central Depository Services (India) Limited.
- 7. Members seeking any information with regard to Accounts are requested to write to the Company at an early date so as to enable the management to keep the information ready.
- 8. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 205A of the Companies Act, 1956, unclaimed dividend for the financial year 1994-95 has been transferred to the General Revenue Account of the Central Government as required by the Companies Unpaid Dividend (Transfer to General Revenue Account of the Central Government) Rules, 1978. Members who have not encashed the Dividend Warrants pertaining to the said period may make their claims to the Registrar of Companies, Gujarat, Ahmedabad by submitting an application in prescribed form.
- 9. There is no outstanding unclaimed dividend for the year 1995-96.
- 10. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 205A(5) of the Companies Act, 1956, as amended-
  - (a) Dividend for the year 1996-97 which remained unclaimed for a period of seven years from the date of transfer of same to the unpaid dividend account of the Company have been transferred to the Investor Education and Protection Fund established by the Central Government pursuant to Section 205C of the Companies Act, 1956.
  - (b) Dividend for the years 2003-04 to 2009-10 which remain unclaimed for a period of seven years from the date of transfer of same to the unpaid dividend account of the Company will be transferred to the Investor Education and Protection Fund established by the Central Government pursuant to Section 205C of the Companies Act, 1956.
    - Members who have not so far encashed the Dividend Warrant(s) are requested to make their claims to the Company immediately. It may be noted that once the unclaimed dividend is transferred to the Investor Education and Protection Fund, no claim shall lie, against the Company or the said fund, in respect thereof.
- 11. Additional information on Directors being appointed / re-appointed as required under Clause 49(VI) of the listing agreement with the Stock Exchanges:
  - At the ensuing Annual General Meeting, Mr. J. R. Shroff, Dr. P. V. Krishna, Mr. Pradeep Goyal and Mrs. S. R. Shroff, Directors, retire by rotation and being eligible offer themselves for reappointment. In pursuance of Corporate Governance code, information of the aforesaid Directors is provided hereunder:
  - (a) Mr. J. R. Shroff is the Director of the Company since 1st October, 1992 and is a science graduate. He has worked with the Group for more than 18 years. He has substantial experience in various areas of the Group's operations. He is also a Director on the Board of various other public limited companies, viz. Uniphos Enterprises Ltd., Enviro Technology Ltd., Nivi Trading Ltd., Ventura Guaranty Ltd., Advanta India Ltd., Bharuch Enviro Infrastructure Ltd., Tatva Global Environment Ltd., Tatva Global Environment (Deonar) Ltd., Shivalik Solid Waste Management Ltd., UPL Environmental Engineers Ltd., Nirlon Ltd., Latur Water Supply Management Co. Ltd., Sharvak Environment Ltd. and Entrust Environment Ltd.
  - (b) Dr. P. V. Krishna is the Director of the Company since 31st January, 2002. He is a member of the Audit Committee, Shareholders/Investors Grievance Committee and Remuneration Committee. He is Ph.D.(Tech.). He is a Chemical technologist with specialization in chemicals and petrochemicals. He has over 40 years experience in Research & Development and industry and held various positions in Government of Gujarat and Government of India. He is presently a Project Consultant for Chemicals, Petro Chemicals, Safety Management and Environment Planning. He has got an excellent technical background. He is also a Director on the Board of Suvikas People's Co-operative Bank Ltd.
  - (c) Mr. Pradeep Goyal is the Director of the Company since 29th March, 2001. He is a Metallurgy Engineer from IIT and Master Graduate from MIT, USA. He has been the member of various associations such as All India Manufacturers Organisation, ASSOCHAM, Indo-German Chambers of Commerce, etc. He has authored a few articles relating to steel making. He is the Managing Director of Pradeep Metals Ltd. He is also on the Board of Uniphos Enerprises Ltd., Hind Rectifiers Ltd., Entegra Ltd. and Jankalyan Sahakari Bank Ltd.
  - (d) Mrs. S. R. Shroff is the Director of the Company since 1st October, 1992. She has been associated with Uniphos Enterprises Ltd. (erstwhile United Phosphorus Ltd.) since its inception. She has held various important positions in commercial, educational and social fields. She is on the Board of Uniphos Enterprises Ltd., Uniphos Agro Industries Ltd., Enviro Technology Ltd., Nivi Trading Ltd., Shroff United Chemicals Ltd., Bharuch Enviro Infrastructure Ltd., Vapi Waste and Effluent Management Co. Ltd., Ventura Guaranty Ltd. and UPL Environmental Engineers Ltd.

Mumbai: 29th April, 2011

By Order of the Board of Directors

Registered Office: 3-11, G.I.D.C., Vapi, Dist. Valsad, Pin - 396 195.

M. B. TRIVEDI Company Secretary



#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 173(2) OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956.

The Explanatory Statement for Item Nos. 8 and 9 of the accompanying Notice set out hereinabove is as under:

#### Item No. 8

Subject to shareholders' approval, the Board of Directors of the Company, at its meeting held on 29th April, 2011, have re-appointed Mr. Vikram R. Shroff as Executive Director for a period of 5 years commencing from 1st May, 2011 on the terms and conditions as stated in the draft of agreement to be entered into by the Company with Mr. Vikram R. Shroff. The Remuneration Committee of the Board of Directors has approved the remuneration in respect of the above Director.

The broad particulars of remuneration payable to and the terms of the reappointment of Mr. Vikram R. Shroff during the tenure of his reappointment are as under:

#### a) Salary:

₹21,00,000/- per month with powers to the Board of Directors (which includes any Committee thereof) to grant such increments as they may in their absolute discretion think fit.

#### b) Commission:

Such amount of Commission not exceeding 1% (one percent) of net profits of the Company, to the appointee, as may be decided by the Board of Directors for each financial year.

#### c) Perquisites

Perquisites as follows shall be allowed in addition to the salary and commission to the appointee. The perquisites will be evaluated on the basis of the cost to the Company or as provided in the Income-tax Act 1961 or rules framed thereunder, as may be applicable:

#### (i) Housing

- (a) If residential accommodation is provided in a company owned house, then a deduction by way of rent at 15% of the salary of the appointee shall be made;
- (b) If the Company hires residential accommodation for the appointee, then a deduction by way of rent, at actual rent paid or 15% of the salary of appointee, whichever is lower, shall be made;
- (c) If the company does not provide residential accommodation to the appointee, the appointee shall be paid such house rent allowance not exceeding 60% of his salary as the Board may decide;
- (ii) The expenditure incurred by the appointee on Gas, Electricity, Water and Furnishing shall be reimbursed by the Company as per Income-tax Rules, 1962, and the same shall not exceed 10% of the salary of the Appointee;
- (iii) Reimbursement of all Medical expenses actually incurred for self and family;
- (iv) Leave travel concession for self and family once in a year in accordance with the rules of the company;
- (v) Fees of clubs subject to a maximum of two clubs. However, life membership and admission fees shall not be paid by the Company;
- (vi) Personal Accident Insurance of an amount, the annual premium of which shall not exceed ₹4.000/-:
- (vii) Contribution towards Provident Fund, Superannuation Fund or Annuity Fund as per rules of the Company;
- (viii) Gratuity payable at the rate of half a month's salary for each completed year of service, and the same will not be included in perquisites;
- (ix) Cars with driver shall be provided for use on company's business and the same will not be considered as perquisites; use of car for private purposes shall however, be billed by the Company;
- (x) Telephones at residence will be provided and the same will not be considered as perquisite but personal long distance calls shall be billed by the Company;
- (xi) Actual Entertainment expenses incurred for the business of the Company will be reimbursed;
- (xii) Even if in any financial year, the Company has no profits or profits are inadequate, the aforesaid salary and perquisites will be payable as minimum remuneration.

The draft agreement to be entered into between the Company and Mr. Vikram R. Shroff incorporating the above particulars of remuneration is available for inspection by the Members of the Company at the Registered Office of the Company on all working days (except Saturdays), up to the date of the 27th Annual General Meeting between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.

The above may be treated as an abstract of the terms of the contract/agreement proposed to be entered into between the Company and Mr. Vikram R. Shroff pursuant to Section 302 of the Companies, Act, 1956.

Mr. Vikram R. Shroff is interested in the resolution which pertain to his reappointment and remuneration payable to him. Further, Mr. Rajju D. Shroff, Mrs. S. R. Shroff and Mr. J. R. Shroff may also be deemed to be interested in the resolution pertaining to the reappointment and remuneration payable to Mr. Vikram R. Shroff as they are related to each other. Save and except the above, none of the other Directors of the company is, in any way, concerned or interested in the said resolution.

Your Directors commend the resolution at Item No. 8 of the Notice for approval.

#### Item No. 9

It is proposed to add new Articles 3A. and 3B. respectively after the existing Article 3 to enable the Company to purchase any of its own shares and to issue of shares with differential voting rights respectively, in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Rules, if any, applicable for the same. The resolution confers authority on the Board of Directors for the purpose.

As per the provisions of Section 31 of the Companies Act, 1956, a company may by a special resolution alter its Articles of Association. The Directors recommend the resolution for approval of the shareholders.

A copy of the Articles of Association of the Company showing proposed alterations is available for inspection at the Registered Office of the Company during office hours on all working days except Saturday between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. up to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

None of the Directors of the Company is in any way concerned or interested in the resolution.

By the Order of the Board of Directors For UNITED PHOSPHORUS LIMITED

M.B. TRIVEDI COMPANY SECRETARY

Registered Office: 3-11, G.I.D.C., Vapi, Gujarat - 396 195. Dated: 29th April, 2011.

## 27th Annual Report 2010-2011

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

TO,

THE MEMBERS OF

## **UNITED PHOSPHORUS LIMITED**

Your Directors have pleasure in presenting their report and audited accounts for the year ended on 31st March, 2011.

## **FINANCIAL RESULTS:**

	ConsolidatedSta				(₹ ir and Alon	n lacs) e		
		Current Year		Previous Year	Curi Y	rent /ear	1	Previous Year
Sale of Products (net of excise and rebate and discounts) and other income from operations.		589817		549279	306	468		262734
Profit before depreciation, interest and amortization of Deferred revenue expenses and Minority Interest		120424		103389	618	855		44895
Depreciation / Amortisation		21380		21470	11-	468		10791
Interest		31200		19379	293	364		9264
Exceptional Items		1400		2670		-		-
Minority Interest		1036		593		-		
Profit Before Tax		65408		59277	210	023		24840
Provisions for Taxation: Current Tax	9597		3720		5880		4420	
MAT Credit Entitlement	_		_		-		(2277)	
Deferred Tax	(1496)		4415		(631.00)		4568	
Tax effect of earlier years	(793)	7308	<u>401</u>	8536	24	273	<del></del>	6711
Profit After Tax		58100		50741		750		18129
Share of Profit in Associates		(1417)		1875				-
		56683		52616	15	750		18129
Prior Period Adjustments (Net)	921							
Debenture Redemption Reserve (Net of write back)	(23843)		3601					
		(22922)		3601		0		0
		79605		49015	15	750		18129
Balance Brought Forward		123693		86929		340		63
Amount available for Appropriations		203298		135944	180	090		18192
APPROPRIATIONS: Debenture Redemption Reserve written back					30-	448		4402
Final Equity Dividend	9261		8791		9261		8791	
Tax on Distributed Profits	1502		1460		1502		1460	
Debenture Redemption Reserve (Net of write back)					6605		8003	
Transfer to General Reserve	27500		2000		27500		2000	
		38263		12251	448	868		20254
Balance Carried Forward		165035		123693	30	670		2340
					_			

## **OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE:**

During the year, India received very good monsoon. The La Nina effect leading to high precipitation resulted in bountiful rains throughout the country. Many crops recorded higher production this year. There was bumper harvest in both kharif and rabi seasons. Prices of most of the inputs also stabilized during the year. All these factors led to overall improvement in the economy of the country. The GDP growth was also higher.

Barring a few countries like Argentina, the rains were good and fairly widespread in most of the countries around the world. However, there were political upheavals and public uprising which saw end of dynasty rule in countries like Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, etc. Japan suffered national calamities like earthquake, tsunami and nuclear leaks. It led to high crude oil prices which affected the economies of all countries. Fears of inflation are looming large. Economies of some of the European nations continued to remain sluggish.



# United Phosphorus Limited =

On the back of good monsoon, the sale of agrochemicals in India in the first half of the year were higher. However, contrary to the expectations, the sales in second half were not so encouraging. On international front, the company did very good business in Latin American market. The sales of company's agrochemicals in these parts were high and in future also, the sales of agrochemicals in the Latin American countries will go up.

Total net sales for the year were higher at ₹2809.14 crores as against ₹2453.39 crores. Profit before Taxes were at ₹210.23 crores as against ₹248.40 crores last year.

#### **FUTURE OUTLOOK:**

For the year 2011-12, normal monsoons are predicted in India. This should result in higher sales and improved profitability. Further, economic situation in USA and many countries in Europe are showing distinct signs of recovery. This will positively affect the performance of agrochemical industry. With the population in India going up, food production has to go up which can be possible only by increased and regulated usage of agrochemicals. In the recent Union Budget, greater thrust is provided on agriculture, infrastructure and education. This will also help the Company to have better performance in the coming years.

#### **DIVIDEND:**

Your Directors have recommended dividend of ₹2/- per Equity Share of ₹2/- each for the financial year ended 31st March, 2011, which if approved at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, will be paid to all those Equity Shareholders of the Company whose names appear in the Register of Members as on 26th July, 2011 and whose names appear as beneficial owners as per beneficiary list furnished for the purpose by National Securities Depository Limited and Central Depository Services (India) Limited.

#### **FINANCE:**

During the year, the Company has raised funds of ₹600 crores by issue of unsecured Redeemable Non-convertible Debentures.

#### **FIXED DEPOSITS:**

The Company has not accepted fixed deposits during the year. There are no fixed deposits outstanding as at 31st March, 2011.

#### **RECENT ACQUISITIONS:**

During the year, the Company made following acquisitions:

- a) Global non-mixture Mancozeb fungicide business and related assets from DuPont, including existing inventory, manufacturing and formulation production facilities in Barranquilla, Colombia. This includes rights to registered brands for non-mixture mancozeb products, trademarks, as well as registrations and supporting regulatory data for those products, which include Manzate® brand fungicides. Mancozeb is a leading fungicide and this acquisition will also help the Company in strengthening its position in the high growth emerging markets including South and Central America. This purchase will enhance the Company's position in the EBDC (Ethylene Bis Dithio Carbamates) segment.
- b) RiceCo LLC, USA along with its subsidiaries and certain assets of the international business of its Affiliate Company. RiceCo does business in more than 20 countries with major markets in the US and other countries like Mexico, Thailand, Nigeria and Sri Lanka. RiceCo mainly caters to the rice market and has a wide range of product offerings based on the herbicide Propanil for this segment. Propanil is a herbicide used for the control of many important annual grasses, broadleaf and sedge weeds in rice. RiceCo will add strong brands for the rice segment to the Company's branded product portfolio.
- (c) One-half of stake in Sipcam Isagro Brasil (SIB), a company in Brazil. This company is a niche local producer and distributor in the Brazilian agrochemicals market. It has a formulation plant in Brazil. This acquisition will help the Company to enter direct distribution business in Brazilian market for its products and help to target untapped markets.

#### **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:**

Research and Development has been given the highest priority in company's business plan. Company's research laboratories at Ankleshwar, Thane and Vapi have been upgraded by adding new equipment and instruments.

In pursuit of introducing new products in the market, R&D has focused on the development of process technologies for the fungicides, herbicides and insecticides. Efforts have also been focused on developing new safer and eco-friendly formulations for better efficacy and improved value for the farmers.

R&D has worked relentlessly in the quality improvement, cost reduction, batch cycle time and waste reduction of our existing products.

Various regulatory data generation and submission of registration dossiers have been also done by R&D during the year.