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Rallis: Patent Sought For Three New Biomolecules

June 3, 2009

Mumbai-based Rallis India Ltd, a Tata Group agrochemical company, has developed at least three new biomolecules for use in fungicides, reports livemint.com. Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer V. Shankar announced that Rallis has applied for a joint global patent with and through the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The biomolecules -- potential compounds or single elements derived from a living organism or natural substance -- discovered by scientists are contained in neem trees and have fungicidal properties. If granted, Rallis ' patents would give it global rights over any commercial products developed from these three biomolecules.

An unnamed Rallis official says that fungicides developed using the biomolecules are undergoing field trials in various parts of India, and have already been tested on major crop diseases. The molecule discovery is part of a public-private partnership (PPP) under CSIR 's New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative. The initiative is currently the largest PPP effort within the research and development space in the country.

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