

## **Dharna against BRAI bill in Delhi**

On 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, GM free coalition of India and other partner groups organized a Dharna at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi against BRAI bill. Members from various from civil society groups, women groups, organic vendors, farmer groups and political parties joined the Dharna.

This dharna was to showcase the common man's opposition to a dangerous, risking to our health and Environment which is coming in a non-transparent manner and without thorough research and discussion with the large number of farmers associations. Both Ceeoedecon and KSS are supporting this campaign and demand from the Government to withdraw the Bill. The BRAI bill is a centralised, technocratic single window clearing system for easy approval of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). NGOs and activists feel that this Bill is biased, unscientific and non-transparent in dealing with regulation of genetically modified crops.

### **Outcome**

Due to opposition of BRAI bill by the civil society nationwide, it is not passed by the parliament. It was a pride moment for KSSM that one of their members Smt Asha ji delivered her speech against BRAI bill from Jantar Mantar in the presence of Shri Murli Manohar Joshi and other Political leaders and activists. She was the only female speaker who got a chance to speak before 3000 people came across the country.