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SALES

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WITH PURPOSE


EXPAND
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NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

INDPLAS 2027 will serve as a powerful platform connecting innovation, sustainability, technology, and global business opportunities for the plastics industry.

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FROM THE

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PLASTICS INDIA

A journal for the growth and development of plastics trade & industry

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Dear Readers,

Seasons Greetings.

The petrochemical and plastics industry is at a pivotal moment. While it remains essential to modern life, it faces growing pressure to address environmental concerns and adopt more sustainable practices.

Geopolitical tensions, shifting energy markets, and supply chain disruptions continue to affect production and feedstock availability. Despite these challenges, demand for plastics is rising, especially in emerging economies, driven by urbanization and growing needs in packaging, healthcare, electronics, and renewable energy.

At the same time, concerns about climate change, waste, and resource use have intensified scrutiny of the industry. The focus is no longer on eliminating plastics, but on producing, using, and recycling them responsibly. Plastics remain valuable for food preservation, healthcare, transportation, and energy efficiency, but unmanaged waste must be addressed.

In response, companies are investing in advanced recycling, bio-based materials, renewable feedstocks, and circular economy solutions. Efforts to improve collection, recycling infrastructure, and product design are helping shift the industry away from the traditional "take-make-dispose" model.

Countries such as India have an opportunity to lead through stronger recycling systems, EPR initiatives, and sustainable manufacturing growth. Effective, science-based policies can support both environmental goals and industrial competitiveness.

The path forward requires collaboration among producers, recyclers, policymakers, brands, and consumers. Sustainability, circularity, and resource efficiency will increasingly shape the industry's future alongside economic performance.

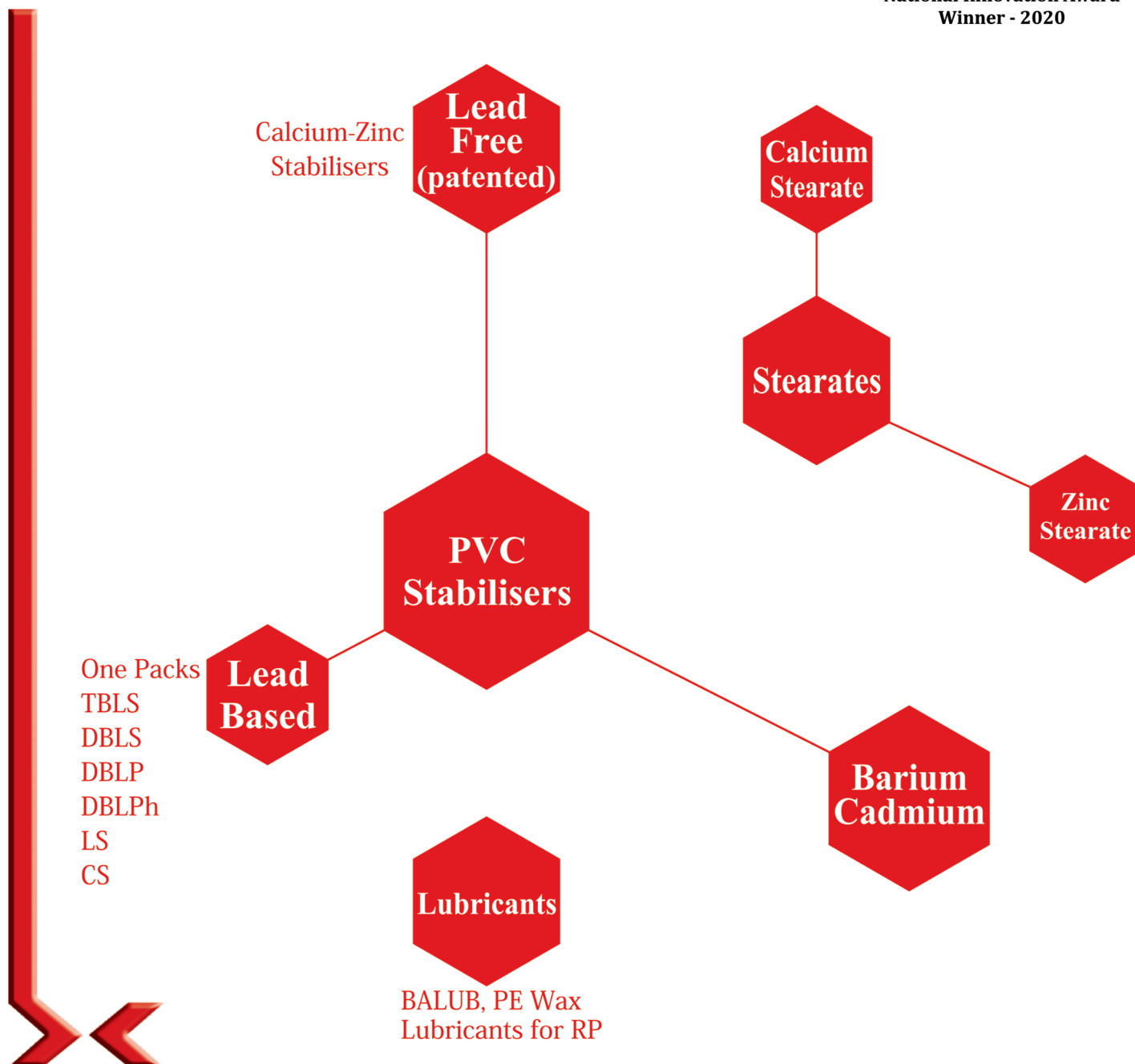
The challenge is significant, but so is the industry's capacity for innovation. By embracing responsible practices and circular solutions, petrochemicals and plastics can continue supporting economic development while contributing to a more sustainable future.

Happy Browsing.

Maniesh K Singhania
Editor



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PRESIDENT *Message*

**AMIT KUMAR
AGARWAL**

President, Indian Plastics Federation

Dear Members,

“संगच्छध्वं संवदध्वं सं वो मनांसि जानताम्”

— *Rig Veda*

(“Let us move forward together with unity of thought and purpose.”)

This timeless shloka truly reflects the spirit of IPF — bringing the plastics fraternity together on a common platform for collaboration, progress, and collective growth.

I assumed the office of President of the Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) on 30th August 2025, and the last eight months have been both challenging and rewarding. From day one, our focus has been clear — to convert commitments into action, energise the Federation, strengthen engagement, and position IPF as a stronger and more influential voice of the plastics sector. I am proud to say that we have moved ahead with speed, purpose, and determination.

One of our key priorities was to organise meaningful and result-oriented programmes at regular intervals, and I am delighted that IPF has successfully conducted a series of high-value interactions, networking meets, knowledge sessions, business discussions, and engagement initiatives across multiple platforms. These efforts have helped keep our fraternity closely connected, actively involved, and focused on collective progress. The enthusiastic response clearly reflects the growing confidence in IPF and its activities.

A defining moment for the plastics sector came in February 2026 with the grand success of the largest-ever Plastindia Exhibition in New Delhi under the dynamic chairmanship of Shri Alok Tibrewala. IPF members played a major leadership role by successfully heading several important committees, earning nationwide recognition and further strengthening the stature of IPF at the national level. The exhibition emerged as one of the most successful editions in Plastindia's history and recorded its highest-ever surplus of approximately Rs. 105 crores, out of which IPF proudly received a share of Rs. 2 crores for future development initiatives. IPF also organised a grand felicitation ceremony to honour Shri Alok Tibrewala and the entire team associated with this historic achievement.

The past few months also tested the resilience of the sector due to uncertainties arising out of the Gulf War situation, which disrupted supply chains, impacted logistics, and

created unprecedented volatility in raw material prices. During this difficult phase, IPF remained proactive and continuously engaged with stakeholders and government authorities to safeguard the interests of the fraternity. I am pleased to state that the strong representations and continuous follow-ups by IPF resulted in important relief measures including duty reductions, declaration of Force Majeure in several cases, and enhanced working capital support to help businesses cope with the challenges.

I am also extremely happy to share that the IPF office and conference room have now been completely renovated and modernised. The upgraded infrastructure reflects the evolving vision and growing stature of the Federation and will provide a vibrant platform for meetings, discussions, workshops, seminars, and training programmes for years to come. Our conference room is now fully equipped with modern video conferencing facilities and is ready to host high-level interactions and engagements on a much larger scale.

At the same time, preparations for Indplas'27 have already begun with renewed enthusiasm and a larger vision under the chairmanship of Shri Ashok Jajodia, who will be leading Indplas for the historic fourth time. With strong planning and collective effort, we are confident that Indplas'27 will set new benchmarks in scale, participation, and business opportunities for Eastern India's plastics sector.

With the new government in West Bengal, the focus is once again shifting strongly towards industrial growth and infrastructure development. There is renewed optimism across the business community, and the plastics sector has a significant role to play in this transformation. IPF is actively engaging with the Government to ensure that the sector receives the necessary support, policy attention, and opportunities required for accelerated growth.

As we move ahead, IPF remains committed to stronger engagement, innovation, sustainability, and responsible growth for the plastics sector. While challenges will continue to emerge, they also create opportunities for progress and transformation. I sincerely thank all office bearers, colleagues, and supporters for their trust and encouragement, and assure you that my team and I remain fully committed to strengthening the voice and future of the plastics fraternity with unity, action, and dedication.

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HON'Y SECRETARY *Message*

As stakeholders of this important sector, we collectively carry the responsibility of building a cleaner, greener, and more efficient plastics ecosystem for future generations.

Focus on Eastern & North-Eastern India

Eastern and North-Eastern India are emerging as important growth centres for the plastics and polymer industry. The **IPF North-East Chapter** continues to receive encouraging response and participation from industry members across the region.

With improving infrastructure, industrial development, connectivity, and government focus, the region holds immense potential for future investment, processing growth, trade expansion, and employment generation.

INDPLAS'27 – India's Gateway to Global Plastics

One of the major highlights ahead for the industry is **INDPLAS'27**, scheduled to be held from **19th November 2027 to 22nd November 2027 at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan (Milan Mela Ground), Kolkata.**

With the inspiring theme **"India's Gateway to Global Plastics,"** the exhibition is envisioned as a global platform bringing together technology leaders, manufacturers, innovators, recyclers, machinery producers, exporters, entrepreneurs, and international participants under one roof.

INDPLAS'27 will not merely be an exhibition — it will reflect the confidence, capability, innovation, and future vision of the Indian plastics industry.

The Road Ahead

As we move forward, collaboration between industry, government, technology providers, recyclers, and policymakers will become increasingly important. The future belongs to industries that innovate responsibly, manufacture efficiently, and grow sustainably.

Key Industry Message

"Plastics are not the problem — irresponsible handling is. Sustainable plastics will continue to power modern India."

"The strength of Indian manufacturing will define the strength of India's future."

On behalf of the Indian Plastics Federation, I extend my sincere gratitude to all members, industry colleagues, exhibitors, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and stakeholders for their continued trust, support, and contribution towards the growth of the plastics industry.

Let us move forward together with confidence, responsibility, innovation, and national pride.

जय ह्रिन्दि ।

"संकल्प से सिद्धि, और उद्योग से राष्ट्र निर्माण ।"

The Indian plastics industry today stands at a defining point of **transformation, responsibility, and opportunity**. As one of the strongest pillars supporting manufacturing, packaging, infrastructure, healthcare, agriculture, mobility, and modern lifestyle requirements, the plastics sector continues to play a critical role in India's economic growth story.

The Federation extends its warm congratulations and best wishes to the Government of West Bengal under the leadership of **Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Suwendu Adhikari**. We remain confident that the state will continue progressing as a major industrial and investment destination while supporting manufacturing growth, infrastructure development, entrepreneurship, and employment generation. A progressive industrial ecosystem supported by visionary governance will further strengthen Eastern India's position in the national manufacturing landscape.

At the Indian Plastics Federation (IPF), we firmly believe that the future of plastics will not be defined merely by production volumes, but by **innovation, sustainability, recycling efficiency, responsible processing, and technological advancement**. The industry must continue evolving from being product-driven to purpose-driven.

Sustainability & Responsible Growth

The Federation remains committed towards strengthening industry participation, encouraging modern manufacturing practices, promoting circular economy initiatives, and creating greater awareness regarding responsible usage and recycling of plastics.

Environmental protection is not separate from industrial growth — it is now an integral part of long-term industrial sustainability.

Saurabh Garodia

Honorary Secretary
Indian Plastics Federation

PLASTINDIA 2026TM

INDIA'S GLOBAL PLASTICS LEADERSHIP ON FULL DISPLAY — A PLASTINDIA 2026 REPORT FOR THE INDIAN PLASTICS FEDERATION



PLASTINDIA 2026, the 12th International Plastics Exhibition, Conference & Convention, was held from 5th to 10th February 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, and concluded as one of the largest and most influential plastics industry event anywhere in the world. Organized by Plastindia Foundation under the theme 'Bharat Next', the six-day mega event showcased India's rapid emergence as a global hub for manufacturing, innovation, sustainability, and exports in the plastics sector. The Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) — a founder member of the Plastindia Foundation — takes particular pride in this milestone, the more so as Shri Alok Tibrewala, Past President of IPF, served as National Executive Council Chairman of the PLASTINDIA 2026 Exhibition. Guided by the visionary leadership of Mr. Ravish Kamath, President, Plastindia Foundation, supported by Mr. Alok Tibrewala, and backed by the unwavering commitment of the Managing Committee of the Plastindia Foundation, the event brought together industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, exhibitors, and stakeholders from across the globe, reinforcing India's position as a key driver of growth, innovation, and sustainability in the global plastics industry.



PLASTINDIA 2026



Total Gross Exhibition Area:

5,40,000 sq.mts.



Net Display Area:

80,000 sq.mts.



Total Exhibitors

1,844
(Domestic: 1,364, +
International: 480)



Total Visitors Footfall

5,55,000



Participating Countries

88

Record-Breaking Participation

PLASTINDIA 2026 scaled unprecedented heights, drawing 1,844 exhibitors from 88 countries and welcoming more than 5,55,000 visitors. Spanning a colossal 5,40,000 sq. mts. at Bharat Mandapam, the exhibition stood as a powerful testament to the surging global confidence in India's plastics manufacturing ecosystem. Senior policymakers, global industry captains, entrepreneurs, technology providers, and high-level international delegations thronged the venue throughout the six days. The scale and stature of the event were widely acknowledged by the Government as a defining showcase of India's industrial prowess.

Driving the 'Bharat Next' Vision

Aligned with the national vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat, PLASTINDIA 2026 was built around five strategic pillars — Trade, Technology, Talent, Tradition, and Tourism. Across these themes the exhibition showcased India's deepening capabilities in plastics processing, infrastructure, automotive, agriculture, healthcare, renewable energy, and packaging.

Plastic Industry Status Report FY25

Union Minister Shri Chirag Paswan Ji officially released the Plastic Industry Status Report FY25 during the exhibition. The report offered detailed insights into India's plastics production capacity, exports, imports, machinery ecosystem, sustainability initiatives, recycling growth, and future investment opportunities, and underscored the central role of plastics in supporting the nation's industrial and economic growth ambitions.

World's First Zero-Waste Exhibition & Sustainability Initiatives

In a landmark moment for the global Exhibition industry, PLASTINDIA 2026 was announced as the world's first Zero-Waste Exhibition — a distinction no event of its



scale had ever achieved. Through the 'Sustainability on Wheels' initiative and the Swachh Bharat Yatra campaign, the Plastindia Foundation transformed this bold ambition into reality, demonstrating large-scale waste segregation, recycling, reuse, and composting in live practice. The results spoke for themselves: more than 4,59,000 kg of waste generated during the exhibition was responsibly processed, achieving an extraordinary 100% landfill diversion. In doing so, PLASTINDIA 2026 set a new global benchmark, proving decisively that scale and sustainability can go hand in hand.



Swachh Bharat Yatra

The month-long Swachh Bharat Yatra travelled over 6,344 kms across multiple states, engaging thousands of individuals, industry participants, and policymakers to spread awareness about responsible plastic usage, waste management, and circular-economy practices. The campaign was a powerful demonstration of how sustainability can be embedded within large-scale industrial events.

Startup Search Initiative – Bharat Next Challenge 2026

The PLASTINDIA Startup Search Initiative – Bharat Next Challenge 2026 was conceived with a clear vision: to celebrate ideas born in India that will shape the future of plastics through sustainability and impact. In partnership with the IIM Calcutta Innovation Park (IIMCIP), the program saw strong nationwide participation, culminating in the selection of 10 start-ups across the reuse, recycle, upcycle, biopolymers, technology, and end-product segments. Each of these start-ups received prize money of Rs. 2 lakhs+ from Shri Chirag Paswan, Hon'ble Minister of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, along with exclusive mentorship from IIM Calcutta and a specially allocated exhibition space at PLASTINDIA 2026 to showcase their innovations.



PLEXCONNECT 2026 – Export Growth Platform

The PLEXCONNECT 2026 Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM), organised alongside PLASTINDIA 2026, connected Indian manufacturers with international buyers through AI-powered business matchmaking. The platform hosted over 140 buyers from 37+ countries and facilitated 860 structured B2B meetings, generating business discussions worth approximately USD 193 million and confirmed orders worth USD 62 million.



Global CEO Conclave 2026

The Plastindia Global CEO Conclave 2026 brought together policymakers, CEOs, and global industry experts to deliberate on India's future growth ambitions in manufacturing, exports, sustainability, infrastructure, and



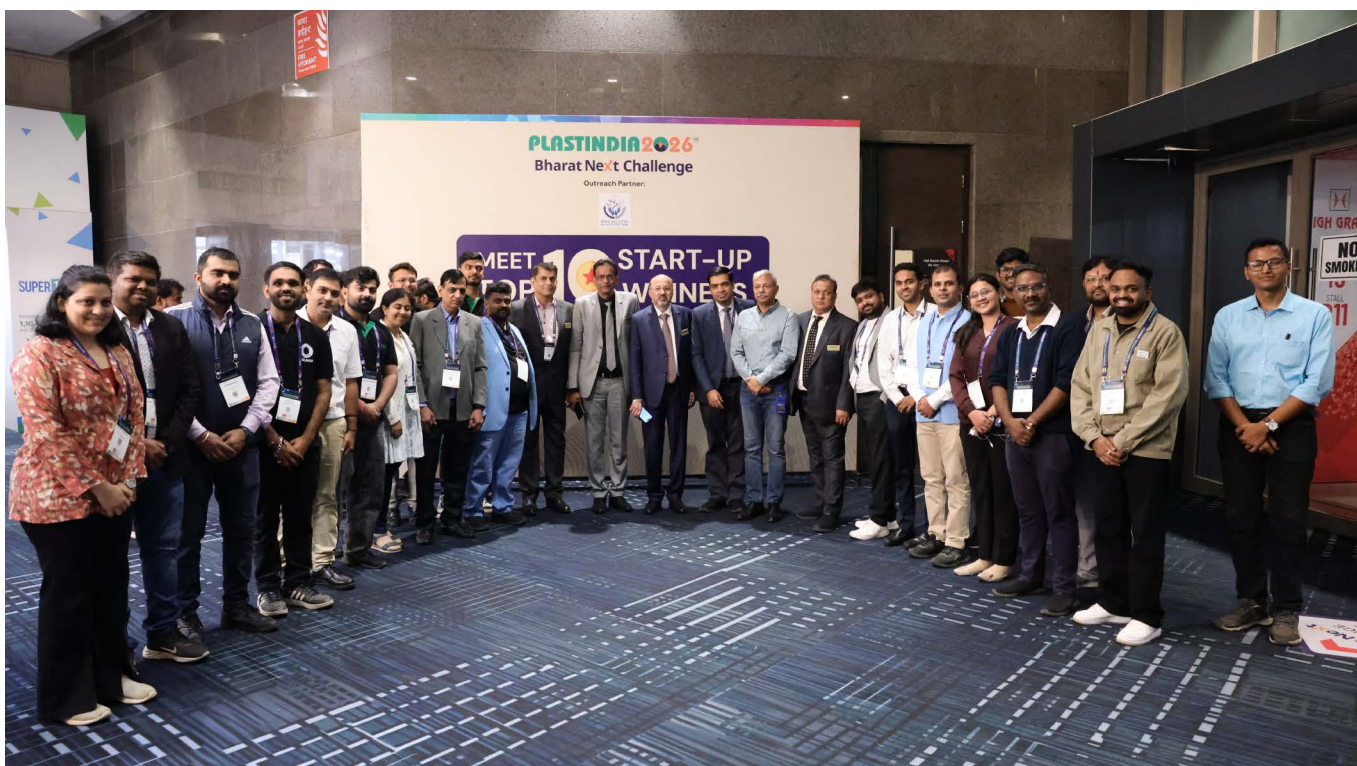
circular-economy adoption. Industry leaders were unanimous that plastics will play a defining role in India's economic transformation, even as the sector balances innovation, environmental responsibility, and global competitiveness.

Conclusion

PLASTINDIA 2026 was far more than an exhibition — it was a defining declaration of India's arrival as a global powerhouse in plastics manufacturing, technology, sustainability, exports, and innovation. From record-breaking participation and a world-first Zero-Waste model to landmark export deals, a thriving startup ecosystem, and high-level global dialogue, every facet of the event spoke to a nation rising with confidence, capability, and conviction. By uniting global exhibitors, start-ups, policymakers, and international buyers under one roof, PLASTINDIA 2026 firmly established India as the world's preferred destination for the plastics and petrochemicals industry — and signalled the dawn of a new era of leadership.

For the Indian Plastics Federation and its members, this triumph carries a special resonance. As a founder member of the Plastindia Foundation, and with Past President Shri Alok Tibrewala steering the event as Chairman of National Executive Council, the success of PLASTINDIA 2026 stands as a moment of collective pride and shared achievement. It was the meticulous and well-curated planning of Chairman Shri Alok Tibrewala that elevated the event into not only the most successful, but also the most beautiful exhibition the industry has witnessed — a showcase where grandeur, detail, and aesthetics came together in perfect harmony. It is a powerful affirmation of what Indian industry can accomplish when vision, leadership, and purpose converge.

Above all, PLASTINDIA 2026 embodied the true spirit of 'Bharat Next' — not merely showcasing India's present strengths, but boldly shaping the future of plastics for India and for the world. The journey ahead is one of limitless possibility, and India stands ready to lead it.



PARTICIPATION OF INDIAN PLASTICS FEDERATION AT PLASTINDIA 2026TM *Exhibition*



The Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) marked a significant presence at the prestigious Plastindia 2026 Exhibition, held at Bharat Mandapam from 5th to 10th February 2026. The exhibition, being one of the largest gatherings of stakeholders in the plastics industry, provided an ideal platform for IPF to showcase its initiatives and strengthen industry connections.

IPF participated with a well-designed 30 sq. metre stall, primarily aimed at promoting its upcoming flagship exhibition, Indplas'27. The stall served as a hub for interaction, information sharing, and networking, attracting a steady flow of visitors including industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals from across the country. The thoughtful presentation and strategic communication at the stall effectively highlighted IPF's vision and plans for the future, generating considerable interest among attendees.

The Federation was ably represented by Shri Manesh Kumar Sharma, Secretary General, and Shri Talent Sarkar, Executive, who actively engaged with visitors, explained the objectives of Indplas'27, and fostered meaningful discussions with potential participants and collaborators. Their consistent efforts ensured strong visibility for IPF throughout the exhibition.



The IPF stall was inaugurated by a distinguished group of industry stalwarts and office bearers, including Shri Rajesh Mohta, Shri K K Seksaria, Shri Ashok Jajodia, Shri Sisir Jalan, Past President, IPF, Shri Amit Kumar Agarwal, President, Shri Shyam Lal Agarwal, Vice President, Shri Saurabh Garodia, Hony. Secretary, and Shri Dipak Gathani, Member, IPF. Their presence added prestige to the occasion and reflected the collective strength and unity of the Federation.

During the exhibition, several eminent personalities and members visited the IPF stall, including Shri Alok Tibrewala, Past President, IPF & Chairman-NEC Plastindia Rajeev Karnani, and Alok Sonthalia. Their visits, along with the participation of many other members, created an atmosphere of enthusiasm and engagement. The visitors appreciated the stall's layout, presentation, and the clarity with which IPF's initiatives were communicated.

Overall, IPF's participation at Plastindia 2026 was highly successful and impactful. It not only reinforced the Federation's commitment to promoting the plastics industry but also helped in building momentum for Indplas'27. The event served as a valuable opportunity to connect with stakeholders, exchange ideas, and strengthen relationships within the industry. The positive response received at the stall stands as a testament to the dedicated efforts of the IPF team and its representatives, paving the way for even greater success in the future.



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The Evolution and Future of Plastic Furniture in India



K. K. Seksaria
Managing Director,
Uma Plastics Ltd.,
Swagath Furniture,
Kolkata

India's plastic furniture industry has evolved from basic utility products into a design-driven, engineered sector, supported by innovation, sustainability and infrastructure demand, with strong growth potential across residential, institutional and global markets.

Introduction

Over the past three decades, the plastic furniture industry in India has undergone a remarkable transformation. Once limited to basic garden chairs and utility products, it has evolved into a technically advanced, design-driven, application-diverse sector serving residential, commercial, institutional and infrastructure segments.

Today, plastic furniture is not merely an economical alternative - it is a performance-oriented solution, offering durability, versatility and innovation across a wide spectrum of applications, from premium indoor furniture and school infrastructure to large-scale stadium seating systems.

Evolution of the Segment

The journey of plastic furniture in India reflects the broader evolution of the plastics industry:

- NN Utility Phase: Basic outdoor chairs, tables and stools.
- NN Mass Adoption Phase: Penetration into households and institutions.
- NN Diversification Phase: Entry into indoor and premium segments.
- NN Engineering Phase: Infrastructure applications and component-based manufacturing.

The plastic furniture industry in India has successfully transitioned into a technically sophisticated, innovation-led sector. With continued emphasis on quality, sustainability and design innovation, plastic furniture is set to emerge as a mainstream, high-performance alternative to traditional materials, driving the next phase of growth in India's furniture and plastics industry.

This evolution underscores a shift from commodity products to engineered solutions, where design, strength and functionality are equally critical.

Market Overview: India in a Global Context

India's plastic furniture market is currently estimated at Rs. 18,000 - Rs. 22,000 crore, outpacing the global average of 5% -

Table 1: Marketing Channels: Structure and Dynamics

Channels	Strengths	Challenges
Dealer-Distributor Network (Dominant Channel)	• Fastest route to nationwide market penetration. • Strong retail presence enhances brand visibility. • Enables customers to physically evaluate products. • Preferred by consumers who trust local retailers.	• Low dealer loyalty. • High credit pressure. • Margin erosion due to discounting.
e-Commerce (Emerging Channel)	• Modular and knock-down designs. • Improved packaging solutions. • Future potential: 40% - 50% of B2C sales.	Currently constrained by logistics.
Retail Chains and Big Departmental Stores	A good volume is also channelised through retail chains.	
Institutional / B2B Sales / Government Sales - For example: • Educational institutions • Hospitality sector • Event management • Public infrastructure (stadiums, airports, railway stations) • Government procurement for government use and many welfare schemes	This channel offers scale, stability and visibility.	

6%. India's growth is driven by rapid urbanisation, an expanding middle-class and ongoing infrastructure development. This momentum is further supported by the rising demand for affordable and durable furniture across both residential and commercial segments.

The sector is characterised by a highly fragmented structure, with a strong presence of MSMEs accounting for nearly 60% - 65% of the market. At the same time, organised players are playing an increasingly significant role, particularly in premium and institutional segments.

Product Spectrum and Volume Dynamics

The industry today spans a comprehensive product portfolio.

Chairs contribute ~65% - 70% of volume.

- This is the dominant category, including:
- Monoblock chairs.
- Armchairs and high-back chairs.
- Designer and dining chairs.
- Kids' chairs and institutional seating.

Tables contribute ~10% - 12%. This category includes various kinds of tables such as dining, study, folding and modular tables.

Stools, patla (low seating) and utility, an essential category of household and rural-use items, contribute ~8% - 10% of the volume.

The other product range includes the following:

- Storage and household furniture (~5% - 7%).
- A Imirahs (wardrobes), racks, cabinets and modular storage.
- School and educational furniture (a fast-growing segment driven by infrastructure expansion).
- Office furniture and components (an emerging high-value segment).

Plastic is also increasingly used in:

- Visitor and cafeteria chairs.
- Revolving chair components such as backs, seats, armrests and bases.

A notable trend in the industry is the emergence of a component manufacturing ecosystem, where specialised manufacturers supply plastic parts to OEMs, creating a robust B2B supply chain within the furniture industry.

Material Innovations and Technical Advancements

While core materials for garden and outdoor furniture include polypropylene (PP), polyethylene (PE), masterbatches and filler compounds, advanced additives and compounds are redefining product categories. They include:

- UV stabilisers for outdoor durability.

- Fire-retardant materials for safety compliance.
- Glass-filled polymers for enhanced strength.
- Premium colour masterbatches for enhanced visual appeal.
- Polycarbonate (PC) for high-end applications.
- Wood plastic composites (WPC) for hybrid aesthetics.

These innovations enable higher loadbearing capacity, improved durability and enhanced aesthetics, positioning plastic furniture alongside traditional materials.

Outdoor, Institutional and Infrastructure Applications

Plastic furniture continues to dominate outdoor and institutional environments, where performance under stress is critical.

Key application areas are:

- Garden and terrace furniture.
- Hospitality and café seating.
- Schools and institutions.
- Public infrastructure and transport hubs.

Stadium Seating: A Benchmark of Performance

Plastic furniture has proven its engineering capabilities in stadium seating applications, where durability, safety and scalability are essential.

Key performance attributes of stadium furniture are:

- High structural strength under mass usage.
- Comfort for extended seating durations.
- Wide colour and design options.
- Branding and advertising possibilities.
- Safety through smooth, impact-resistant design.
- Long-term durability in extreme conditions such as rain, humidity, UV and infrared exposure and cyclonic and high-wind environments.

These factors make plastic seating the preferred solution for modern stadium infrastructure compared to other materials.

Sustainability and Circular Economy

Plastic furniture contributes to environmental sustainability by reducing dependence on wood, thereby helping conserve trees, while also enabling recyclability and offering long product lifecycles that minimise the need for frequent replacement.

India's plastic furniture market is currently estimated at Rs. 18,000 - Rs. 22,000 crore, growing at a CAGR of 8% - 10%, outpacing the global average of 5% - 6%. India's growth is driven by rapid urbanisation, an expanding middle-class and ongoing infrastructure development.

Leading manufacturers are increasingly introducing furniture made from high-quality recycled materials, aligning with global sustainability trends. The structure and dynamics of the key marketing channels in the plastic furniture industry are as outlined in Table 1.

Export Sales

The volume of export sales in the plastic furniture industry is less than 1% of total domestic production. This is due to high logistics costs and tough competition from China.

The future growth of the industry hinges on quality standardisation and adherence to compliance requirements such as BIS. Key focus areas include load-bearing strength, impact resistance, UV stability and material consistency.

Adoption of BIS standards is essential to:

- Eliminate substandard products.
- Enhance export competitiveness.
- Build consumer trust.

Plastic furniture must be positioned as equally strong and reliable as wood or metal furniture with greater comfort and improved aesthetics.

Key Challenges

The following are some of the key challenges:

- Intense competition from low-quality products.
- Thin margins.
- High credit cycles.
- Volatile raw material prices.
- Logistics constraints.
- High mould costs and the nonavailability of good mould making facilities in India for large chairs, tables and furniture products.

Future Outlook

The industry is poised for sustained growth driven by:

- Infrastructure expansion.
- Growth in education and office sectors.
- Rising outdoor living trends.
- Increasing focus on sustainability.

Strategic priorities for enhancing sales are:

- Quality enhancement and BIS compliance.
- Design and ergonomic innovation.
- Expansion in institutional segments.
- Development of modular and e-commerce-friendly products.

Conclusion

The plastic furniture industry in India has successfully transitioned into a technically sophisticated, innovation-led sector. From garden furniture to premium indoor solutions and largescale infrastructure applications, it now plays a vital role in shaping modern living and public spaces.

With continued emphasis on quality, sustainability and design innovation, plastic furniture is set to emerge as a mainstream, high-performance alternative to traditional materials, driving the next phase of growth in India's furniture and plastics industry.

Source: Polymers Communique

SUCCESS Story HALDIA PETROCHEMICALS LIMITED

Introducing New HDPE Caps & Closures Grades for Carbonated Soft Drink (CSD) Applications: The Future of Beverage Packaging

Author: **Ms Sudipta Ghosh**, Chief Manager, Product Development & Technical Services, Haldia Petrochemicals Limited

Haldia Petrochemicals Limited, a leading manufacturer of benchmarked polyethylene and polypropylene has expanded its portfolio in 2025 with the development of high-performance HDPE caps & closures grades for beverage industry, especially for carbonated soft drink application.

Carbonated soft drink packaging requires robust closure systems capable of withstanding internal pressure, maintaining carbonation and ensuring excellent ESCR (Environmental Stress Cracking Resistance), easy torque and sealing performance. HDPE is used in caps & closures due to its excellent stiffness, chemical resistance and easy processability.

However, the conventional narrow MWD HDPE cap grades of Haldia Petrochemicals Halene H M5002L &

Halene H M5005L often face limitations such as inadequate ESCR, inconsistent torque retention and stress cracking under pressurized conditions.

The carbonated soft drink (CSD) cap application represents a high-volume market segment, with an estimated demand of ~50kTA and mostly dominated by imported HDPE grades from Borouge, Basell, Sabic & PTT.

To overcome the challenges faced with conventional HDPE and to substitute imports, Haldia Petrochemicals Limited has developed three specialized bimodal broad MWD HDPE grades **Halene H M5600S**, **Halene H 5601S** and **Halene H M5601** for CSD and fruit juices applications using advanced Mitsui technology.



Haldia Petrochemical's new CSD cap grades offer an excellent ESCR, organoleptic and very good processability. These new grades are intended to be used in both injection moulding and compression moulding

processes. **Halene H M5600S & Halene H 5601S** are with slip additive for easy opening for CSD and **Halene H M5601** is without slip additive for fruit juice application.

Properties	Test Method	Unit	Halene H M5600S	Halene H M5601S
Melt Flow Rate (2.16 kg, 190 °C)	ASTM D1238	g/10 min	0.7	1.2
Melt Flow Rate (5 kg, 190 °C)		g/10 min	2.7	5.0
Density	ASTM D1505	g/cc	0.954	0.954
Tensile Strength at Yield	ASTM D1238	MPa	26	28
Flexural Modulus	ASTM D790A	MPa	950	1000
Notched Izod Impact	ASTM D256A	J/m	75	50
ESCR (10% Igepal, v/v)	ASTM D1693B	hr	750	400

Key Benefits of Halene H M5600S, Halene H M5601S & Halene H M5601 Cap Grades

- **Superior Flowability:** Ideal for both injection and compression moulding processes, enhancing production efficiency
- **Excellent Mechanical Properties:** Provides a superior balanced performance
- **Enhanced ESCR:** Offers superior Environmental Stress Crack Resistance
- **Excellent Organoleptic:** Provides good organoleptic property
- **Superior CO2 Retention:** Maintains carbonation at high temperatures, critical for carbonated soft drinks (CSD)

Product Establishment and Customer Validation

The successful technical establishment and validation of these new CSD caps & Closures grades at leading

beverage and closures manufacturers marks a significant milestone in strengthening the product portfolio and market positioning in the HDPE CSD cap segment. These new HDPE CSD cap grades have achieved acceptance at key customers

Regulatory and Brand Owner Approvals

These grades have been successfully approved by SACMI, Italy, a global leader and most renowned machine manufacturer in the segment through undergoing rigorous qualification protocols. Approval processes with major brand owners, including global beverage companies have been initiated and are currently in advanced stages.

This in-house development from Mitsui CX Slurry technology, beyond licensed grade scope, is a significant milestone in the quest for import substitution with cost-effective high-performance products.



FROM COMMODITY TO VALUE-ADDED SPECIALTY: HMEL CATALYSING A DIFFERENTIATED POLYOLEFIN PRODUCT MARKET IN INDIA

At an Inflection Point: India's Plastics Industry Faces Its Defining Decade

India's plastics industry is no longer just growing. It is structurally transforming. Demand is shifting away from commodity volumes toward performance-grade, application-specific polymers. Packaging, automotive, healthcare, and infrastructure are each driving this shift in their own ways. Growth is running at 8 to 9 percent annually, and the direction is clear.

The supply side, however, tells a different story. India is the world's second-largest polyethylene importer and the third-largest polypropylene importer. The gap between what the country produces and what the market needs (particularly in speciality grades) has long been filled from abroad.

The Atmanirbhar Bharat agenda has reframed that gap as a policy priority. The government's push for import substitution across the polymer value chain has put pressure on domestic producers to move up the value curve. HMEL has built its strategy in direct alignment with that national vision.

Then, in February 2026, came a sharper prompt. The Hormuz crisis disrupted approximately 1.2 million tonnes per month of polyethylene supply globally. With roughly half of India's crude imports historically routed through the Strait of Hormuz, the impact on Indian processors was swift. Supply security, long a background consideration, became an immediate operational concern for converters, buyers, and policymakers alike.

Rising demand, shifting policy, and a disrupted supply chain have together created an opening that few domestic producers could have anticipated a decade ago. HMEL has been building toward exactly this moment.

Built Over a Decade: HMEL's Petrochemical Journey

HMEL's position today was not arrived at quickly. The Bathinda refinery was dedicated to the nation in 2012. Polypropylene production began in 2013, a modest but deliberate first step into petrochemi-

cals. Over the following decade, investment compounded: HMEL expanded refinery capacity by roughly 25 percent to 11.3 million MTPA in 2017, and a third PP reactor raised polypropylene capacity to 467 KTPA in 2018.

The defining move came in 2023 with the commissioning of HMEL's full Petrochemical Project: a 1.2 million MTPA Dual-Feed Cracker, paired with 1.2 million MTPA of polyethylene capacity and 0.5 million MTPA of additional polypropylene capacity. Total downstream petrochemical capacity reached 2.2 million MTPA. In a single operational step, HMEL became one of India's most significant integrated polymer producers. The refining venture that began in Bathinda had, over fifteen years of deliberate build, become a full-spectrum petrochemical platform.

HMEL's Contribution to India's Plastics Growth

That platform has produced a polymer portfolio of genuine breadth. With over 80 commercially produced grades across PE and PP combined, HMEL offers a full-spectrum domestic alternative to imports across a wide range of end applications. Since the 2023 commissioning, HMEL has consistently placed 2.2 million MTPA of polyolefins into the Indian market, demonstrating that the capacity addition was matched by the commercial capability to sustain it.

Market share growth has followed. HMEL has grown its PE market share year-on-year while holding firm in PP, a combination that reflects both the quality of the product portfolio and the depth of customer relationships behind it. Volume discounting did not drive that growth. It came from an expanding presence in speciality and import-substituting grades, where the case for domestic supply is most compelling.

The most strategically significant development in the portfolio is the expansion of metallocene LLDPE capacity. Through an agreement with licensor Univation Technologies, HMEL has scaled its licensed mLLDPE production from 50 KTPA to 200 KTPA, with grades covering a wide range of demanding flexible packaging applications.

HMEL is currently India's only producer of metallocene LLDPE. This directly strengthens the Atmanirbhar Bharat objective by improving supply reliability and reducing dependence on imported high-performance polyethylene. Extending and refining the metallocene LLDPE grade range remains a central and continuing focus.

Underpinning all of this is operational reliability of a high order. The Refinery Turnaround last year was completed in record time, with a peak workforce of 15,621 personnel clocking 5.1 million manhours with zero Lost Time Incidents. For processors who depend on consistent domestic supply, that kind of execution record matters as much as any capacity figure.

Anchoring Eastern India's Plastics Ecosystem

Eastern India accounts for significant consumption of downstream polymer products, yet has historically supported a smaller converter base than its demand potential would suggest. Distance from major petrochemical hubs, and dependence on imports routed through distant ports, have placed regional processors at a structural disadvantage relative to their counterparts elsewhere in the country.

HMEL's engagement with the eastern region goes back to 2012. A dedicated regional office has operated since inception, and HMEL has participated in every edition of Indplas (India's leading plastics industry exhibition) as a significant exhibitor. The relationship with Eastern India's processing community was built over years, not months.

With the 2023 capacity additions, that presence was reinforced with infrastructure. Eleven depots and warehouses now operate across the eastern region, ensuring material is available at or near the customer's location with consistent stock levels. Beyond commodity PP and PE, HMEL has extended its reach into speciality segments: flexible packaging, cross-laminated tarpaulins, industrial packaging, and thin-wall injection moulding, among others.

HMEL holds a unique position in the niche Large Blow Moulding market, supported by internationally accepted technology from Chevron Phillips. As India's sole domestic producer of LBM grades, the company currently serves approximately 80 percent of the domestic LBM market in the eastern region.

In the LLDPE film segment, HMEL is the market leader in eastern India, serving the diverse needs

of the flexible packaging industry. The advantage here is distinct: HMEL can offer the entire basket of grades, including metallocene LLDPE, which no other domestic producer supplies.

Product Innovation and the Road Ahead

HMEL's speciality grade launches mark a clear strategic shift: from high-volume commodity producer to application-driven product developer.

In mLLDPE, HMEL has launched eight grades using 1-hexene comonomer technology, targeting flexible packaging, lamination, and mechanically demanding applications. Advanced metallocene polymers with improved processability have also been introduced, delivering films with better sealability and strong mechanical properties. The aim is to cover all sub-niches within the metallocene LLDPE segment. Forthcoming grades have the potential to reduce LDPE content in overall resin formulations.

Polypropylene has seen parallel progress. HMEL introduced RM70CR, India's first 70 MFI random copolymer, engineered specifically for thin-wall injection moulding of food containers.

Large Blow Moulding grades, produced using dedicated CP Chem technology with global acceptance, establish HMEL as the sole domestic producer in a segment that previously relied almost entirely on imports. Engineered for high ESCR, superior stackability, and impact and chemical resistance, the LBM grade is used in the manufacture of L-ring drums for chemical storage.

HMEL is also the sole domestic producer of the HDPE grade used in Intermediate Bulk Containers and Automotive Fuel Tanks. The UV-stabilised grade is specifically designed for long-term outdoor exposure during service life.

High-flow reactor-grade ICPs at 40 MFI and 65 MFI extend sole-producer status further into automotive applications. Across major customer accounts in these categories, HMEL grades have progressively displaced imported material, with the majority of those customers now sourcing domestically.

The C6-based PE-100 pipe grade adds to this picture: HMEL is India's sole producer in that segment too. The grade has performed consistently across its end-use sectors since launch and recently received MRS certification from Elements Lab, Sweden, adding international technical validation to its domestic credentials.

Medical-grade development has received equal attention. RM25CG, a 25 MFI gamma-irradiation-resistant PP, has passed USP VI and ISO 10993 certification, qualifying it for gamma-sterilisable syringes, laboratory wares, and diagnostic tools. For a healthcare supply chain sensitive to import disruptions, this grade marks a meaningful advance in domestic capability.

Sustainability is central to HMEL's product strategy, not peripheral to it. The CYCLOSURE brand marks the company's entry into the circular polymer economy: India's first ISCC PLUS certified chemically recycled BOPP grade, produced by breaking down post-consumer plastic waste to petrochemical feedstock and then manufacturing virgin-quality material from it. ISCC PLUS certification ensures full traceability and verified sustainable content across value chains. HMEL now has the capability to produce CYCLOSURE across its full polyolefins portfolio.

Supporting the product pipeline is the Customer Service Development Centre (CSDC) in Noida, an NABL-accredited facility registered as a key scientific and industrial R&D institution by DSIR and recognised by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The CSDC provides product and application testing directly for customers, grounding new grade development in real processing conditions. It also functions as a single point of contact for all customer

product and market development needs.

HMEL maintains formal research partnerships with premier Indian academic institutions, focused on translational polymer R&D for new grades and process technologies. These are structured, long-term engagements, not periodic collaborations.

A Partnership for India's Plastics Future

HMEL's ambition extends beyond production figures. For HMEL, India's plastics processing community is a shared ecosystem, and the relationships within it are built to last. Technical support, grade co-development, market education, and infrastructure investment in underserved regions are all expressions of that commitment.

The challenges ahead are shared ones: tightening sustainability mandates, continued import substitution imperatives, and growing demand for specialised polymer solutions. HMEL's direction (toward deeper specialisation, stronger sustainability credentials, and wider reach across India) is shaped by those same pressures.

India's plastics industry is at a pivotal moment. HMEL intends to grow through it alongside the processors, converters, and stakeholders who make up this industry. That partnership is what we are here for.



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समत्वं योग उच्यते

योगस्थः कुरु कर्माणि सङ्गं त्यक्त्वा धनञ्जय |
सिद्धयसिद्धयोः समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते || 48 ||



GITA: Chapter 2, Verse 48



Mr. Ramesh Rateria
Past President - IPF

Yoga-sthah kuru karma-
ni sangam tyaktva
Dhananjaya |

* Siddhy - a siddhyo h
samo bhutva samatvam
yoga uchyate.

'Samatvam yoga
uchyate' - Equanimity is
yoga (Bhagavad-gita)

Samatva comes from
the Sanskrit root word -
'sama' meaning 'equal
or even' and 'tva' is a
suffix meaning 'ness'.

Samatva holds a primary place in bhagavad-gita where it means 'even-mindedness'. In verse 2.14, Shree Krishna says to Arjuna:

"Be steadfast in the performance of your duty, O Arjun, abandoning attachment to success and failure. Such equanimity is called Yoga."

The attitude of equanimity enables us to accept all circumstances peacefully. This quality is so praiseworthy that God Krishna has termed it 'Yoga'—meaning, becoming one with God. When we realize that making the effort lies within our hands, but ensuring the outcome is beyond our control, we then focus solely on the performance of our duties. The fruits of our actions are meant for the pleasure of God, and we should offer them unto Him. In such a state, if we learn to accept both honor and dishonor, success and failure, joy and sorrow with equal composure—viewing them all as the will of God—then we cultivate within ourselves the very equanimity described by Bhagwan Krishna.

This verse offers a highly practical solution to the vicissitudes of life. If we navigate a boat upon the ocean, it is only natural that the waves of the sea will cause the boat to sway. If we remain constantly agitated by the thought that the waves might strike our boat, our suffering will know no end; conversely, if we were to expect the ocean to remain entirely devoid of waves, we would be attempting to contradict the very natural characteristics of the sea. Waves share an inseparable bond with the ocean. Similarly, as we navigate the ocean of life, we encounter numerous obstacles—much like waves—that lie beyond our control.

This requires self-control to avoid reacting impulsively to words spoken or actions taken, thereby enabling one to gain a clear perspective on situations—unclouded by distortions arising from personal emotions. This approach demands mastery over powerful emotions such as anger, desire, sensitivity, ego, jealousy, and greed. When an unpleasant event occurs—for instance, if someone says something disturbing—one should refrain from reacting or speaking in haste. Instead, Yoga teaches us to respond with a calm inner equilibrium and to consider the broader perspective.

For example, if someone at the workplace criticizes you harshly, the natural reaction might be anger or defensiveness. However, if you practice Yoga and cultivate Samatva (equanimity), you will take a deep breath, calmly assess the situation, and respond without allowing your emotions to take over.

Even if we were to struggle in an attempt to conquer these adverse circumstances, we would still remain powerless to avert suffering. However, if we learn to face every difficulty that crosses our path and surrender them to the Divine Will, then this alone constitutes true 'Yoga.'

Swami Sivananda says: 'Samatva is being able to keep the mind steady and balanced in all the conditions of life. It is the ability to remain cheerful in adverse conditions, to have fortitude in meeting danger, and to go through the routine of life, amidst the din and clamour of the world, patiently and joyfully.'

By remaining calm and detaching oneself from negativity, one can neutralize even the most dangerous adversaries. The more one reacts to provocations, the more power one grants to hostile forces. By remaining unperturbed, these negative energies can ultimately be rendered harmless.

In Jainism too, the practice of samatva is considered a sadhana (spiritual practice) in itself. According to the scripture Bhagavatisutra (9.386)- "the nature of the soul is equanimity".

The Bhagavati Sutra is a detailed, encyclopedic dialogue where Lord Mahavira answers thousands of questions from his disciple, Gautama Swami, regarding topics ranging from spiritual doctrine to ethics.

It emphasizes that this state of balanced, non-attached awareness is an essential aspect of the soul's nature, often highlighted as a form of "inner yoga" in Jain practice.

WEST ASIA CRISIS CONTINUES TO RESHAPE GLOBAL LOGISTICS AND SUPPLY CHAINS

The geopolitical crisis in West Asia continues to exert significant pressure on global supply chains, with its impact now extending well beyond the region. What began as a regional security challenge has evolved into a prolonged disruption affecting maritime trade, air cargo networks, energy markets, freight economics, and global business planning.

As of May 2026, the Strait of Hormuz remains one of the most critical areas of concern for the global logistics industry. Continued instability, security threats to commercial shipping, and operational restrictions have severely disrupted vessel movements through one of the world's most important maritime trade corridors. Simultaneously, persistent security risks across the Red Sea and Gulf region have further complicated global transportation networks, forcing carriers, shippers, and logistics providers to rethink traditional supply chain strategies.

A Global Supply Chain Under Stress

The disruption has resulted in widespread rerouting of vessels away from traditional Gulf and Red Sea corridors. Many shipping lines continue to divert services around the Cape of Good Hope, adding significant transit time, fuel consumption, and operational costs. This has effectively reduced available vessel capacity, created congestion at alternate ports, and impacted schedule reliability across major trade lanes.

The air cargo industry has also faced sustained pressure. Restrictions across portions of Middle Eastern airspace, combined with reduced belly cargo capacity and increased demand for urgent shipments, have contributed to elevated air freight rates and capacity shortages on key Asia-Europe and Asia-US corridors. As shippers increasingly shift time-sensitive cargo from sea to air, pressure on global air freight networks continues to rise.

Rising Costs Becoming the New Reality

One of the most visible outcomes of the crisis has been the continued escalation of logistics costs. Freight rates remain volatile as carriers incorporate war-risk premiums, emergency fuel surcharges, security-related charges, and operational recovery costs. Marine insurance premiums have also increased substantially, particularly for shipments transiting high-risk zones in the Gulf and Red Sea regions.



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Fuel markets remain sensitive to developments in the region due to the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz in global energy transportation. Any disruption in the movement of oil and gas supplies has an immediate impact on transportation costs worldwide, affecting both ocean and air freight economics.

Impact on India and Regional Trade

India, given its strong trade dependence on West Asian routes, continues to face direct and indirect consequences. Importers and exporters are encountering longer transit times, higher freight costs, increased insurance expenses, and reduced schedule predictability. Key sectors including Petroleum, engineering goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, energy, petrochemical, plastics and consumer products are experiencing supply chain challenges as logistics costs rise and cargo movements become more complex.

The uncertainty has also increased working capital requirements for businesses due to longer cargo cycles and higher inventory holding periods. Organizations are being compelled to revisit sourcing strategies, inventory planning, and transportation models to maintain operational continuity.

Among the most exposed industries is the plastics and petrochemicals sector. The industry relies heavily on crude-derived feedstock such as naphtha and petrochemical intermediates, much of which originates from the Middle East. As supply chains tighten and transportation costs rise, key polymers including polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) are witnessing supply constraints and price volatility. Manufacturers, particularly small and medium enterprises, face mounting pressure on margins as they struggle to absorb escalating raw material and freight costs.

While the short-term outlook remains uncertain, the crisis is also accelerating long-term changes in global supply chain strategies. Businesses are increasingly focusing on diversification of sourcing locations, regionalisation of supply networks, inventory optimisation, and enhanced supply chain visibility. The emphasis is shifting from pure cost efficiency to resilience and risk management.

Building Resilience in an Uncertain Environment

History has repeatedly demonstrated that global supply chains are most vulnerable when geopolitical risks intersect with critical trade corridors. The current West Asia crisis serves as another reminder that

resilience, adaptability, and preparedness are no longer optional—they are fundamental business imperatives.

In response to the evolving situation, logistics providers across the world are strengthening contingency planning and enhancing supply chain visibility. Greater emphasis is being placed on alternate routing strategies, multimodal transportation solutions, diversified carrier networks, and real-time market intelligence.

Customer communication has become a critical success factor. Regular advisories, transparent cost visibility, proactive planning support, and close coordination with global partners are helping businesses navigate the ongoing uncertainty more effectively. Logistics organizations are increasingly positioning themselves not merely as service providers but as strategic supply chain partners capable of managing risk and ensuring continuity.

The Road Ahead

While diplomatic efforts continue and global markets closely monitor developments in West Asia, the logistics industry must prepare for a prolonged period of uncertainty. The events of 2026 have reinforced an important lesson for global trade: supply chain resilience is no longer optional—it is a strategic imperative.

Organizations that invest in agility, diversification, risk management, and collaborative partnerships will be better equipped to withstand future disruptions. In an increasingly interconnected world, the ability to adapt quickly to geopolitical developments will define the strength and competitiveness of supply chains in the years ahead.

Despite the challenges, the logistics industry continues to demonstrate remarkable resilience. Through innovation, flexibility, and proactive customer engagement, supply chain stakeholders are working collectively to ensure that global trade continues to move, even amid one of the most complex geopolitical environments in recent history.

As companies navigate this challenging period, the focus must move beyond reacting to individual disruptions toward building supply chains capable of withstanding future shocks. Those organisations that successfully balance efficiency with resilience will be best positioned to emerge stronger in an increasingly uncertain world.



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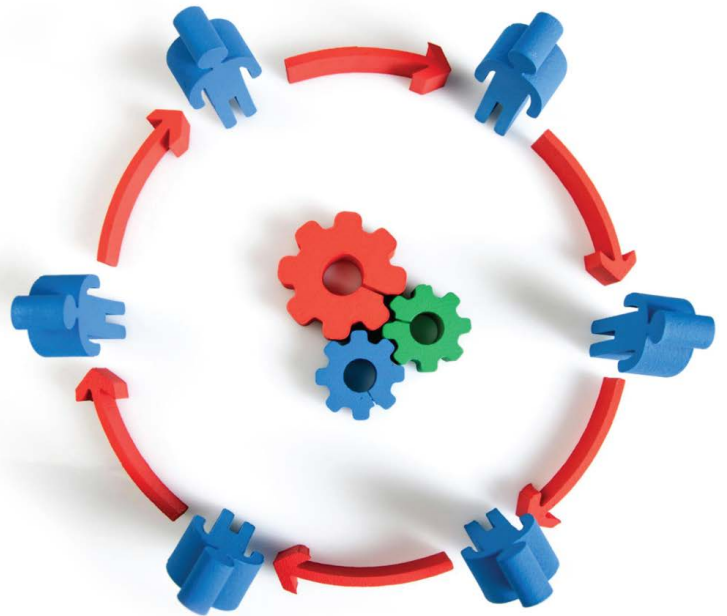
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HIRING AND MOTIVATING GEN Z: ALIGNING WORKPLACES FROM SHOP FLOOR TO OFFICE

By : **Devendra Surana** (Magpet Polymers Pvt Ltd.)



Introduction: Understanding Gen Z

Before we discuss hiring and motivation, it is important to understand who Gen Z really is. Broadly, Gen Z includes individuals born between the mid-1990s and early 2010s. They are the first generation to grow up entirely in a digital ecosystem, with smartphones, social media, and instant access to information shaping how they think and interact with the world.

This exposure has influenced a few defining traits. Gen Z tends to be more aware, more questioning, and less willing to accept hierarchy without context. They value speed, transparency, and authenticity. Unlike previous generations, they are not driven only by job security or long-term stability. Instead, they look for continuous learning, quick progression, and a sense of purpose in their work.

They are also highly adaptive. Having grown up in an environment of constant change, they are comfortable with technology and quick to learn new systems. However, this also means they have lower tolerance for rigid structures, delayed recognition, and unclear communication.

For businesses, especially in traditional sectors like manufacturing and plastics, this creates both a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge lies in adapting long-established ways of

working. The opportunity lies in harnessing a generation that is agile, tech-savvy, and aligned with the future direction of industry.

A Common Mindset, Different Contexts

It is easy to assume that Gen Z in offices and Gen Z in factories are fundamentally different. In practice, their core drivers are aligned. Both want:

- Faster learning and visible career progression
- Continuous feedback rather than annual reviews
- Recognition that feels immediate and authentic
- A sense of purpose in what they do

The divergence is operational. Office roles naturally allow for more flexibility, communication, and exposure. Manufacturing roles are structured, process-driven, and often repetitive. The leadership challenge is to bridge this experiential gap without compromising operational discipline.

Rethinking Hiring: From Job Roles to Career Narratives

Hiring strategies need to evolve from role-based descriptions to opportunity-led narratives.

In offices, this means highlighting:

- Learning exposure

- Cross-functional opportunities
- Innovation and decision-making roles

In manufacturing, this means reframing the shop floor as:

- A technology-enabled workspace
- A place of skill-building and specialization
- A critical part of a larger value chain

For example, a machine operator is not just running equipment. They are contributing to product quality, efficiency, and increasingly, sustainability goals. When communicated correctly, this shifts perception significantly.

Organizations must also modernize their hiring interfaces. Slow, opaque hiring processes disengage Gen Z quickly. Speed, clarity, and communication matter as much as compensation.

Motivation: Moving Beyond Compensation

Traditional motivation systems have relied heavily on salary, increments, and job security. While these remain important, they are no longer sufficient.

In office environments, motivation is driven by:

- Meaningful work assignments
- Visibility to leadership
- Opportunities to contribute ideas

In manufacturing environments, motivation improves when:

- Work is linked to outcomes, not just tasks
- Performance is visible and measurable
- Recognition is frequent and fair

A key shift is moving from delayed rewards to real-time engagement. Waiting a year to recognize performance does not work for a generation accustomed to instant feedback.

The Role of Technology as a Unifier

Technology can act as a bridge between office and factory experiences.

In offices, digital tools already enable collaboration, performance tracking, and communication. Extending similar visibility to manufacturing can significantly enhance engagement.

Examples include:

- Real-time production dashboards
- Digital performance tracking
- Skill certification systems

When a shop floor employee can see their output, efficiency, or quality metrics in real time, it creates ownership similar to what office employees experience through KPIs and dashboards.

Leadership Evolution: From Control to Coaching

The most critical transformation is required at the managerial level.

In offices, managers are gradually adapting to more collaborative and feedback-driven styles. In manufacturing, however, many supervisors still operate within command-and-control frameworks.

Gen Z responds poorly to rigid hierarchies without explanation. They are more receptive when they understand the “why” behind decisions.

This requires:

- Training managers to communicate context, not just instructions
- Encouraging two-way dialogue
- Building coaching capabilities across levels

Without this shift, even well-designed policies will fail to deliver results.

Creating Micro-Growth and Visible Progress

One of the most effective ways to engage Gen Z across both environments is by breaking growth into smaller, visible milestones.

In offices, this could mean:

- Project ownership
- Skill certifications
- Role expansions

On the shop floor, this could include:

- Machine-level expertise recognition
- Multi-skill certifications
- Safety and quality achievements

Progress must be visible and frequent. Long, undefined career paths lead to disengagement.

Onboarding: The First 90 Days Matter Everywhere

Retention challenges often begin at the entry point.

A strong onboarding process should:

- Clearly define roles and expectations
- Provide exposure to the broader business
- Establish early connections with managers and peers
- Offer quick wins or early responsibilities

Whether in an office or a plant, a poorly structured onboarding experience leads to early dissatisfaction and higher attrition.

Purpose as the Binding Force

One of the most underestimated motivators for Gen Z is purpose. This applies equally across functions.

Organizations in plastics and manufacturing have a powerful story to tell, especially around sustainability, recycling, and circular economy initiatives. When employees understand that their work contributes to a larger environmental

or societal goal, engagement increases significantly.

Purpose is not a slogan. It must be consistently communicated and demonstrated through actions.

Therefore.....

Hiring and motivating Gen Z is not about choosing between traditional systems and modern expectations. It is about integrating the two.

The organizations that will succeed are those that create a unified employee experience, where a person on the shop floor and a person in the office both feel:

- Valued
- Informed
- Engaged
- And part of a larger mission

This is not an HR challenge alone. It is a leadership mandate.

As businesses evolve technologically and strategically, the workforce must evolve alongside. The real question is not whether Gen Z will adapt to us, but whether we are ready to adapt to them.



CASE STUDY ON MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

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The manufacturing sector is vast and still expanding. It is essential to describe manufacturing and its process before delving more into this subject. Manufacturing is the process of turning raw materials into completed goods by the use of equipment, tools, labor, or chemical reactions. A nation's degree of manufacturing activity is frequently cited as a gauge of its economic health. An important factor in India's economic development, job creation, and support for auxiliary industries like retail, warehousing, and logistics is the manufacturing sector. Textiles, automotive manufacturing, food processing, pharmaceuticals, electronics, and heavy engineering are just a few of the many industries that fall under this broad category. The manufacturing sector usually serves as the foundation for industrial development, enabling the addition of value to resources and bolstering the expansion of associated industries.

To increase productivity, quality, and scalability, modern manufacturing processes are progressively implementing cutting-edge technology like automation, robots, and artificial intelligence. Manufacturers can reduce waste, optimize production cycles, and react to shifting market demands more quickly because to these advancements. Furthermore, sustainability has emerged as a crucial factor, with many businesses aiming to lessen their environmental impact by using eco-friendly products and energy-efficient procedures. The development of infrastructure, government regulations, and qualified labour are all necessary for the manufacturing sectors to continue growing. Natural resource abundance, closeness to South-East Asian markets, and encouraging government policies offer substantial prospects for industrial growth in areas like Assam and Meghalaya.

However, challenges such as logistical constraints, regulatory requirements, and competition for resources must also be addressed to ensure inclusive and sustainable industrialisation. Overall, the manufacturing industry not only strengthens the economic fabric of a country but also contributes to societal advancement by promoting innovation, skill development, and employment generation. Its continued evolution remains vital for the long-term prosperity and global competitiveness of nations.

Assam, with its strong industrial foundation supported by abundant natural resources and infrastructure, holds the largest economy in Northeast India. Major sectors driving its growth include petroleum refining, with key refineries like Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemical Ltd. and Indian Oil Corporation's facilities in Digboi and Guwahati; tea manufacturing, where Assam stands as a global leader producing nearly one-seventh of the world's tea; and fertilizer production, led by the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. in Namrup. The paper and packaging industry is also significant, with Nagaon and Cachar Paper Mills playing major roles. Additionally, the food processing sector is rapidly expanding by utilizing local agricultural resources, while traditional bamboo and cane crafts are being industrialized to reach broader markets. Assam's industrial infrastructure includes three industrial growth centers, twenty industrial estates, an export promotion park, and a dedicated food processing industrial park. In contrast, Meghalaya's manufacturing sector is smaller but steadily growing, focusing on resource-based and eco-friendly industries. Cement production is prominent, with companies like Amrit Cement and Goldstone Cements operating in Shillong, while Adhunik Meghalaya Steels contributes to the steel fabrication sector. The beverage industry benefits from CMJ Breweries, and bamboo and cane crafts are promoted through various government initiatives that encourage sustainability. Additionally, programs in carpentry, weaving, tailoring, and auto repair aim to strengthen skill-based manufacturing. Reflecting this growth, the number of registered factories in Meghalaya rose from 25 in 1999 to 186 in 2022, supported by the Commerce and Industries Department's provision of equipment and training for small-scale industries.

General perception about Manufacturing industry

There is a massive movement underway as the manufacturing community works to change its reputation as a dark, dirty, and dangerous place. With a looming skills shortage threatening the future of every segment, companies are doing their best to change the image of the industry via educational outreach efforts. For example, for

years the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)'s Manufacturing Institute has promoted "Manufacturing Day," inviting thousands of manufacturers and technical schools around the country to open their doors to parents, teachers and, most importantly, students to show them the reality of modern manufacturing. The goal is to show the next-generation the sophistication and excitement surrounding manufacturing—from rocket launches to augmented reality—and to reinforce the fact that a career in manufacturing is high paying and often does not require a debt-inducing four-year college degree. The manufacturing sector has the following advantages

1. Growing Sectors

Airport operations, aviation, semiconductors, robotics, and many other sectors and industries are expanding quickly—and not just in a single nation, but globally. That just suggests that there will be a strong need for manufacturing companies to manage the production aspect of things for a lot of well-known brands or enterprises. However, as manufacturing is only a matter of supply and demand, it would be excellent to conduct in-depth research on a specific area or industry prior to beginning the manufacturing firm. And that will be discussed when we discuss the possible drawbacks of the manufacturing business model.

2. Incredibly Profitable

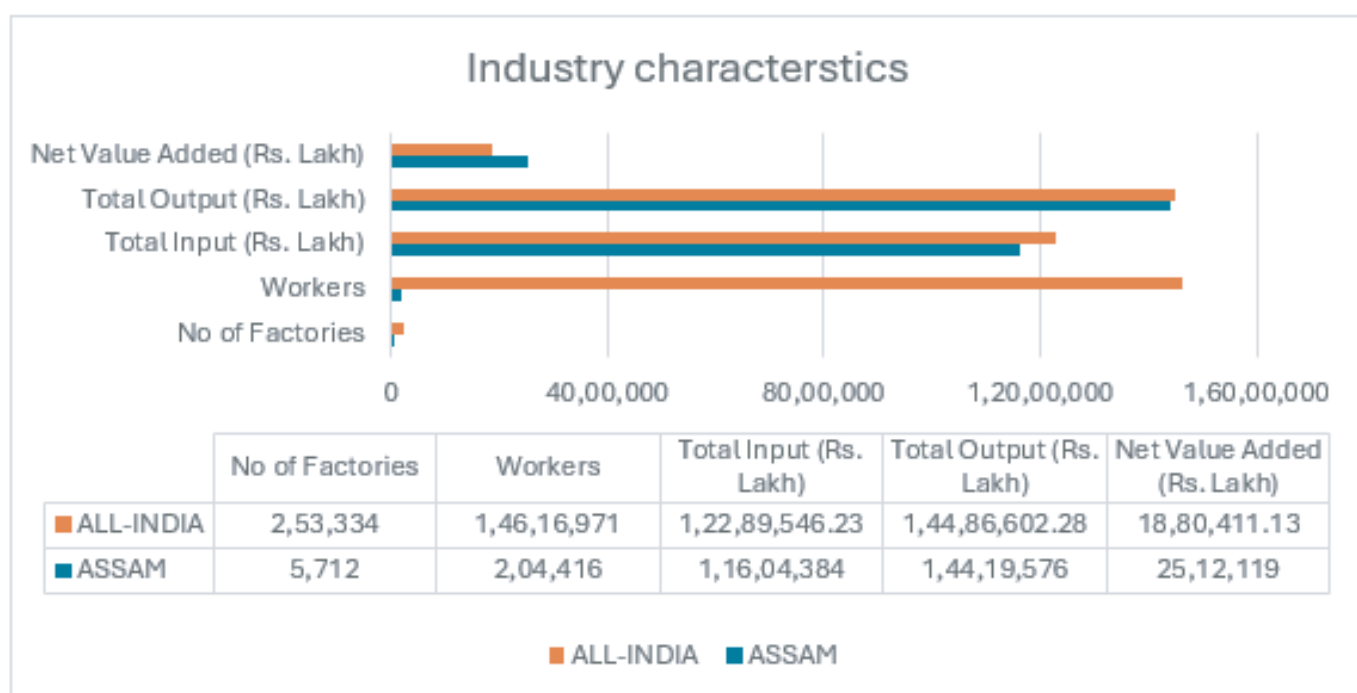
In order to increase earnings, many manufacturing enterprises or businesses figure out how to produce the same quality product with the least amount of investment. And you can only accomplish this if you possess knowledge of the industrial industry. The factors that have the biggest impact on the final product's pricing are labour costs, raw material costs, packaging costs, and machinery maintenance costs.

A manufacturing company's management can determine how to reduce costs and increase profits if they have a lot of experience. Overall, manufacturing companies are quite successful in practically every industry.

3. Scalability Potential

Scaling the manufacturing company is a terrific strategy to meet the rising demand for the final product. But growing a firm involves many steps that must be executed correctly to preserve the high caliber of the final output. To advance manufacturing, a lot of manufacturing companies collaborate with other companies. However, the scalability issue is entirely dependent on the steady rise in sales and profit over a long period of time

Characteristics	ASSAM	ALL-INDIA
No of Factories	5,712	2,53,334
Workers	2,04,416	1,46,16,971
Total Input (Rs. Lakh)	1,16,04,384	1,22,89,546.23
Total Output (Rs. Lakh)	1,44,19,576	1,44,86,602.28
Net Value Added (Rs. Lakh)	25,12,119	18,80,411.13



Source- <https://des.assam.gov.in/portlets/industrial-statistics>

While Assam's share in the total number of factories and workers is small compared to the national level, its Net Value Added is significantly strong relative to its size, indicating good industrial efficiency and potential for further growth

Year	Economic Development Index
2010-11	0.81
2011-12	0.8
2012-13	0.77
2013-14	0.75
2014-15	0.73
2015-16	0.69
2016-17	0.68
2017-18	0.62
2018-19	0.6



The "Economic Development Index" graph shows Assam's economic development trajectory from 2010–11 to 2018–19. Over time, the index has steadily decreased, falling from 0.81 in 2010–11 to 0.60 in 2018–19. This negative trend suggests that the state's performance in terms of economic growth and development is gradually slowing down. The biggest declines were from 2014–15 to 2017–18, which may have been due to economic difficulties at the time. All things considered, the graph shows a consistent decline in Assam's economic development index, indicating the need for better laws and plans to spur economic growth.



THE NEXT GENERATION OF PACKAGING: FROM PLASTIC WASTE TO CIRCULAR VALUE

By **Saamir Akhtar**
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Abstract

Plastic packaging has revolutionized modern commerce by providing product protection, extended shelf life, convenience, affordability, and efficient transportation. However, increasing concerns regarding plastic waste generation, environmental pollution, and resource depletion have challenged the industry to rethink conventional packaging systems. The future of packaging lies not in eliminating plastics, but in transforming the way plastics are designed, used, collected, recycled, and reintegrated into the economy.

The concept of a Circular Economy has emerged as a sustainable solution, shifting the focus from a linear “take-make-dispose” model to a regenerative system where materials remain in circulation for as long as possible. Advances in recyclable packaging design, mechanical and chemical recycling technologies, digital traceability, artificial intelligence, and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) frameworks are enabling the packaging industry to convert plastic waste into valuable resources.

This article explores the transition from plastic waste to circular value, highlights emerging technologies, discusses opportunities and challenges for the Indian packaging industry, and presents a roadmap for creating a sustainable future where plastic packaging becomes an asset rather than a liability.

Introduction

Packaging plays a critical role in modern society. It

protects products from contamination, damage, and spoilage while facilitating transportation, storage, and consumer convenience. Among various packaging materials, plastics have become indispensable due to their lightweight nature, durability, versatility, and cost-effectiveness.

According to industry estimates, plastic packaging accounts for nearly 40% of global plastic consumption. While plastics have significantly contributed to food preservation and resource efficiency, inadequate waste management systems have resulted in environmental concerns. Images of plastic litter in oceans, rivers, and landfills have intensified public scrutiny and regulatory interventions worldwide.

The challenge facing the industry today is not whether plastics should exist, but how plastics can remain within the economy without becoming waste.

The answer lies in transitioning from a linear economy to a circular economy, where packaging materials are continuously reused, recycled, and regenerated.

The packaging industry is therefore witnessing a paradigm shift—from managing plastic waste to creating circular value.

Understanding Circular Economy in Packaging

Traditionally, packaging follows a linear model:

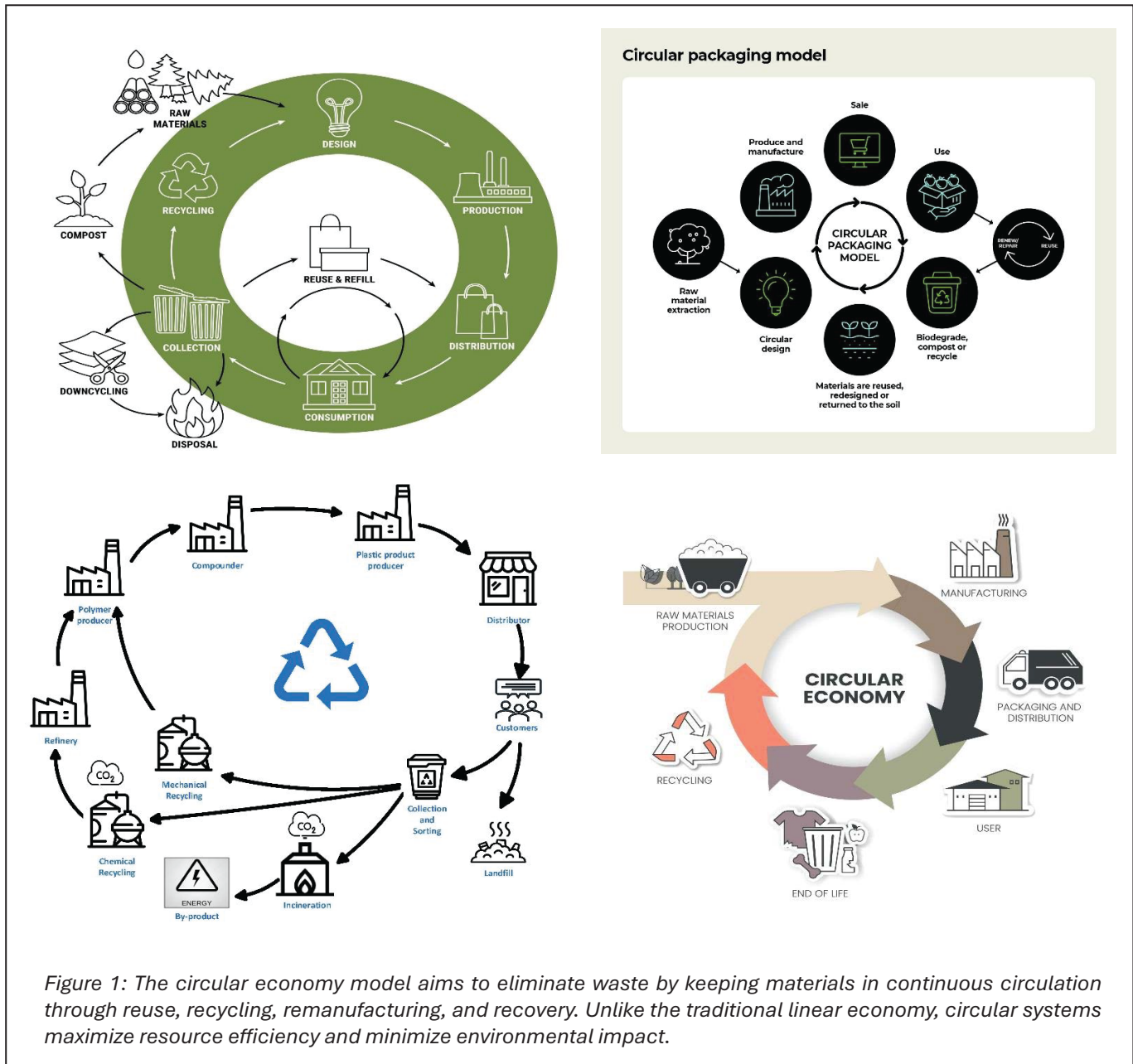
Raw Material → Manufacturing → Consumption → Disposal

This approach results in the loss of valuable materials after a single use.

The circular economy model transforms this approach into:

Design → Use → Collection → Recycling → Re-manufacturing → Reuse

In a circular system, waste is viewed as a resource rather than a burden.



The key objectives include:

- Eliminating unnecessary waste generation
- Maximizing resource utilization
- Enhancing recyclability
- Increasing recycled content usage
- Reducing carbon emissions
- Preserving natural resources

For the packaging industry, circularity means designing products that can successfully re-enter the value chain after use.

Why Plastic Still Matters

Despite growing criticism, plastics continue to offer

unique advantages that alternative materials often struggle to match.

Product Protection

Plastic packaging provides excellent barrier properties against moisture, oxygen, contaminants, and physical damage.

Reduced Food Waste

Food waste generates a significantly higher environmental impact than packaging itself. Effective plastic packaging extends shelf life and minimizes food losses throughout the supply chain.

Lightweight Transportation

Plastic packaging is substantially lighter than glass and metal alternatives, resulting in lower transportation emissions and improved logistics efficiency.

Design Flexibility

Plastic materials can be engineered for diverse applications ranging from beverage bottles and pharmaceutical packaging to flexible pouches and industrial containers.

Therefore, the future is not plastic-free packaging but smarter plastic packaging.

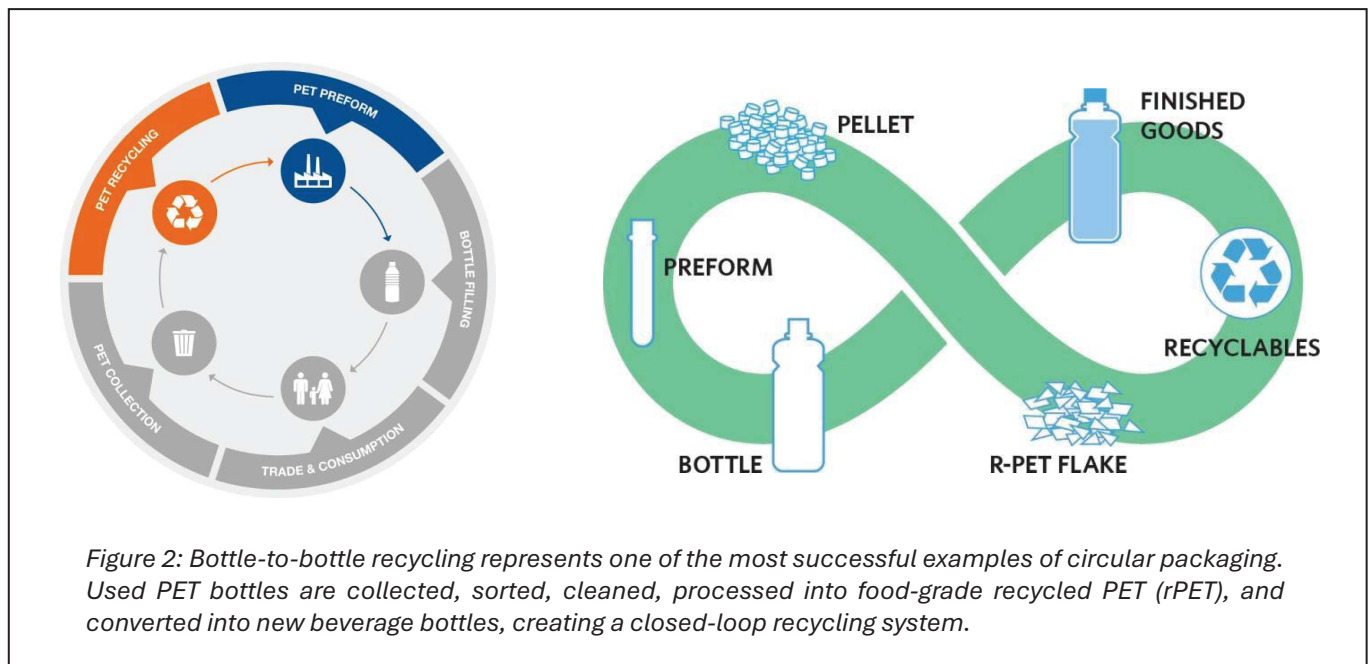
Innovations Driving Circular Packaging

1. Design for Recycling

One of the most significant developments in packaging is the adoption of Design for Recycling (DfR) principles.

Packaging designers are now focusing on:

- Mono-material structures
- Easy-to-remove labels
- Recyclable closures
- Reduced use of incompatible materials
- Simplified packaging formats



For example, traditional multi-layer laminates are increasingly being replaced by recyclable mono-PE and mono-PP structures.

Such innovations improve recycling efficiency while maintaining packaging functionality.

2. Mechanical Recycling Advancements

Mechanical recycling remains the most widely used method for plastic waste processing.

Recent technological improvements have enhanced:

- Sorting efficiency
- Material purity
- Washing systems
- Color separation
- Pellet quality

Advanced optical sorting systems powered by Artificial Intelligence are improving recovery rates and enabling higher-quality recycled resin production.

3. Chemical Recycling

Certain packaging formats remain difficult to recycle mechanically. Chemical recycling technologies address this challenge by breaking plastic waste into its molecular building blocks.

Benefits include:

- Processing mixed plastic waste
- Producing virgin-quality raw materials
- Improving circularity of difficult-to-recycle packaging
- Reducing landfill dependency

Chemical recycling is expected to become a major component of future circular packaging ecosystems.

4. Smart Packaging and Digital Traceability

The next generation of packaging is becoming intelligent.

Technologies such as:

- QR Codes
- RFID Tags
- NFC Chips
- Digital Product Passports

allow consumers and recyclers to access detailed information regarding:

- Material composition • Recycling instructions • Product authenticity
- Carbon footprint • Supply chain traceability

Digitalization is expected to transform waste management and recycling infrastructure globally.

5. Incorporation of Recycled Content

Leading FMCG, beverage, and personal care companies are increasingly incorporating Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) content into packaging.



Figure 3: Leading FMCG and beverage companies are increasingly incorporating post-consumer recycled (PCR) plastics into packaging formats such as bottles, jars, closures, and secondary packaging, supporting sustainability commitments and regulatory compliance.

Benefits include:

- Reduced dependence on virgin polymers • Lower carbon footprint
- Improved resource efficiency • Enhanced sustainability credentials

The adoption of food-grade recycled PET in beverage packaging represents a major milestone in circular packaging development.

The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Circular Packaging

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly transforming the packaging industry.

Applications include:

Predictive Quality Control

AI systems detect printing defects, sealing failures, and packaging inconsistencies in real time.

Material Optimization

Machine learning algorithms help reduce packaging weight while maintaining performance.

Smart Waste Sorting

Computer vision technologies significantly improve recycling efficiency by identifying and sorting different plastic materials.

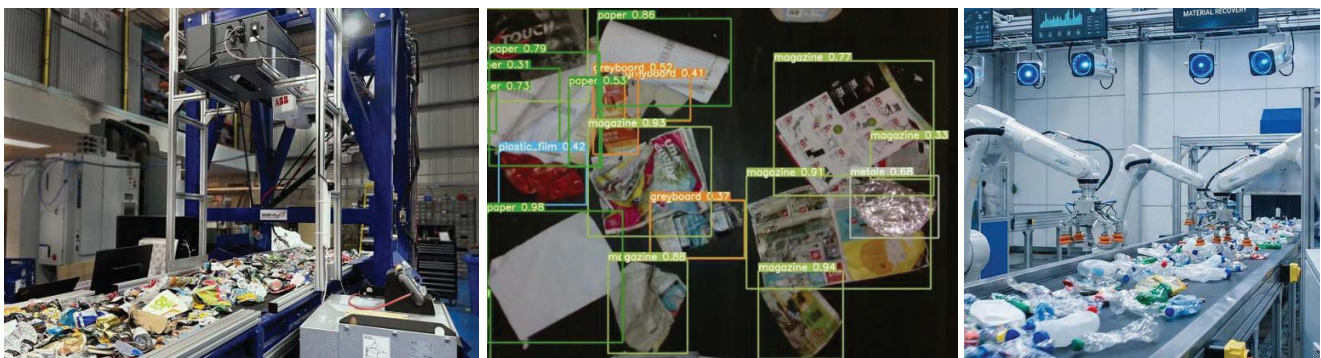


Figure 4: Modern recycling facilities are increasingly adopting Artificial Intelligence, machine vision, and robotic sorting technologies to identify and separate different plastic materials with greater speed and accuracy. These systems improve recycling efficiency and enhance material recovery rates.

Demand Forecasting

AI-driven analytics reduce excess inventory and packaging waste generation.

The integration of AI with circular packaging systems will play a crucial role in achieving sustainability targets.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): A Game Changer

Governments worldwide are strengthening Extended Producer Responsibility regulations.

Under EPR frameworks, producers become responsible for the collection and recycling of packaging waste generated by their products.

Benefits include:

- Increased recycling rates
- Better waste collection infrastructure
- Improved accountability
- Enhanced resource recovery

India's EPR regulations are accelerating investments in recycling ecosystems and encouraging sustainable packaging innovation.

Opportunities for the Indian Packaging Industry

India is uniquely positioned to become a global leader in circular packaging.

Growing Consumer Market

India's expanding FMCG, food, pharmaceutical, and beverage sectors provide immense opportunities for sustainable packaging solutions.

Strong Manufacturing Base

India possesses robust polymer production and packaging conversion capabilities.

Recycling Ecosystem Development

The country already has one of the world's largest informal recycling networks, which can be integrated into organized circular economy systems.

Export Opportunities

Global brands increasingly demand sustainable packaging solutions that comply with international regulations.

Indian converters that invest in circular packaging technologies can gain a significant competitive advantage.

Innovation and Startups

Numerous startups are developing advanced recycling technologies, reusable packaging models, and digital waste management solutions.

Challenges That Need Attention

Despite encouraging progress, several challenges remain.

Collection Infrastructure

Efficient waste collection remains inconsistent across regions.

Consumer Awareness

Segregation at source remains a critical requirement for effective recycling.

Economic Viability

Recycled materials often face cost competitiveness challenges compared to virgin polymers.

Technology Gaps

Advanced recycling technologies require significant capital investments.

Standardization

Uniform guidelines for recyclable packaging design are still evolving.

Addressing these challenges will require collaboration among industry, government, academia, and consumers.

The Road Ahead

The future packaging ecosystem will be defined by five key principles:

1. Design for Circularity
2. Digital Traceability
3. High Recycled Content
4. Advanced Recycling Technologies
5. Collaborative Value Chains

Packaging companies that embrace these principles today will become sustainability leaders tomorrow.

The industry must move beyond viewing sustainability as a compliance requirement and recognize it as a strategic business opportunity.

Conclusion

Plastic packaging has played an indispensable role in modern economic development and will continue to do so in the future. However, the industry's success will increasingly depend on its ability to transition from a linear consumption model to a circular value creation model.

The next generation of packaging is not about replacing plastics; it is about redesigning systems that keep plastics in continuous circulation. Through innovations in recyclable packaging design, advanced recycling technologies, artificial intelligence, digital traceability, and collaborative policy frameworks, plastic waste can be transformed into a valuable resource.

For India, this transition presents a historic opportunity. By leveraging its manufacturing strength, entrepreneurial ecosystem, and growing sustainability commitments, the country can emerge as a global hub for circular packaging innovation.

The future belongs to packaging that not only protects products but also protects resources, preserves the environment, and creates value beyond its first use. The journey from plastic waste to circular value has already begun, and the packaging industry stands at the forefront of this transformation.

A NEW DAWN FOR BENGAL: HOPES FOR GROWTH AND INDUSTRY UNDER A DOUBLE ENGINE GOVERNMENT

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Suvendu Adhikari, and all other eminent leaders and workers for the decisive victory in the West Bengal Assembly elections. This mandate reflects the aspirations of the people of Bengal for change, stability, and development.

With the advent of a “double engine sarkar” at both the Centre and the State, there is renewed optimism across industry, trade, and commerce in Bengal. The business community looks forward to an era where policy alignment, ease of doing business, and fair competition create fresh opportunities and meaningful employment for the youth of the state.

To translate this optimism into tangible outcomes, the following policy priorities deserve urgent attention:

1. Industry-Friendly and Competitive Industrial Policy

Bengal must adopt an industrial policy that is aligned with, and competitive against, neighboring states. Clear, time-bound clearances, single-window approvals, and incentives for manufacturing and MSMEs will help attract investment that has

historically bypassed the state. Consistency and transparency in policy will build investor confidence.

2. Rationalization of Power Tariffs

High industrial power tariffs remain a barrier to competitiveness. Bringing power rates in line with those of neighboring states will reduce the cost of production, encourage capacity expansion, and make Bengal-based industries viable in national and export markets.

3. Fair and Open Public Procurement Policy

The state's purchase policy should be brought on par with national best practices. This includes simplifying entry norms for new and MSME enterprises in government tenders, ensuring timely payments, and introducing mechanisms that break monopolistic practices or “syndicate” control in public supplies. A transparent, merit-based procurement system will improve quality, reduce costs, and widen participation.

4. Freedom from Union Culture and Undue Interference

For industry to thrive, it needs a predictable operating environment. A firm commitment to eliminate direct or indirect interference in labor and business operations—often referred to as “Union”—is essential. Upholding the rule of law and ensuring that labor matters are governed by statute, not coercion, will restore trust among investors and employers.

The industrial community in Bengal is ready to partner with the government to create jobs, expand manufacturing, and contribute to the state's economic resurgence. If these four pillars—competitive policy, rational costs, fair procurement, and a clean operating environment—are addressed, Bengal can reclaim its position as a leading industrial and trading hub of Eastern India.

We look forward to constructive engagement with the new government and to working together for a prosperous, employment-rich Bengal.



Shyam Lal Agarwal
Vice President
Indian Plastics Federation

INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

FEBRUARY 2026



THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Sponsored by Department of Commerce, Govt. of India)

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Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of export data received from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

KEY FINDINGS

Plastic Exports have been declining for the third consecutive month in February 2026 led by persistent fall in shipment of Raw Materials, Films & Sheets, Floor Covering, Packaging Items, FRP & Composites

Declining sales in USA because of high tariff is the principal reason for continued fall in overall plastic exports.

Domestic shortage of Raw Materials and Production disruption in Films & Sheets also contributed to contraction in exports

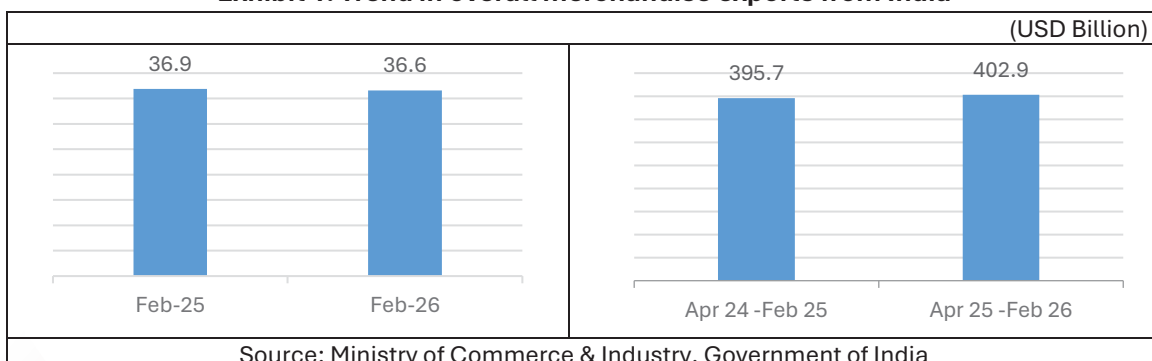
On the other hand, export of Consumer & Houseware products and FIBC managed to grow for the fourth consecutive month because of robust demand in Europe, Middle East and other prominent markets

TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India's merchandise exports declined marginally by 0.82% to USD 36.6 billion in February 2026 from USD 36.9 billion in the year ago month led by fall in shipment of Petroleum Products, Readymade garments, Iron Ore, Leather, Plastics and a few agro products.

Cumulative exports during April 2025 -February 2026 posted 1.84% growth to USD 402.9 billion from the year ago period.

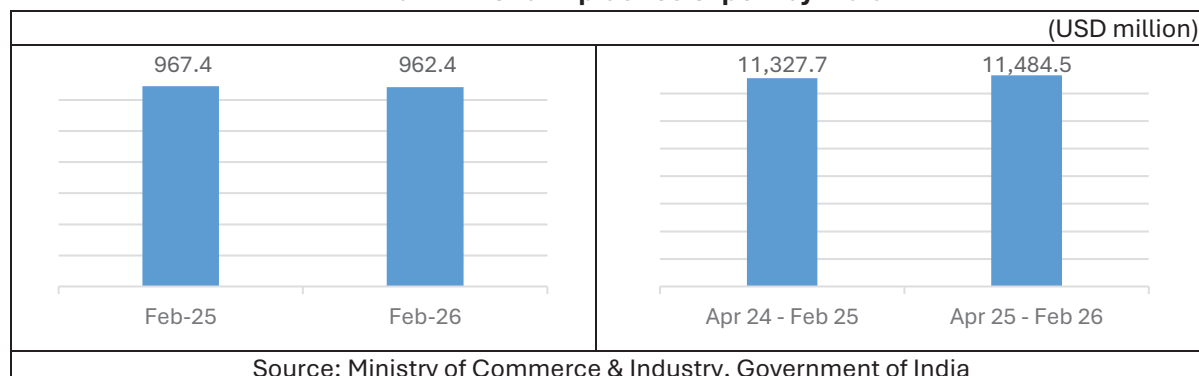
Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India



TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

Plastic and allied products exports declined 0.5% in February 2026 to USD 962.4 million from USD 967.4 million in the year ago month. Cumulative exports during April 2025 -February 2026 posted 1.4% growth to USD 11,484.5 million from USD 11,327.7 million in the year ago period led by growth in shipment of FIBC, Woven Sacks, Consumer & Houseware Products, Packaging items and Miscellaneous Plastic Products.

Exhibit 2: Trend in plastics export by India



PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

As mentioned earlier, Plastic and Allied Product exports declined 0.5% in February 2026 led by fall in shipment of Raw Materials, Films & Sheets, Floor Coverings, Packaging Items and Cordage & Fishnets.

At the same time, exports of Consumer & Houseware Products, FIBC & Woven Sacks, Human Hair, Medical Items, Pipes & Fittings and Writing Instruments posted growth during the month under review.

Exhibit 3: Panel-wise % growth in plastics export from India

Panel	Feb -25	Feb -26	Growth	Apr 24 - Feb -25	Apr 25 - Feb -26	Growth
	USD million	USD million	%	USD million	USD million	%
Consumer & houseware products	66.8	73.0	+9.3%	717.4	802.2	+11.8%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	24.5	21.4	-12.7%	276.5	252.5	-8.7%
FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin	132.0	135.8	+2.9%	1,426.4	1,640.1	+15.0%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	61.5	54.2	-11.8%	697.7	624.5	-10.5%
FRP & Composites	38.1	34.4	-9.8%	465.4	441.7	-5.1%
Human hair & related products	71.3	77.2	+8.3%	699.2	848.9	+21.4%
Medical items of plastics	39.3	42.6	+8.4%	498.4	498.3	-0.0%
Miscellaneous products and items nes	52.2	76.5	+46.5%	617.1	810.1	+31.3%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	54.6	53.7	-1.7%	622.6	634.1	+1.8%
Plastic films and sheets	151.3	147.5	-2.5%	1,835.7	1,723.8	-6.1%
Plastic pipes & fittings	20.8	24.6	+18.2%	298.6	286.2	-4.2%
Plastic raw materials	238.4	204.7	-14.1%	2,925.6	2,706.8	-7.5%
Writing instruments & stationery	16.7	16.9	+1.0%	247.2	215.4	-12.8%
Total	967.4	962.4	-0.5%	11,327.7	11,484.5	+1.4%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Consumer & Houseware Products is one of the few segments whose exports have been growing consecutively for the last four months since November 2025 because of healthy demand for key product categories. Overall panel export grew 9.3% in February 2026 led by strong order inflows for Building Elements of Plastics (HS 39259090), Travel Bags (HS 42029200),

Plugs & Sockets (HS 967.4 962.4 Feb-25 Feb-26 11,327.7 11,484.5 Apr 24 - Feb 25 Apr 25 - Feb 26 85366910) and other materials. Especially, there is remarkable demand for Building Elements of Plastics (HS 39259090) from UAE, Egypt and Nepal. Demand for Travel Bags (HS 42029200) has been strong from USA and Australia. On the other hand,

exporters benefitted from strong order inflows for Plugs & Sockets (HS 85366910) from Romania, Singapore, UK and other markets.

Export of **Cordage, Fishnets & Monofilaments** declined 12.7%, the third consecutive monthly decline since December 2025 led by fall in sales of Cordage (HS 56074900) to USA, Ghana, UAE, Netherlands and other countries. There was also weak demand for Made-up Fishing Nets (HS 56081190) from Faroe Island, UK, Morocco and other countries.

Shipment of **FIBC, Woven Sacks and Woven Fabrics** grew 2.9%, the fourth consecutive growth since November 2025, led by strong demand for FIBC (HS 63053200) from European markets such as the Netherlands and Spain. Exporters also benefited from healthy order inflows from Brazil, Morocco, Spain, UK and other European markets for Woven Fabrics (HS 54072090). Demand for Tents (HS 63062200) is also growing in USA, UK, France and other markets in recent months.

Export of **Floor Covering, Leather Cloth and Laminates** declined 11.8%, seventh consecutive monthly decline since August 2025 because of weak order inflows from USA, Canada, South Africa, Spain and other countries for Plastic Coated Fabrics (HS 59039090). Also, there was weak demand for Other Polymers of Vinyl Chloride (HS 39181090) in USA, Saudi Arabia, Nepal and other prominent markets.

Export of **FRP and Composites** fell 9.8%, second consecutive monthly decline because of weak demand for Other Plastic Articles (HS 39269099) in USA. At the same time, shipment of Reservoirs and Tanks (HS 39251000) grew 45% led by robust demand in UK, Seychelles and other markets.

Shipment of **Human Hair & Related Products** grew 8.3% led by increase in demand for value added Human Hair (HS 67030010) in China, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Paraguay. Also, there was growth in sales of Raw Human Hair (HS 05010010) in Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Export of **Medical Items of Plastics** grew 8.4% led by strong demand for HS 90015000 (Spectacle & Lenses) in France, Germany, UK and other markets. There was also robust order inflow for Cannulae HS (90183930) in Brazil and UAE. There is also revival of demand for Syringes (HS 90183100) in UK and strong demand in Sudan.

Shipments of **Miscellaneous plastic products and items (n.e.s.)** recorded a strong growth of 46.5%, driven by higher order inflows for optical fibres, bundles and cables (HS 90011000) from key markets such as the USA, Poland, and China. Exports of other plastic products (HS 90019090) also showed healthy growth, supported by increased demand from the

USA, Japan, and the Philippines. In addition, Canada stepped up its sourcing of PVC belt conveyors (HS 39269010) from India, further contributing to the overall export expansion in this segment.

Exports of **flexible and rigid packaging items** registered a marginal decline of 1.7% during the period under review. The moderation was primarily due to lower shipments of conveyance or packaging articles (HS 39239090) to key markets such as Nepal, Japan, South Korea, and certain other destinations. Additionally, exports of polyethylene sacks and bags (HS 39232100) to the USA were impacted by higher tariff levels, leading to subdued demand and contributing to the overall decline in this product segment.

Exports of **plastic films and sheets** recorded a decline of 2.5% during the period under review because of domestic production disruption and supply constraint. High Tariffs in USA and emerging non-tariff barrier in Mexico also contributed to fall in shipments. There was lower demand for PET plates and sheets (HS 39206220) in key markets such as the USA, Italy, and Spain. Shipments of self-adhesive plates (HS 39199090) also witnessed a slowdown, particularly in the USA, UK, and Kenya, contributing to the overall decline. In addition, exporters faced subdued demand for films and sheets of polyethylene terephthalate (HS 39206290) from major destinations including Italy and the USA, further weighing on export performance in this segment.

Shipments of **plastic pipes and fittings** recorded a healthy growth of 18.2% in February 2026, recovering from decline in the previous two months. The recovery was primarily supported by higher order inflows for plastic fittings for tubes, pipes and hoses (HS 39174000) from key markets such as the USA, UAE, and the UK. Additionally, exports of rigid tubes and pipes of polymers of ethylene (HS 39172190) also witnessed improved traction, with fresh demand emerging from Nepal, further contributing to the overall growth in this product segment.

Exports of **plastic raw materials** registered a decline of 14.1% during the period under review, primarily impacted by shortage in the domestic market, which constrained export supply. Exports of polyethylene terephthalate (HS 39076190) moderated due to lower demand from key markets such as the UAE, Nepal, and Morocco. Similarly, shipments of polypropylene (HS 39021000) witnessed a reduction, mainly on account of subdued offtake from Turkey, Vietnam, and Thailand. In addition, exports of polyethylene (HS 39012000) also declined, reflecting weaker demand from Vietnam and China, which further contributed to the overall contraction in plastic raw material exports.

Exports of **writing instruments and stationery** recorded a modest growth of 1.0% in February 2026 supported by higher shipments of ball-point pens (HS 96081019) to key markets such as the USA, Thailand, and Colombia. Additionally, exports of plastic

office or school supplies (HS 39261099) also witnessed improved traction, with increased demand from the USA, Mexico, and Germany, contributing to the overall growth in this segment.

Exhibit 4: Details of % change seen in top 50 items of export

Code	Description	Apr 24 - Feb-25	Apr 25 - Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of synthetic or man-made textile materials	844.1	993.8	+17.7%
'67030010	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked; wool, other animal hair or other textile materials prepared for use in making wigs or the like (excl. natural plaits of human hair, whether or not washed and degreased, but not otherwise processed): Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or	526.8	589.9	+12.0%
'39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	458.9	434.9	-5.2%
'39232990	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics (excl. those of polymers of ethylene): Other	438.5	495.4	+13.0%
'39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	349.5	233.2	-33.3%
'39076190	Other primary form	294.8	223.9	-24.1%
'48239019	Paper, paperboard, cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres, in strips or rolls of a width <= 36 cm, in rectangular or square sheets, of which no side > 36 cm in the unfolded state, or cut to shape other than rectangular or square, and articles of paper pulp, paper, cellulose wadding or webs of cellulose fibres, n.e.s.: Decorative laminates	289.3	330.5	+14.2%
'90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (excl. made-up of individually sheathed fibres of heading 8544)	270.5	478.1	+76.8%
'39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular poly"ethylene terephthalate", not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. those of poly"methyl methacrylate", self- adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible plain	241.8	176.2	-27.1%
'39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles , not elsewhere	236.2	200.7	-15.0%
'39069090	Acrylic polymers, in primary forms (excl. poly"methyl methacrylate"): Other	229.4	222.4	-3.1%
'39202020	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surfaceworked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (exclself-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible plain	214.4	179.8	-16.1%
'59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than poly"vinyl chloride" or polyurethane (excl. tyre cord fabric of high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, polyesters or viscose rayon; wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with plastic; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of plastics): Other	200.6	139.3	-30.6%

Code	Description	Apr 24 - Feb-25	Apr 25 - Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	200.1	181.3	-9.4%
'39239090	Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics (excl. boxes, cases, crates and similar articles; sacks and bags, incl. cones; carboys, bottles, flasks and similar articles; spools, spindles, bobbins and similar supports; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures): Other	191.7	197.2	+2.9%
'05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	168.2	255.4	+51.8%
'39014010	Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), in which ethylene monomer unit contributes less than 95 % by weight of the total polymer content	170.9	95.0	-44.4%
'39202090	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surfaceworked or merely cut into	149.4	140.8	-5.8%
	squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other			
'90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	144.5	148.6	+2.9%
'90183930	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences (excl. syringes, tubular metal needles and needles for sutures): Cannulae	135.3	152.1	+12.4%
'39012000	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of ≥ 0.94 , in primary forms	133.1	105.1	-21.1%
'39219099	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	128.4	114.0	-11.2%
'96081019	Ball-point pens (detailed label not available)	121.5	113.8	-6.3%
'39199090	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide (excl. floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	116.6	102.8	-11.8%
'56074900	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene, whether or not plaited or braided and whether or not impregnated, coated, covered or sheathed with rubber or plastics (excl. binder or baler twine)	118.3	105.6	-10.7%
'39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	115.4	122.9	+6.5%
'54072090	Woven fabrics of strip or the like, of synthetic filament, incl. monofilament of ≥ 67 decitex and with a cross sectional dimension of ≤ 1 mm: Other	115.1	110.5	-4.0%
'39076990	Other primary form	112.1	114.4	+2.1%
'39129090	Cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms (excl. cellulose acetates, cellulose nitrates and cellulose ethers): Other	106.5	128.7	+20.9%
'39219094	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, metallised	105.5	94.7	-10.2%

Code	Description	Apr 24 - Feb-25	Apr 25 - Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'39181090	Floor coverings, whether or not self-adhesive, in rolls or in the form of tiles, and wall or ceiling coverings "in rolls with a width of >= 45 cm, consisting of a layer of plastic fixed permanently on a backing of any material other than paper, the face side of which is grained, embossed, coloured, design-printed or otherwise decorated", of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	102.0	52.2	-48.8%
'39046990	Fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms (excl. polytetrafluoroethylene): Other	94.3	89.2	-5.5%
'39241090	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Other	94.0	89.2	-5.1%
'39206919	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or	88.8	99.8	+12.4%
	similarly combined with other materials, not worked or only surface-worked, or only cut to rectangular, incl. square, shapes (excl. polycarbonates, polyethylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other			
'39206290	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular poly"ethylene terephthalate", not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. those of poly"methyl methacrylate", self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	86.5	74.3	-14.1%
'39072990	Other polyethers n.e.s	82.3	63.6	-22.7%
'39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms: Ion exchangers of polymerisation or	79.5	80.7	+1.4%
'39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	78.4	78.8	+0.5%
'39206929	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, not worked or only surface-worked, or only cut to rectangular, incl. square, shapes (excl. polycarbonates, polyethylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other	74.7	76.0	+1.7%
'39204900	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of vinyl chloride, containing by weight < 6% of plasticisers, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918)	74.9	76.1	+1.7%
'96032100	Tooth brushes, incl. dental-plate brushes	71.3	84.2	+18.1%
'39119090	Polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms: Other	72.0	71.7	-0.5%
'59031090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with poly"vinyl chloride" (excl. wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with poly"vinyl chloride"; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of poly"vinyl chloride"): Other	69.2	74.2	+7.3%

Code	Description	Apr 24 - Feb-25	Apr 25 - Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'39219096	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible , laminated	68.5	77.6	+13.2%
'39201019	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular plastics, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely	68.1	80.9	+18.8%
	surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other			
'39235010	Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics: Caps and closures for bottles	67.5	65.7	-2.6%
'39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	65.8	83.7	+27.4%
'39172390	Rigid tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	64.6	69.3	+7.3%
'39076930	PET flake (chip)	63.2	58.7	-7.1%
'39241010	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Insulated ware	64.0	74.1	+15.9%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Exhibit 5: Reasons for major decline in plastic products exports

HS Code	Description	Apr 24 - Feb 25	Apr 25 - Feb 26	Reasons for decline
		(USD Mn)		
'39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	349.5	233.2	The fall in shipment is led by domestic shortage of this raw material. Also, slowdown in demand in key markets such as Bangladesh, Turkey and Viet Nam have affected overall exports
'39014010	Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE)	170.9	95.0	Exports have declined as exporters preferred to meet domestic shortage, instead of catering to global demand. India is a net importer of this product because of lack of sufficient domestic production capacity to meet rising demand.
'39076190	PET, Other primary form	294.8	223.9	Exports have fallen because of stiff competition in West Asia which is the prominent market for this product
'39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip: Flexible , plain	241.8	176.2	Exporters are losing market share in USA as shipment has fallen 50% in April-February due to the punitive tariff. Exporters are also facing increasing non-tariff barrier in Mexico, which is another major destination for this product.

SCOPE OF GROWTH OF ENGINEERING PLASTICS IN INDIA

From the desk of

MANISH MAHESHWARI - Anuman Engineering Industries, Kolkata



Engineering plastics are high-performance polymer materials that offer superior mechanical strength, thermal stability, chemical resistance, and dimensional accuracy compared to commodity plastics. Common engineering plastics include polycarbonate (PC), ABS, polyamide (nylon), polyacetal (POM), PET, PBT, and high-performance blends. In India, the demand for engineering plastics is growing rapidly due to industrial expansion, lightweighting trends, and increasing substitution of metals.

CURRENT MARKET SCENARIO

India's engineering plastics market is estimated at around 3–4 million metric tonnes per annum, accounting for approximately 15–18% of total plastic consumption. The segment is growing at a CAGR of 10–12% p.a., significantly faster than commodity plastics. This growth is driven by automotive, electrical & electronics, consumer appliances, medical devices, and industrial engineering applications.

India currently imports a considerable portion of its requirement for specialty and high-end engineering polymers, indicating strong scope for domestic manufacturing, compounding, and value addition.

Key Growth Drivers

Automotive and Electric Vehicles (EVs):

The automotive sector accounts for nearly 30–35% of engineering plastic consumption in India. Engineering plastics are increasingly used in under-the-hood components, interior parts, connectors, housings, and structural applications. The shift toward EVs further accelerates demand, as EVs require 20–25% more plastics by weight compared to conventional vehicles for battery housings, thermal management systems, and lightweight structures.

Electrical and Electronics Sector:

India's electronics manufacturing market is expected to exceed USD 300 billion by 2026, driven by government initiatives like Make in India and PLI schemes. Engineering plastics such as PC, ABS, PBT, and flame-retardant grades are widely used in switches, connectors, circuit breakers, appliance housings, and consumer electronics, creating sustained demand.

Consumer Durables and Appliances:

The growing middle class and urbanization have increased demand for white goods and appliances. Engineering plastics provide design flexibility, aesthetics, durability, and cost advantages over metals, making them essential for washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners, and kitchen appliances.

Industrial and Infrastructure Applications:

Engineering plastics are increasingly used in gears, bearings, pumps, valves, conveyor systems, and structural components due to their low friction, wear resistance, and corrosion resistance. In infrastructure, materials like POM, nylon, and reinforced thermoplastics are replacing metals in railways, water management, and renewable energy systems.

Healthcare and Medical Devices:

India's medical device market is growing at over 15% CAGR p.a. Engineering plastics are preferred for medical equipment housings, disposables, diagnostic devices, and drug-delivery systems due to biocompatibility, sterilization resistance, and precision molding capabilities.

Emerging Opportunities

- Domestic compounding and polymer modification
- Reinforced and fibre-filled engineering plastics
- Recycled and bio-based engineering plastics
- High-performance plastics for EVs, solar, and wind energy
- Import substitution of specialty polymers.

Challenges and Way Forward

Key challenges include dependence on imports, high raw material costs, limited R&D infrastructure, and skill gaps in advanced processing. Addressing these through investments in local polymer production, testing facilities, tooling, and skill development will be crucial.

Conclusion

The scope of growth for engineering plastics in India is substantial, driven by industrialization, EV adoption, electronics manufacturing, and sustainability goals. With strong policy support, technological advancement, and domestic value addition, engineering plastics will play a pivotal role in India's manufacturing and economic future.

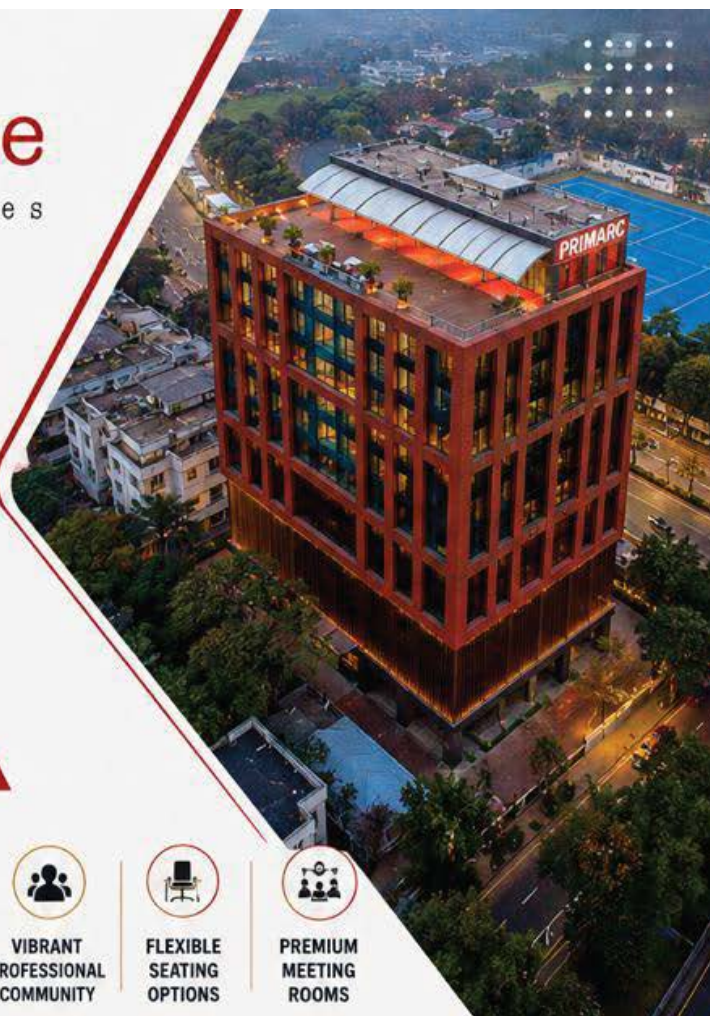


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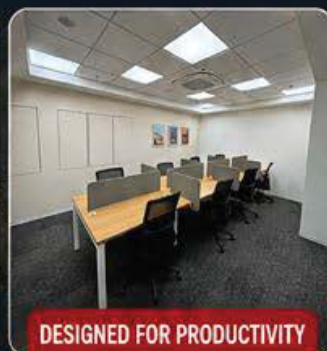
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AI IN FINANCE: MOVING FROM SPREADSHEET DRUDGERY TO STRATEGIC EDGE



For decades, the finance function in Indian businesses has been defined by repetition and manual record-keeping. While the accounts team handles the endless chase of vouchers, management has traditionally been buried under the weight of late-night report reconciliations before board meetings.

Artificial Intelligence is now quietly dismantling that legacy. The question is no longer whether AI belongs in finance, but how quickly we can adopt it to stay ahead.

Where AI is Replacing Manual Work The biggest gains for Indian MSMEs are in the "unglamorous" work that typically consumes an accountant's day:

- **Bank Reconciliation:** AI tools can ingest months of statements and auto-match thousands of entries in minutes.
- **Invoice Processing:** OCR-driven extraction reads vendor invoices and posts entries directly to Tally, eliminating the data-entry layer.
- **Debtors Ageing:** AI agents can draft escalating reminder emails and predict which invoices are likely to default.
- **Cash Flow Forecasting:** Instead of static models, AI builds rolling 13-week forecasts that update automatically.

Free & Accessible Tools to Start

We don't need a massive IT budget to begin implementing these efficiencies:

- **Modern Excel/Google Sheets:** Features like "Analyze Data" use natural language to create pivots and charts instantly.

- **LLMs (Gemini/ChatGPT):** These can be used to draft collection emails, summarize tax circulars, or write macros to automate repetitive sheet tasks.

The Privacy Firewall: What NEVER to Share

To maintain AI ethics and data privacy, we must follow a strict "No-Go" list for public AI tools:

- **Personal Identifiable Information (PII):** Never upload documents containing PAN numbers, Aadhaar details, or home addresses.
- **Unmasked Financials:** Do not paste raw trial balances. Use "masked" data (e.g., "Client A" instead of a specific name) if seeking analysis.
- **Trade Secrets:** Avoid sharing specific margin structures, proprietary vendor lists, or bidding strategies.
- **Banking Credentials:** Never share login details with an AI tool unless it is a verified, enterprise-grade fintech solution.

The Shift: Reviewer vs. Preparer AI is a force multiplier, not a replacement for human judgment. It can still misread one-off journal entries or mis-classify transactions. The finance professional's role is shifting from preparer to reviewer, from typist to thinker.

By equipping a small accounts department with these tools, we can deliver the output of a much larger team. Our goal is to redirect our focus from data entry to genuine business partnering—focusing on pricing decisions, working capital optimization, and capital allocation.

Mansi Bhatte & Yuvraj Bhaia
Co-Founder, NexGen

HOLI GET TOGETHER 2026



“Holi ke Rang Aapno ke Sang”

The vibrant festival of colours was celebrated with great enthusiasm and warmth at the Holi Get Together organized by the Indian Plastics Federation (IPF). Held on Sunday, 1st March 2026 at Ojas Banquet Hall, the event beautifully embodied its theme, “Holi ke Rang Aapno ke Sang,” bringing together members and their families for an evening filled with joy, music, and togetherness.

The celebration witnessed an overwhelming participation of over 400 members, reflecting the strong sense of community within the IPF fraternity. Members arrived with their families, adding a personal and festive touch to the gathering. The venue was adorned with colourful décor that perfectly captured the spirit of Holi, creating a lively and welcoming ambiance for all attendees.

The highlight of the evening was the captivating musical performance by Sajda Boyz, who enthralled the audience with their energetic and soulful renditions. Their performance set the tone for the evening, encouraging members and their families to come together, sing along, and celebrate the joyous occasion with great enthusiasm. The musical evening served as a perfect platform for relaxation and bonding beyond professional engagements.



The event was meticulously planned and executed by the IPF Cultural Committee, whose efforts ensured a seamless and memorable experience for all. From the smooth registration process to the engaging entertainment lineup and hospitality arrangements, every aspect of the program reflected thoughtful planning and dedication. The committee's commitment was evident in the positive feedback received from attendees throughout the evening.

Adding to the festive spirit was a delightful cocktail dinner, which offered an excellent opportunity for members to network, interact, and strengthen relationships in an informal setting. The dinner was widely appreciated for its variety and quality, complementing the overall experience of the evening.

What made the event truly special was the sense of unity and camaraderie that it fostered among members. The presence of families brought an added warmth, making the celebration not just a professional gathering but a heartfelt community event. Members expressed their appreciation for such initiatives that help build stronger bonds within the federation.

The Holi Get Together 2026 stands as a testament to IPF's commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community. The success of the event, reflected in the enthusiastic participation and positive feedback, highlights the importance of such cultural engagements in strengthening the spirit of togetherness.

Overall, the evening was a perfect blend of celebration, entertainment, and fellowship, leaving behind colourful memories that will be cherished by all who attended.



FELICITATION OF **SHRI ALOK TIBREWALA** Chairman, NEC-Plastindia 2026 and Team for Exemplary Success



The Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) proudly organized a grand felicitation organized on 18th March 2026 at The Almond from 6:00 p.m. onwards, to celebrate the outstanding success of the Plastindia 2026 Exhibition. The event witnessed an overwhelming response, with over 450 members attending along with their families, making it a memorable evening of recognition, camaraderie, and celebration.



The highlight of the evening was the felicitation of Shri Alok Tibrewala, Past President, IPF and Chairman, NEC Plastindia 2026, along with the entire Plastindia team, for their exemplary leadership and dedicated efforts in making the exhibition a landmark success. Shri Alok Tibrewala was felicitated alongside Shri Lalit Agrawal, Shri Dipak Gathani, Shri Prakash Khemani, Shri Manish G. Bhaiya, Shri Amit Kumar Agarwal, Shri Shyam Lal Agarwal, Shri Saurabh Garodia, Shri Sudarshan Kumar Tawri, and Shri Rajeev Karnani—esteemed members of the Executive Committee of IPF and Chairpersons of various committees of Plastindia 2026. Their collective commitment and tireless execution were instrumental in elevating the event to new heights.

In addition, the evening paid tribute to the invaluable contributions of past presidents of IPF. Shri N. K. Tibrewala, Shri K. K. Seksaria, Shri Pradip Nayyar, Shri Ramesh Rateria, Shri Alok Tibrewala, and Shri Sisir Jalan were felicitated with flower bouquets and uttorios as a mark of respect and gratitude for their enduring service to the federation and the industry.

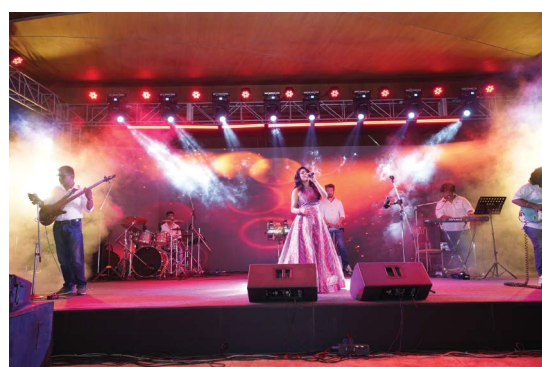


Plastindia 2026 has set a new benchmark by showcasing the plastics industry at an international level. The exhibition not only highlighted innovation and excellence but also reinforced India's position as a preferred global sourcing hub for plastic products. It successfully brought together international buyers from various countries, facilitating meaningful trade engagements and business opportunities.

The exhibition also played a significant role in promoting excellence across the sector by encouraging advancements in packaging, materials, recycling technologies, and manufacturing processes. It supported and inspired institutions dedicated to education and research, with a strong emphasis on achieving the highest standards of quality in plastic products and developing sustainable recycling techniques.

This felicitation program was a tribute to the dedication and meticulous efforts of the Plastindia team, who worked relentlessly to deliver an event of such magnitude and impact. The vision behind the initiative—to educate all segments of society about the benefits of plastics, either directly or through associations—was clearly reflected in the success of the exhibition.

The evening concluded on a celebratory note, with guests enjoying a vibrant musical performance followed by cocktails and dinner. The event not only recognized excellence but also strengthened the spirit of unity within the plastics fraternity, leaving everyone inspired and proud of the industry's achievements.



EXCLUSIVE INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH SHRI SUNIL J. SINGHI

The Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) organized an exclusive and highly engaging interactive session with Shri Sunil J. Singhi, Chairman, National Traders Welfare Board, Government of India. The session provided a valuable platform for members of the Federation to interact directly with a distinguished representative of the Government and discuss matters concerning trade, industry growth, and business welfare.

The programme began with the National Anthem, a proud and respected tradition of the Federation, reflecting the spirit of unity and patriotism that the organization upholds at all its major events.

The programme thereafter commenced with a warm welcome address by Shri Amit Kumar Agarwal, President, Indian Plastics Federation. In his opening remarks, Shri Agarwal highlighted the significance of



such interactions in strengthening the bridge between industry stakeholders and policy-making bodies. He formally introduced Shri Sunil J. Singhi to the members and expressed gratitude for his gracious presence and willingness to engage with the plastics fraternity.

As a mark of respect and honour, Shri Madam Lal Agarwal and Shri Raj Kasera felicitated Shri Sunil J. Singhi with an Uttorio and presented him with a flower bouquet, symbolizing the Federation's warm welcome and appreciation for his esteemed presence.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Sunil J. Singhi appreciated the efforts and initiatives undertaken by the Indian Plastics Federation for the development of the plastics industry. He praised the Federation for continuously working towards the welfare of its members, promoting industrial growth, and creating awareness on issues relevant to the trade. He acknowledged the important contribution of the plastics sector in supporting manufacturing, employment generation, packaging, infrastructure, and various allied industries across the country.



Shri Singhi further emphasized the Government's commitment towards strengthening the trading and MSME sectors through policy support, ease of doing business initiatives, and trader welfare measures. He encouraged the members to actively communicate their concerns, operational challenges, and suggestions so that such matters can be brought before the appropriate authorities for timely consideration.

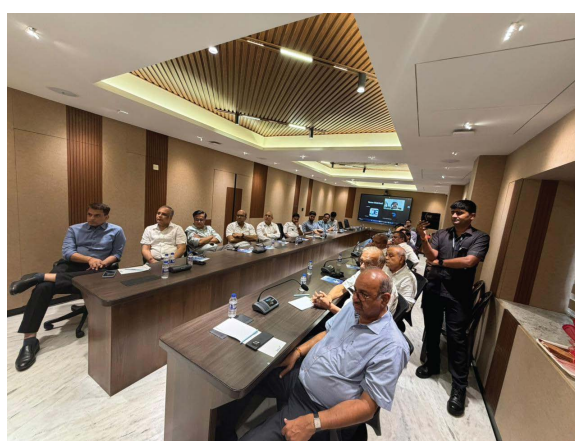
A key highlight of the programme was the address by Shri Alok Tibrewala, Past President, IPF and Member of the National Traders Welfare Board, Government of India. Shri Tibrewala assured the members that any issues faced in their businesses—whether related to trade policies, operational bottlenecks, compliance matters, or other concerns—may be brought to the notice of the Board through him. He reaffirmed his commitment to representing the interests of the members and extending all possible support in resolving their grievances.

His assurance was warmly welcomed by the members, who expressed their appreciation and pride in having a representative from the Indian Plastics Federation serving on such an important national body. The members praised Shri Tibrewala for his continued

dedication to the Federation and for creating a direct channel of communication between the industry and the Government.

The session concluded on a highly positive note, with members expressing confidence that such interactions would pave the way for stronger industry-government collaboration and practical solutions to the challenges faced by the plastics sector. The programme was informative, encouraging, and beneficial for all participants.

The Indian Plastics Federation remains committed to organizing such meaningful initiatives for the benefit of its members and for the continued progress of the plastics industry.



“ IPF WORKSHOP ON TURN YOUR LINKEDIN INTO YOUR BEST SALESPERSON ”

With the objective of equipping members with modern business development tools and digital marketing strategies, the Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) successfully organised an informative and engaging workshop on “Turn Your LinkedIn into Your Best Salesperson” on 11th April 2026 at the Federation Conference Hall.



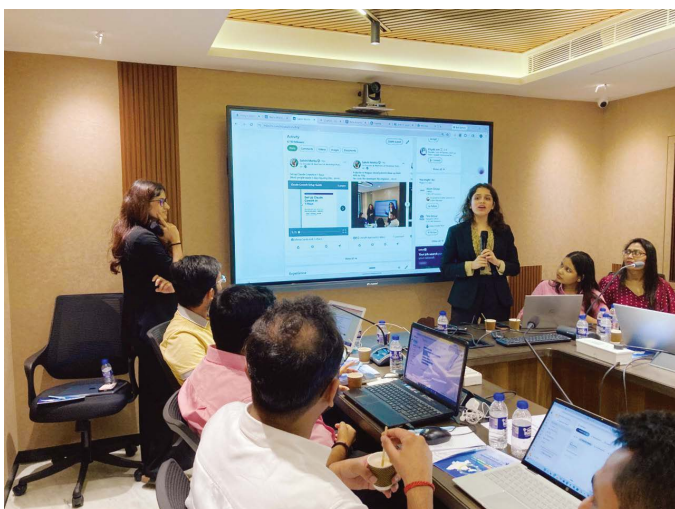
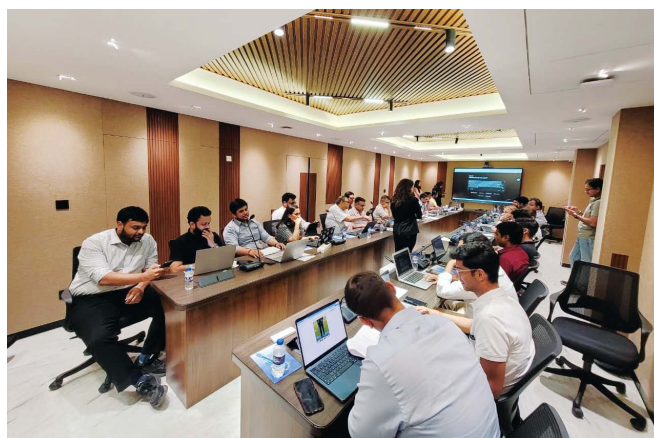
The workshop was organised under the leadership of Shri Amit Agarwal, President, IPF, whose vision to enhance the quality of member engagement, industry awareness, and business development initiatives continues to inspire the Federation’s activities and knowledge-driven programmes.

The programme was further organised under the guidance of Seminar Committee Chairman Shri Sudarshan Kr Tawri and Co-Chairman Shri Rajat Rataria, whose dedicated

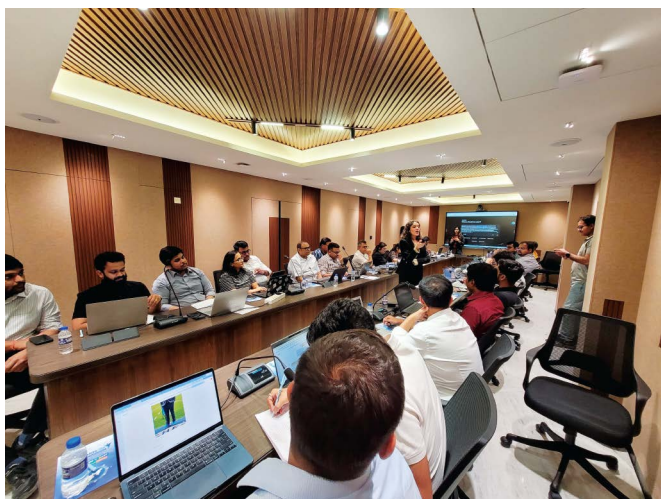
efforts helped bring together members of the plastics fraternity for a highly relevant and future-oriented learning session.

The workshop received an enthusiastic response from industry members, reflecting the growing interest among business owners and professionals in leveraging digital platforms and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for business growth and brand visibility.

The session was conducted by Ms. Sakshi Mohta and Ms. Yashvi Bhaia from NextGen, who shared practical insights on transforming LinkedIn into a powerful lead generation and networking platform. Through engaging presentations and live demonstrations, they explained how a professionally managed LinkedIn profile can act as a 24x7 salesperson by continuously creating visibility, building trust, and generating valuable business opportunities.



A key highlight of the workshop was the emphasis on the role of Artificial Intelligence in enhancing business communication and outreach. The speakers demonstrated how AI-powered tools can help create impactful content, improve profile presentation, draft professional communication, identify target audiences, and streamline customer engagement processes. Participants were introduced to several easy-to-use digital tools and applications that can significantly strengthen their online business presence.



The workshop also covered important practical aspects such as profile optimisation, personal branding, content strategy, networking etiquette, and converting online

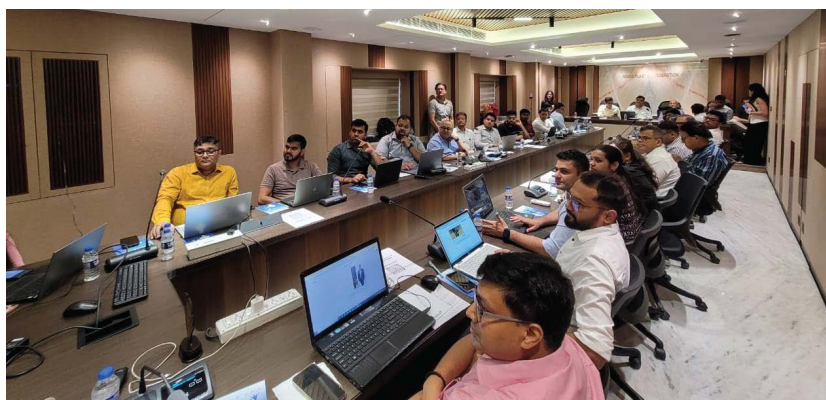
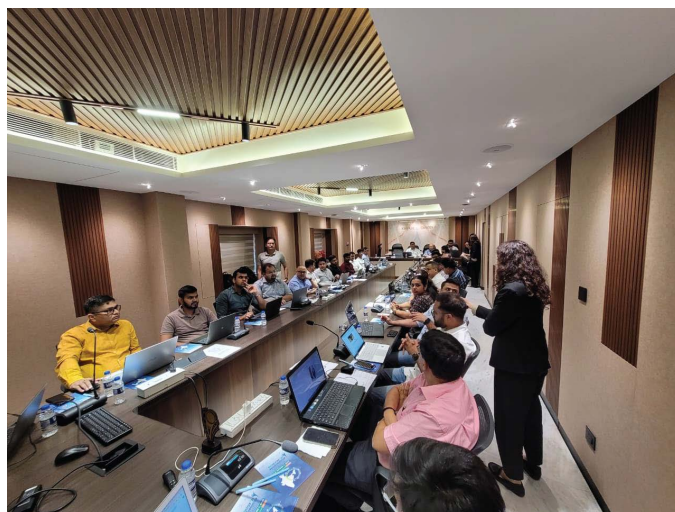
visibility into meaningful business inquiries. Real-life examples and interactive demonstrations enabled attendees to understand how technology can be effectively integrated into daily business operations without requiring advanced technical expertise.

Members highly appreciated the practical and result-oriented nature of the programme. Many participants expressed that the session opened new avenues for promoting their businesses beyond traditional methods and reinforced the importance of adapting to today's digitally driven business environment.

The interactive question-and-answer session witnessed active participation from members, with discussions around LinkedIn strategies, AI applications, business networking, and lead generation techniques. The speakers addressed all queries with clarity and practical suggestions, making the session highly insightful and valuable.

At the conclusion of the workshop, members strongly expressed their desire for more such knowledge-driven initiatives focusing on digital transformation, AI applications, automation, and modern business development strategies for the plastics industry.

The success of the programme once again reflected IPF's continued commitment towards empowering its members through meaningful seminars, workshops, and knowledge-sharing initiatives aimed at keeping the plastics fraternity updated with emerging trends, technologies, and business opportunities.



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Discounted rate for Members in Indplas exhibitions.

PANEL DISCUSSION / WEBINAR ON NAVIGATING THE POLYMER PRICING & AVAILABILITY INDUSTRY INSIGHTS & STRATEGIES FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

The Indian Plastics Federation successfully organized a highly informative Panel Discussion / Webinar on “Navigating the Polymer Pricing & Availability – Industry Insights & Strategies for Uncertain Times” on **Monday, 6th April 2026** at the IPF Conference Hall, Kolkata, with online participation also available for members across locations.

The seminar was arranged at a crucial time when the plastics industry is facing continuous fluctuations in raw material prices, geopolitical uncertainties, and global supply chain disruptions. The program aimed to provide valuable market intelligence and practical strategies to industry stakeholders for better planning and decision-making.

The session featured an eminent panel of experts including **Mr. Sushil Dugar**, COO – SBU Logistics Services, Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., **Mr. K.K. Seksaria**, Managing Director, Uma Plastics Ltd., **Mr. Ramesh Kr. Rateria**, Chairman, Injecto Polymers Ltd., and **Mr. Ashok Jajodia**, Managing Director, Uma Cosmoplastics Pvt. Ltd.



The panelists shared their expert views on the impact of global conflicts on polymer prices, supply chain challenges, logistics outlook, cost management strategies for converters, and preparedness measures for uncertain market conditions. Their practical insights and forward-looking analysis were highly appreciated by all participants.

The seminar witnessed enthusiastic participation from members, manufacturers, traders, and industry professionals. It served as an excellent knowledge-sharing platform and reaffirmed IPF's commitment to keeping the plastics fraternity informed, connected, and prepared for future challenges.



INDUSTRY



GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL FILMS MARKET TO GROW AT OVER 5.5% ON INCREASING DEMAND FROM ASIA-PACIFIC

Agricultural films are protective films placed over soil, covered over greenhouses and wrapped around fodder. Agricultural films help in reducing soil erosion, provides nutrients to the soil and increases soil temperature. It also suppresses the growth of weeds, supports seed germination and protects against UV rays. On the basis of application, agricultural films can be classified as mulch film, silage film and greenhouse film. In 2012, mulching films accounted for nearly 40% of the global demand. Silage films are used especially in pastures to retain moisture, ease of handling and transportation to store animal fodder. Greenhouse films are widely used in Europe and the Middle East especially in horticulture and floriculture projects to mitigate the effects of the harsh climatic conditions in the region. Agricultural films are mostly manufactured using polyethylene (PE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and ethylene vinyl alcohol polymer (EVOH) among other materials. Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) and low density polyethylene (LDPE) dominated the overall agricultural films market. The capacity additions of PE in the Middle East and Asia Pacific has led to price erosion in the past few years. Transparency Market Research predicts the global consumption for agricultural films to grow at CAGR of 5.7%, for the period 2013-2019. Growing food demand coupled with decreasing arable land is expected to drive the market. These films help in increasing the agricultural productivity in water scarce areas and in harsh climatic conditions. In developed countries, vast arable lands are engaged in producing bio fuel crops which further affects the total production of food crops. In this case, agricultural films help in increasing the crop output per hectare and in turn help in meeting the ever-increasing food demand. Agricultural films are expensive over

other conventional methods; however, the crop output is much higher and hence a profitable farming method for farmers. Agricultural film is expected to be an important tool in the modern farming techniques as the global farming standards are increasing in the coming years. Thus, the demand for agricultural films is expected to grow in the next six years due to increasing demand for food and biofuels and decreasing availability of arable land.

The agricultural films market is expected to grow at a decent pace during the coming decade driven by its increasing demand from the Asia-Pacific region. The increased demand for controlled agricultural activities drives the market for agricultural films. Agricultural films are primarily made of polyethylene. The increasing disposable of the consumers together with the growing demand for high-quality crops is driving the market for agricultural films. The agricultural films market is projected to register a CAGR of 6.5% between 2015 and 2020 to reach US\$11,743.7 mln, by 2020, as per Markets and Markets. Asia-Pacific holds a significant market share in the agricultural films market. China leads the Asian market in terms of demand for agricultural films. Asia-Pacific is thus expected to maintain its dominance in the global market owing to the steady growth in China and India. The market for agricultural films is experiencing slow growth in Europe and North America due to maturing of these economies. The European market is saturated due to decreasing arable land and the stringent regulation that forbid the use of plastic films in agriculture. However, the increasing demand for biodegradable films from these regions is expected to drive the market. The threat of substitute products is low in the agricultural films market. This is primarily due to the multi-utility of the plastic films and high cost of glass. The LLDPE market holds the maximum market share, in terms of types. LLDPE is the most preferred type due to its properties of high puncture resistance and high tensile strength. It is replacing conventional LDPE in many

areas, primarily due to the combination of favorable production cost and product performance.

The global agricultural films market is expected to reach US\$10.53 bln by 2020, according to a report by Grand View Research, Inc. The need to increase productivity to fulfill burgeoning demand of high-quality food crops for growing population is expected to augment agricultural film industry growth over the forecast period. Stringent government regulations associated with disposal of synthetic polymer films are expected to hinder market growth over the next few years. Biodegradable film manufacturers are expected to have significant opportunities in the next five years. Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) was the dominant raw material segment and accounted for over 55% of the global market volume in 2013. LLDPE is widely used owing to its flexibility and moisture-blocking properties. The raw material segment is expected to grow at a fastest CAGR of 6.2% from 2014 to 2020. Commercialization of biodegradable polymers is estimated to provide lucrative opportunities for industry participants over the forecast period. Further key findings from the report suggest: * Global agricultural films market demand was 4,651.7 kilo tons in 2013 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 6% from 2014 to 2020 * Mulching was the largest application of agricultural films and accounted for over 40% of the total market in 2013. Geographically, the consumption of film type varies according to different climatic conditions, crop patterns, and demand for crops. * Greenhouse films are predominantly used in Asia and the Middle East due to an increasing demand for ornamental crops. Greenhouse is expected to emerge as the fastest growing application segment owing to high level of commercialization, particularly in China and Europe. * China was the dominant regional market in terms of production and consumption. The region accounted for over 60% of global demand in 2013 and is expected to witness fastest growth in terms of market penetration. Increasing food demand coupled with large exports to other Asian and European countries may result in high demand of agricultural films in the nation. * Major industry participants have been investing heavily on R&D for commercializing biodegradable and longer shelf life products. Companies have been collaborating with biotechnology firms in order to ensure sustainable product innovation in the near future. Key players operating in global agricultural films market include BASF, ExxonMobil, BP Industries (BPI), Trioplast, Armando Alvarez, Ab Rani PlastOy, Group Barbier, Britton Group, Kuraray, and Novamont.

“This transaction marks a milestone for the industry. In today’s evolving market environment, scale brings resilience, operational strength, and a greater ability to deliver value to customers. Larger companies are better positioned to navigate the current environment and strengthen their market position.”

This merger creates a leading emerging markets platform with a strong competitive position and significant growth potential, both organic and inorganic. We are excited for the company’s next phase of growth and value creation.”

Based on the valuation analysis and the swap ratio recommended by the independent valuers, Indorama Ventures will emerge as a promoter of the merged entity, holding 51.8% stake in the merged entity. In May 2025, Indorama Ventures had made a financial investment of 24.9% stake in EPL.

The proposed transaction will be implemented through a scheme of amalgamation, pursuant to which Indovida will merge with EPL, and EPL will continue as the listed entity. The transaction is subject to customary shareholder, regulatory and court approvals. The transaction is expected to close in the next ~12 months.

Goldman Sachs is acting as financial advisor to the transaction. Trilegal is acting as legal counsel to EPL and Khaitan & Co. and Chandhiok & Mahajan are acting as legal counsels to Indovida. The swap ratio has been recommended via a joint valuation report by independent registered valuers (BDO and Duff & Phelps), and EY has provided fairness opinion on the swap ratio.

-Source *Plastemart.com*-

CONVERTING NYLON FISH NET WASTE TO 3D PRINTING FILAMENT

Chulalongkorn University has developed recycling technology to turn fishing nets into 3D-printing filament—reducing marine waste, contributing to a circular economy, and increasing income for fishing communities.

Dr. Nuttapol Risangud, a lecturer at the Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University, primary research focuses on developing materials for 3D printing in medical and other applications, ranging from hydrogel materials for tissue engineering to flexible materials for medical devices. As a polymer chemistry expert, he initiated the project titled “Development of a Prototype Innovation for Recycling Nylon from Fishing Nets in 3D Printing Technology.”

Ghost Nets: Deadly Threat to the Ocean

“Ghost nets” are abandoned fishing nets that drift aimlessly through the ocean like ghosts. Wherever they float, they create harm for marine life in that area.

The project “Development of a Prototype Innovation for Recycling Nylon from Fishing Nets in 3D Printing Technology” began operations in June 2025, supported by research funding from the Center of Excellence for Petrochemical and Materials Technology (PETROMAT), along with recycled nylon plastic pellets from fishing nets and research collaboration from Ube Technical Center (Asia) Co., Ltd.

“Although some recycling of fishing nets is currently in practice, their applications remain quite limited. Opening a new channel through 3D printing technology will create a larger market for recycled plastic from nets. When there is a reliable market, more old nets will be collected, purchase prices will improve, fishermen will benefit more, and, more importantly, our seas will become cleaner. This is the true goal of the project — not merely to create a new product, but to build a sustainable system where all parties benefit together: the environment, the community, and the industry,” said Dr. Nuttapol.

Processing: From Waste to Innovation

Transforming discarded fishing nets into quality filament for 3D printers is not an instantaneous process. It requires multiple systematic processing stages, from retrieving ghost nets from the sea to producing ready-to-use filament.

Step 1 – Sorting and Cleaning: Once the nets are collected, the first task is to remove unwanted components such as lead, buoys, foam, ropes, and debris, including soil, sand, rocks, and shells that cling to the nets. They are then thoroughly washed. This step is a critical “pain point” because it requires large amounts of water and considerable space. For real-world implementation at a community level, careful planning around water systems and washing facilities is essential.

Step 2 – Shredding and Sizing: Once the nets are dry and clean, they are fed into a shredder or grinder to reduce them into smaller pieces, then sorted to obtain plastic flakes of the appropriate size for melting in the next stage.

Step 3 – Melt Compounding: The finely ground nets are melted and blended with various additives to improve their properties, then formed into recycled plastic pellets.

Step 4 – Filament Extrusion: The recycled pellets are melted again and extruded through a die into long strands, then drawn through a puller to produce filament with a consistent diameter of approximately 1.75 mm, which is the standard for Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM) 3D printers.

Dr. Nuttapol explained why the nets aren’t extruded directly into filament from the start, but must first be converted into pellets: “Each batch of nets we receive has an unknown origin, so we can’t know the exact properties.

Pelletizing first allows us to much better control the quality and consistency of the final product.”

Filaments and 3D Printing: Opportunities for the Future

Filament is a plastic strand used as raw material for FDM 3D printers. The machine melts the plastic filament and deposits it layer by layer according to a

computer-aided designed (CAD) model, gradually forming a complete three-dimensional object.

Outstanding Features of Filament from Recycled Fishing Nets

Dr. Nuttapol outlined two key advantages that distinguish filament made from recycled fishing nets from other types of filament:

Environmental Advantage: This product is environmentally friendly because it is made from waste discarded in Thai seas. Expanding applications for recycled plastics increases demand for recycled raw materials, which in turn encourages greater collection and recycling of old fishing nets. Ultimately, this creates benefits that flow back to fishing communities, the original source of the raw materials.

Technical Advantage: The research team can tailor the filament’s properties to suit specific applications. Although recycled plastics have different characteristics compared to virgin plastics, appropriate additives and formulation adjustments can bring their properties close to those of new-material filaments—particularly in terms of mechanical strength and printability in 3D printing processes.

For those interested in the innovation of recycling nylon from fishing nets for 3D printing technology, please contact Dr. Nuttapol Risangud at the Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University, or reach out through the Center of Excellence on Petrochemical and Materials Technology (PETROMAT).

-Source Pertomat-

WALMART TO MODERNIZE GREAT VALUE PRIVATE LABEL PACKAGING DESIGN

Walmart on Wednesday announced a redesign of its Great Value private label, which spans nearly 10,000 grocery and consumer product items.

This is a major packaging overhaul of a 30-plus-year-old brand that will take place over the next two years, “beginning with salty snacks and expanding category by category,” the retail giant said in a press release.

Great Value’s aesthetic hasn’t been revamped for over a decade. The new labeling is designed to be seen more easily online and in stores, and information like nutrition facts will be displayed more consistently across the assortment, per a press release. However, Walmart Vice President of Creative David Hartman told CNBC that the update addresses the fact that many customers don’t like how Great Value’s labels look in their own pantries.

Walmart is a leader in U.S. consumer product private label penetration, according to a recent research note from Wells Fargo analysts led by Edward Kelly. The U.S.

lags behind Europe's, leaving room for growth, they said.

The analysts surveyed 30 high-frequency packaged food items at nine retailers in a single market. When price is the top consideration, Aldi and Walmart offer the best basket of goods and together offer half of the lowest-priced SKUs. Private label prices at Amazon and Dollar General are more than 30% higher, per the survey.

Opening price point is gaining importance, especially among lower-income households, Wells Fargo analysts said.

"In food retail, the battle for wallet share is fierce as consumers stay selective amid macro headwinds," they said. "Retailers are reshaping their value propositions to match evolving priorities, leaning into sharp opening price points with expanded private label offerings."

The changes coming to Walmart's Great Value are largely cosmetic, though.

"Great Value has earned customers' trust over decades, and while the brand is getting a fresh, modern look, what's inside isn't changing," Scott Morris, senior vice president of private brands at Walmart U.S., said in a statement. "Customers will continue to find the same trusted products at the same Every Day Low Prices they rely on."

-Source [Packagingdive.com](https://packagingdive.com)-

US PET RECYCLING FACES CHALLENGES AMID IMPORTS, OVER-SUPPLY

During a webinar hosted by The Recycling Partnership, panelists concluded the US PET recycling system is under pressure due to facility closures, rising imports, and competition from cheap virgin PET. Industry leaders call for stronger policies, buyer commitments, and improved transparency to stabilize the market and support domestic recycling infrastructure.



Collaboration and policy reform are necessary to stabilize PET recycling and support long-term industry growth.

At a Glance

- US PET recycling capacity drops by 25 percent.
- Rising imports undermine domestic recyclers.
- Policy changes needed to boost rPET demand.

The US PET recycling system is at a critical juncture, with reclaimer capacity down by over 25% and imports up by 300%. The closure of Evergreen, North America's third-largest reclaimer, has removed 4 billion bottles of annual capacity, further destabilizing the market.

During a webinar hosted by The Recycling Partnership, titled From Crisis to Correction: How Industry Can Stabilize PET Recycling, industry leaders discussed solutions to protect domestic supply and stabilize the system. Moderated by Keefe Harrison, CEO of The Recycling Partnership, the webinar featured panelists Adam Gendell, director of Material Systems at The Recycling Partnership; Kate Bailey, chief policy officer at the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR); Brent Bell, vice president of Recycling at Waste Management; and Pete Keller, vice president of Recycling and Sustainability at Republic Services.

The discussion centered on the challenges facing the recycled PET (rPET) market, including facility closures, rising imports, and competition from cheap virgin PET. Panelists emphasized the urgent need for collaboration, policy changes, and buyer commitments to address these issues and ensure the long-term viability of the US recycling infrastructure.

Facility closures, imports, and oversupply undermine domestic recycling

Gendell highlighted the alarming decline in PET recycling infrastructure, particularly for curbside-recycled PET destined for new packaging. "In just the last 12 months, seven of the 30 PET recycling facilities have shut down, representing over a quarter of the nation's capacity," he said. The closures are even more pronounced for facilities handling curbside material, with over a third of this capacity lost nationwide.

Regional disparities further complicate the issue. California, despite its strong bottle bill, has seen a 30% reduction in PET reclamation capacity, with only one facility now processing curbside material. The Rust Belt and Northeast regions have been hit hardest, experiencing a 40% overall capacity loss and a staggering two-thirds reduction for curbside PET.

Adding to the complexity, facilities are not interchangeable. Some cater to deposit systems, while others process curbside material for specific end markets, such as beverage bottles or thermoform packaging. The Southeast, for instance, has retained more infrastructure but primarily serves the polyester fiber market, which is in decline.

Gendell warned of the risks if this trend continues, including stockpiling, reliance on export markets, and potential landfill disposal of PET. "The problem we need to solve is the diminishing capacity to turn curbside-recycled PET into new packaging," he stressed,

urging immediate action to stabilize the system and restore trust in recycling.

Policy, buyer commitments, and transparency are key

Kate Bailey emphasized that the challenges in PET recycling stem from a lack of buyer commitment rather than a failure of the recycling process. “This is not the failure of plastic recycling. We know how to recycle plastics. We are doing it today,” she said. Bailey pointed out that PET packaging, such as water bottles, soda bottles, and thermoforms, is widely recyclable, and the infrastructure exists to process these materials into recycled flake and pellet.

However, the system falters when manufacturers opt to purchase virgin PET or imported recycled PET instead of supporting domestic recyclers. Currently, 25% of recycled PET is sourced from imports, which undermines local recycling programs. Bailey stressed the importance of manufacturers choosing recycled PET from domestic sources to sustain the recycling ecosystem.

“Today, there is more new virgin PET plastic being produced than there ever has been in the history of the world,” Bailey noted, highlighting the challenge of competing with cheap virgin PET. This oversupply, coupled with unusually low costs, makes it difficult for recyclers to compete, as their costs continue to rise.

Bailey flagged a recent US government trade investigation into 16 countries for potentially illegal practices undermining domestic businesses, including plastics manufacturing. She called for companies producing products like bottles, containers, and polyester goods to prioritize buying recycled materials from US programs. This shift is critical to strengthening the domestic recycling infrastructure and ensuring the materials consumers recycle are effectively reused.

Bailey also advocated for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as a critical policy to improve recycling. “APR fully supports EPR. Acting APR is an essential policy to improve plastic solution. It is a must-have,” she said. EPR shifts the financial burden of recycling to packaging producers and can drive demand by setting recycled content targets and offering incentives for using recycled materials.

Bell echoed the need for stronger policies to incentivize brands to buy domestic rPET. “You’ve got to get some policy that really drives behavior changes if you want the domestic, recycled PET markets to survive,” he said. Bell criticized the ineffectiveness of current minimum content legislation, noting that minor penalties fail to drive meaningful change.

A global perspective on PET recycling

Gendell offered a broader perspective, noting that the global growth of plastic recycling could ultimately benefit the planet. “Our problem in North America PET

recycling might actually be a good thing for planet Earth as a whole,” he said, pointing to increased recycling activity in countries like China, Taiwan, and Indonesia.

However, Gendell stressed the importance of transparency and traceability in the rPET market, particularly as skepticism grows about the quality of imported materials. “End users like to see good quality,” he said, emphasizing that beverage companies demand food-grade, flawless, and consistent rPET.

Looking ahead, panelists agreed that a combination of short-term buyer commitments and long-term policy solutions is essential to stabilize the US PET recycling system. As Bailey concluded, “We need incentives to buy domestic. We need to look at buying domestic.”

Thermoformers and minimum content requirements

Gendell highlighted the role of thermoformers in improving sustainability, noting that they could use more recycled flake. “For short-term solutions, it’s hard not to look at the thermoforming community as an area that could be doing more,” he explained. “The data tell us that about 10 years ago, thermoformers used about a third or maybe a quarter of all the rPET in the US. Today, that number is down to about 10%, and we don’t know what portion of that 10% comes from overseas.”

Bailey pointed out that minimum content requirements are the best tool available to solve this problem. Long term, it requires companies to use a minimum amount of recycled plastic in any type of plastic packaging or container. “We have a real lack of transparency on some of the materials that are coming in,” she said. “Certification is absolutely step one in better traceability and transparency. Second, we need incentives to buy domestic. We need to look at buying domestic.”



Chart courtesy of The Recycling Partnership

The path forward

The panelists agreed that the US PET recycling system faces significant challenges but remains solvable with the right combination of policy changes, buyer commitments, and industry collaboration. Bell emphasized the urgency of attracting buyers for domestic recycled PET through policy or incentives to prevent further disruptions. He warned that failing to address this issue

could erode trust in the recycling system, especially as municipalities struggle to find markets for widely recycled PET items like bottles.

As Gendell noted, packaging can play a key role in addressing the demand gap. “We think that putting rPET back in packaging at proven levels that have been done in the past and certainly be done now will solve the demand gap,” he said.

Bell emphasized the importance of maintaining trust with municipalities and customers by properly managing and recycling curbside materials. He noted the challenge of finding consistent domestic markets for collected materials, which impacts this trust. He also highlighted the progress of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), with one state live and others expected to follow, increasing recycled PET (rPET) supply. While this growth is promising, he stressed the need to bridge the gap between virgin PET and rPET to attract more buyers. Bell expressed optimism about the future, citing policy mechanisms and collaboration as key to ensuring good homes for recycled materials. However, he warned of worsening conditions as recycling facilities continue to close, underscoring the urgency of finding solutions.

Bailey emphasized that the current recycling challenges are serious but solvable, stating, “This is a serious situation, but that this is a solvable situation.” She rejected reliance on external factors, such as geopolitical events, as a solution, calling such approaches speculative and unsustainable. Bailey outlined immediate and long-term actions needed to address the issue.

In the short term, packaging companies must step up as buyers to create demand for recycled materials. For the long term, she advocated for EPR, recycled content requirements, and policies like tax incentives to strengthen domestic recycling infrastructure. Bailey concluded by stressing the importance of combining buyer commitments with robust policy solutions to pull materials back into the manufacturing system and ensure sustainable progress.

The panel underscored the importance of transparency, traceability, and collaboration across industries to stabilize the US PET recycling system and ensure its long-term viability. By prioritizing domestic recycled PET and fostering robust policies, the industry can create a sustainable future for recycling.

-Source: *Plasticstoday.com*-

EPL AND INDOVIDA TO MERGE, CREATING A CONSUMER PACKAGING LEADER FOR EMERGING MARKETS

EPL and Indovida have signed definitive agreements to merge forming a \$1 billion revenue entity, with a combined valuation of ~\$2 billion

This merger will create one of the largest emerging markets packaging platforms that combines complementary offerings and capabilities, expands global reach, enhances growth potential and improves margin and return metric

The transaction values EPL at INR 339 per share, 70% higher than Friday's closing price; Indovida is valued at a ~35% discount to the multiple ascribed to EPL

Indorama Ventures will become a co-promoter of the Company holding 51.8% ownership. Blackstone will own 16.6% stake in the merged entity

Mr. Hemant Bakshi will remain the Group CEO and will lead the merged entity. Mr. Sunil Marwah, CEO of Indovida, will continue to lead the Indovida business and report to Mr. Bakshi.

EPL Limited (“EPL”), one of the global leaders in flexible packaging solutions backed by Blackstone, and Indovida India Private Limited (“Indovida”), one of the leading global rigid PET packaging platforms backed by Indorama Ventures, have today signed definitive agreements for a merger. The merger has been approved by the Board of Directors of the respective companies and is subject to regulatory and shareholders' approvals.

The merger will establish a stronger platform by combining the packaging portfolio and capabilities, expanding global access, and enhancing the addressable market size, growth potential and financial metrics.

The combined platform will have a valuation of ~\$2 billion, with EPL being valued at ~\$1.2 billion (70% higher than its Friday's closing price) and Indovida being valued at ~\$0.7 billion.

This marks a pivotal step in EPL's evolution from a single-format flexible packaging leader to a scaled, multi-format packaging platform, purpose-built to serve global and regional customers across high-growth emerging markets.

The transaction aligns with Indorama Ventures' long-term strategy to expand and deepen its presence in India, leveraging the country's structural growth opportunity through an expanded and integrated packaging platform with public markets access. It is consistent with Indorama Ventures' broader strategy under its IVL 2.0 program of building leading positions in key markets through focused partnerships, and value accretive investments.

Strategic Rationale for the Merger

1. Scale: Merged entity will be one of the leading emerging markets focused packaging companies with ~\$1 billion of revenue
2. Growth Potential: The merged entity will leverage EPL and Indovida's industry leading positions in emerging markets (~75% of MergeCo revenue is from emerging markets) and complementary geographical presence to drive higher growth.

3. **Synergies:** The merger is expected to result in sizable synergies driven by complementary geographic footprint and products, procurement & supply chain efficiency, and strong sustainability initiatives of both the companies.
4. **Attractive Valuation:** EPL's valuation reflects a premium to the multiple ascribed to Indovida, with Indovida being valued at a ~35% discount to EPL. This attractive valuation will drive long-term value creation for all Shareholders and is EPS accretive from Day 1.
5. **Margin Accretive:** Strong financial metrics with 2025 EBIT margin expanding from 12.4% for EPL to 13.6% for the merged entity. Similarly, the transaction would be RoCE accretive with 2025 RoCE expected to increase from 18.7% for EPL to 20.9% for the merged entity.
6. **Management Strength:** Complementary management team with deep expertise in South Asian, African and Latin American emerging market operations.

Hemant Bakshi, Managing Director & Global CEO, EPL, said:

"This merger represents a defining moment in EPL's journey. This merger helps transform EPL into a broader multi-format packaging platform with unmatched presence in high-growth emerging markets; focused on innovation for large and emerging brands. The combined capabilities, customer relationships and global footprint position us to become the partner of choice for customers and drive growth across categories and markets. I am excited to welcome the Indovida team to the EPL family and look forward to building an exciting future together."

Mr. Alope Lohia, Indorama Ventures, added: "Indovida has been built as a customer-centric, operationally strong packaging platform. Our initial minority investment in EPL was reflective of our belief that it is an extremely attractive business with great future potential, globally as well as in India. Combining Indovida with EPL is the logical next step, and enables us to extend that foundation across formats and markets.

With our combined scale, supply chain resilience and sustainability capabilities, the merged entity is well positioned to deliver long-term value to customers and shareholders alike. The merger also meaningfully advances Indorama Ventures' strategic objective of deepening its presence in India, strengthening our downstream packaging footprint and reinforcing India as a key growth market within our global portfolio."

Animesh Agrawal, Managing Director at Blackstone and a Director on EPL's Board, said: "This transaction marks a milestone for the industry. In today's evolving market environment, scale brings resilience, operational strength, and a greater ability to deliver value to customers. Larger companies are better positioned to navigate the current environment and strengthen their market position."

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-Source: Plastemart.com-



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS TO

TO THE IPF FAMILY

We are delighted to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to the newest members of the Indian Plastics Federation family. Your decision to join IPF is not merely a membership – it is a meaningful step into a vibrant community of innovators, manufacturers, traders, and industry leaders who share a common vision: to shape the future of India's plastics industry with integrity, excellence, and purpose. As you become part of this ever-expanding family, you gain access to a powerful network built on decades of trust, collaboration, and shared growth. Together, we stand stronger – advocating for the industry, fostering knowledge exchange, and creating opportunities that no single enterprise could achieve alone. The IPF family now proudly spans across states, sectors, and scales of business, and each new member enriches this tapestry with fresh perspectives, new energy, and renewed ambition. Welcome aboard – your journey with IPF begins today, and we look forward to growing together.

1 M/S G V POLY FILM

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	307/2A, Maharaja Nanda Kumar Road (S), Baranagar, Kolkata – 700036
Contact	☎ 9831828133 ✉ rahul93.agarwal93@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Rahul Agarwal – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Layflat Tube

2 M/S NIKITA PLASTIC

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	2, Prantik Nagar, Agarpara, Kolkata – 700056
Contact	☎ 9831418007 ✉ nikitaplastic@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Avinash Agarwal – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of LLDPE and Layfilm Tubes & Pipes

3 M/S KONAR & CO.

Membership	Life Dealer Member
Address	137, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9830081283 ✉ konarandco@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Manas Kumar Nayan – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Trading of LLDPE Layfilm and Pipes & HDPE Tarpauline

4 M/S SPINAROO COMMERCIAL PVT LTD

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Jalan Industrial Complex, Main Gate-1, Right Lane-6, P.O – Begri, Howrah – 711411
Contact	☎ 8981318144 ✉ enquiry@spino.co.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Aditya Todi – Director Mr. Amit Sultania – Director Mr. Pushp Deep Rungta – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Disposables of Paper, Plastic and Aluminum

5 M/S A S MARKETING

Membership	Life Dealer Member
Address	161/1, M.G. Road, Bangur Building, Room No. 19B, Kolkata – 700007
Contact	☎ 9830056387 ✉ asmarketing711@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Shamendra Dalmia – Partner Mr. Archit Dalmia – Partner
Products/Trade	Dealer of BOPP Film, Polyester Film

6 M/S SIBCO OVERSEAS PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Annual Dealer Member
Address	81/2/3, Phears Lane, (P-3, New C.I.T Road), 4th Floor, Kolkata – 700073
Contact	☎ 9874359009 / 9836770222 ✉ sibcoabhishek@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Abhishek Agarwal – Director Mr. Gautam Dugar – Director Mr. Sunil Kumar Agarwal – Director
Products/Trade	Dealer of PVC Goods

7 M/S PRABHU POLY COLOR LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion)
Address	Plot No-2, Food & Poly Park, Dag No-860-863, Vill-Dhulagori, PS-Sankrail, Howrah – 711302
Contact	☎ 9830072048 ✉ saharsh@prabhupolycolor.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Saharsh Poddar – Director Mr. Sunil Kumar Poddar – Director Mr. Siddharth Kakrania – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Colour Master Batches, Filler, Additives & Compounds

8 M/S PRABHU POLY PIPES LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion)
Address	Chatterjee International Centre, 33A, J.L Nehru Road, 12th Floor, Room No-01, Kolkata – 700071
Contact	☎ 9836013730 ✉ rohit@natrajpipes.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Pawan Kumar Agrawal – Director Mr. Rohit Agrawal – Director Mr. Sunil Kumar Poddar – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of PVC & HDPE Pipes

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M/S NEW RAJ PLASTIC

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Vill- Salua, P.O- Aranghata, P.S- Dhantala, Nadia – 741501
Contact	☎ 9002452083 / 8250699682 ✉ rajplastic1976@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mrs. Barnali Biswas – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Household Items

10

M/S CALCHEM POLYFILL INDUSTRIES

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	J.L. No-20, R.S. No-41, Ruiya Industrial Estate Phase 2, Khardah, Patulia, North 24 PGS, Kolkata – 700119
Contact	☎ 9162328222 / 8240547221 ✉ calchempoly@yahoo.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Pratik Kumar Kariwal – Partner Ms. Nidhi Choudhary – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Filler Masterbatch

11

M/S SHIVA PIPE INDUSTRIES

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	5A, Dilarjung Road, Cossipore, Kolkata – 700002
Contact	☎ 9836831585 ✉ amit.sarawgi@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Amit Sarawgi – Partner Mr. Arun Majeti – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Polythene Tubes, Sheets and PVC Pipes

12

M/S DALMIA WOVEN SACKS (P) LTD.

Membership	Annual Manufacturer Member
Address	70, Cotton Street, Kolkata – 700007
Contact	☎ 9748383853 / 9007000580 ✉ dalmiawovensackspvtltd@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Rupesh Dalmia – Director Mr. Aniket Dalmia – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of PP/BOPP Woven Sacks

13

M/S SONITPUR PLASTICS LLP

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	52, Sandhyachal Nagar Lalmati, Saukuchi, Guwahati, Assam
Contact	☎ 8638824192 ✉ sonitpurplasticsllp@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Nitesh Bharech – Partner Mr. Ranjeet Kumar Prasad – Partner Mr. Varun Agarwal – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Pet Preform

14 M/S HAR HAR PLASTO TECH

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Shed No 9(A-1) Jagati Logistics, Vill- Kalipahar, Changsari, Kamrup, Assam – 781101
Contact	☎ 8723097733 ✉ harharplastotech@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Bikash Jagati – Partner Mr. Adhish Goel – Partner Mr. Samvid Goel – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Household Goods & Furnitures

15 M/S BORSUN POLYMERS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Near HP Petrol Pump, T.R.P. Road, Bharalumukh, Guwahati, Assam – 781009
Contact	☎ 9435040194 / 7002786400 ✉ borsun.polymers@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Rupesh Poddar – Partner Mr. Brinda Poddar – Partner Mr. Omprakash Kherkatary – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of PVC Pipe & Water Storage Tank

16 M/S TIRUPATI PLASTO INDUSTRIES

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Old Durgapur Expressway, Dankuni Bill D.C.C. Dankuni, Hooghly, Gobra – 712310
Contact	☎ 9830231684 ✉ tirupatiplasto108@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Murari Lal Akharamka – Partner Mr. Manju Banka – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Polythene Tubes, Granules and PVC Pipes

17 M/S SHREE BALAJI POLYCON

Membership	Annual Dealer Member
Address	45/7, N.S. Dutta Road, Kadamtala, Howrah – 711101
Contact	☎ 9831823428 / 9836217010 ✉ Lokesh_jkl@yahoo.co.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Lokesh Golchha – Partner Mr. Sanu Dutta – Partner Mr. Aditya Daga – Partner
Products/Trade	Trading in PVC Resin & Plastic Granules

18 M/S DEEP JYOTI WAX TRADERS PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Dealer Member
Address	N 811A, 8th Floor, Diamond Heritage, 16 Stand Road, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9831023121 ✉ amitudyog@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Amit Agarwal – Director Ms. Sunita Agarwal – Director Mr. Dinesh Kumar Kheria – Director
Products/Trade	Trading in PVC Resin & Plastic Granules

19 M/S NICEPACK POLYPLAST PVT LTD.

Membership	Life Dealer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	Room No. 308, TRPL Tower 15B, Armenian Street, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9330070707 ✉ nicepack@ymail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Chandra Prakash Golchha – Director Mrs. Sheetal Golchha – Director
Products/Trade	Trading of Poly Tubes & Bags, Suppliers of Packaging Materials

20 M/S DHUNSERI POLY FILMS PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Dhunseri House, 4A Woodburn Park, Kolkata – 700020
Contact	☎ 9831849646 ✉ rksharma@aspetindia.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Mrigank Dhanuka – Director Mr. Rajiv Kumar Sharma – Director Mr. Ashok Kr. Singh – Manager
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of BOPET Films

21 M/S SHYAM NETTING SOLUTIONS

Membership	Life Dealer Member
Address	3rd Floor, 15A/1, Bina Pani Apartment, Surah East Road, Belegghata, Kolkata – 700010
Contact	☎ 7880845978 ✉ shyamnettingsolutions@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Shubham Dhandhanania – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Trading & Distribution of Plastic Raw Materials including HDPE Twines, Ropes, Fishing Nets, Agricultural Nets & Related Products

22 M/S PREMIUM GRANULES PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Vill- Marogdala, P.O- Sonapur, Dist- Kamrup Metro, Assam – 782402
Contact	☎ 9435701111 ✉ premiumgranulesassam@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Dinesh Kumar Mittal – Director Mr. Arup Kumar Kalila – Director Mr. Rupam Teron – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of PP/HDPE Ropes, Recycling PP Granules and All Types of Granules

23 M/S NAMAN POLYMERS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Near Meghalaya House, A.K. Azad Road, Rehabari, Guwahati, Assam – 781008
Contact	☎ 9435146005 ✉ namanpolymers2024@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Deepak Damani – Partner Mr. Anita Damani – Partner Mrs. Sarda Devi Damani – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Tarpaulin and Shrink Packaging

24 M/S CAMA ELECTRICALS PVT LTD

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	2nd Floor, G.S. Road, Bora Service, Ulubari, Guwahati, Assam – 781007
Contact	☎ 9536288280 ✉ deepesh@camagroup.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Rishabh Agarwal – Director Mr. Deepesh Agarwal – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Conduit Pipes and Castings

25 M/S GOLLO ENTERPRISE

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Daath, Jollang Village, Itanagar, Papum Pare, Arunachal Pradesh – 791113
Contact	☎ 7005284633 ✉ nyanyagollo@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Nyanya Gollo – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Water Storage Tanks

26 M/S RBL NATURAL RESOURCES LTD.

Membership	Annual Associate Member
Address	RBL House, Near R.K. Circle, Punjawati, Gaurav Path, Udaipur – 313004
Contact	☎ 9829344151 ✉ abhishek@rblresourcesl.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Abhishek Singhvi – Director Dr. Mahendra Singh Singhvi – Director Mrs. Subh Singhvi – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Powder

27 M/S G J MARKETING PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Junglepur, NH-6, Sankrail, Andul, Howrah – 711302
Contact	☎ 9831733711 ✉ gjmarketingoffice@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Hemant Khetan – Partner Mr. Manoj Tulsyan – Partner Mr. Dipak Khetan – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of LD Based Lay Flat Tube in Blow Film Unit

28 M/S GEOTEXTILE INNOVATIONS PVT LTD.

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	191, R.G. Baruah Road, Japorigog, Guwahati – 781005
Contact	☎ 9854028103 ✉ geotextileinnovations@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Rajat Deorah – Director Mr. Sandip Kumar Dugar – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Geotextiles

29 M/S LOKENATH TRADERS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Na, Gobra, Dakshin Para, P.O. Chanditala, Dankuni, Hooghly – 712702
Contact	☎ 8697332801 / 8617247663 ✉ lokenathtraders.sd@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Sambhu Nath Dutta – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Polythene Tubes

30 M/S PAHARIMATA PACKAGING INDUSTRIES

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	109A/1A, B.R.B Basu Road, 1st Floor, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9831019033 ✉ info@paharimata.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Navneet Agarwal – Partner Mr. Sushil Kumar Agarwal – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Shrink Film, Mulch Films, Liners for Industrial Packaging

31 M/S JAGATI FLEXIBLES & INNOVATIONS LLP

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	C/O Jagati Logistics, Chowkigate, AIDC Road, Niz Sindurighopa, North Guwahati, Assam – 781101
Contact	☎ 8811021223 ✉ jagatiflexibles@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Ajay Shankar Jagati – Partner Mr. Madhu Jagati – Partner Mr. Harsh Jagati – Partner
Products/Trade	Flexible Packaging Solutions

32 M/S ANJANI POLYTEC PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Plot No. 1071 & 1072, Pashchim Nekra, Purba Medinipur, PS Panskura – 721139
Contact	☎ 9903315645 ✉ anjanipolytec@rediffmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Anil Kumar Agarwal – Director Mrs. Sunita Agarwal – Director Mr. Debraj Pande – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturing of PP/HDPE Woven Sacks/Fabric/Bags

33 M/S M P POLYMERS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	8, Cossipore Road, Kolkata – 700002
Contact	☎ 9831089627 ✉ jitendrapilaniwala3@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Jitendra Kumar Pilaniwala – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Tubes and Granules

34 M/S JAGDAMBA POLYMERS LTD.

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	25, Ganeshwarpur Industrial Estate, Balasore, Odisha – 756019
Contact	☎ 6782241787 ✉ info@jagdambapolymers.co.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Chandra Prakash Bhartia – Director Mr. Chandra Kant Bhartia – Director Mrs. Manju Bhartia – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Products, Household Products, Moulded Furniture, Cleaning Products, Pet Preforms

35 M/S ETERNIA PLASTOCHEM PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Mouza Dugachia, Jaugram, Purba Bardhaman – 713166
Contact	☎ 9748547151 / 9831004531 ✉ eterniaplastochem@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Jitendra Rungta – Director Mr. Pranesh Rungta – Director Mr. Aditya Rungta – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of PP Woven Fabric

36 M/S ROTO FLOW SOLUTIONS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	18 Rabindra Sarani, Poddar Court, Gate-1, Room No-518, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9830404725 ✉ rotoflowsolutions@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Nilesh Agarwal – Partner Mr. Ajay Kumar Gupta – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Polymer Compound

37 M/S BHAVYA ENTERPRISE

Membership	Life Distributor Member
Address	2, Block-H, Subham Buildwell, RGB Road, Shree Nagar, Guwahati, Assam – 781006
Contact	☎ 9864091229 / 9706042064 ✉ gaurav@petroproducts.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Gaurav Agarwal – Proprietor
Products/Trade	Deals in Polymer, Chemicals and Road Construction Materials; Operation of IOCL Depot

38 M/S SWAGATH POLYCRAFTS

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	Commerce House, M.G. Road, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati – 781001
Contact	☎ 7002617251 ✉ polycrafts.swagath@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Om Prakash Seksaria – Partner Mr. Siddhartha Seksaria – Partner Mr. Uday Shankar Seksaria – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Plastic Moulded Furniture

39 M/S SPECTRUM PETROMAC PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Distributor Member
Address	9, Ezra Street, Lalbazar, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9007006184 ✉ gmspectrum.mobil@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Soumitro Banerjee – Director Mr. Emon Banerjee – Director
Products/Trade	Supply of Exxon Mobil Hydraulic Oil and Grease for Injection Moulding Machines

40 M/S SLIDEKRAFT EXTRUSION LLP

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	4th Floor, Arun Prakash Mansion, G.S. Road, Behind Hub Mall, Guwahati, Assam – 781005
Contact	☎ 9711308793 ✉ info@slidekraft.in
Representative(s)	Mr. Nishant Sangneria – Partner Mr. Prakash Kumar Sangneria – Partner Mr. Sanjay Khemka – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of UPVC Profile Extrusion

41 M/S SSV POLYPACK

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	73, Podrah Bus Stop, Andul Road, Howrah - 711109
Contact	☎ 9331017934 ✉ ssvpolypack@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Manoj Beriwal – Partner Mr. Abha Beriwal – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Gunny Bags, Canvas Bags, Polyethylene Bags, Bio-Medical Bags, etc.

42 M/S JSS PACKAGING PVT LTD

Membership	Annual Manufacturer Member
Address	863/2, Topsia Road, Room No -34C, Kolkata – 700046
Contact	☎ 9883259563 ✉ jsspackagingind@gmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Ritesh Garodia – Director Mr. Siddharth Manpuria – Director Ms. Rashmi Garodia – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of Flexible Packaging.

43 M/S KEJRIWAL OPVC PIPES PVT. LTD.

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	14th Floor, 14C, Tower 2, Millenium City IT Park, Saltlake, Kolkata – 700091
Contact	☎ 8697249822 ✉ Kasturi.b@kejriwalcastings.com ; sandeep@kejriwalcastings.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Pawan Kumar Dhanuka – Director Mr. Sandip Kejriwal – Director Mr. Rajeev Kejriwal – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of OPVC Pipes & Fittings

44 M/S SS CHEMICALS INDIA LLP

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	2, N.C. Dutta Sarani, 3rd Floor, Room no-6, Sagar Estate, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9917409422 ✉ sales@sschems.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Mohan Kumar Agarwal – Partner Mrs. Nishi Agarwal – Partner Mr. Aryaman Agarwal – Partner
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of HDPE reprocessed granules and calcium carbonate powder and trader/importer of plastic raw materials and additives including PVC resins, TiO and speciality chemicals.

45 M/S MARUTI POLY PACKAGING INDUSTRIES

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member
Address	17A, Cossipore road (Near Chitpur Police St.), Kolkata – 700002
Contact	☎ 9830746660/9830765660 ✉ sunilsa2000@gmail.com
Representative	Mr. Sunil Agarwal – Proprietship
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of plastic bottle, jar, jerrycan, etc.

46 M/S ADITI PLASTICS PRIVATE LIMITED

Membership	Life Manufacturer Member (Conversion from Annual)
Address	7, Surrendra Mohan Ghosh Sarani, Near Kaka Tea, Room No - 203, Kolkata – 700001
Contact	☎ 9830068050 / 9051903951 ✉ aditiplastics@hotmail.com
Representative(s)	Mr. Sunil Dhanuka – Director Mr. Shreyas Dhanuka – Director
Products/Trade	Manufacturer of tableware, kitchenware and other household articles and toilet articles of plastic, vacuum flasks and other vacuum vessels.

*Indian Plastics Federation –
Uniting the Industry, Empowering the Future*

Plastic Exhibition At a Glance

Plast 2026 9th June - 12th June 2026 Strada Statale Sempione 28, 20017 Rho (Milan), Italy Organizer: Promaplast SRL	Hiplex 2026 7th-10th August 2026 Hitex Exhibition Centre Hyderabad Organizer: Telangana & Andhra Plastics Manufacturers Association	Fakuma 2026 12th-16th October 2026 Messe Friedrichshafen Germany Organizer: P.E.Schall GmbH & Co. KG	Plastivision 2027 21st-25th January 2027 Bombay Exhibition Centre Metro Station Goregaon Mumbai Organizer: AIPMA
Arab Plast 2027 24th-26th March 2027 Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai, UAE Organizer: Al Fajer Information and Services	NPE: The Plastics Show 2027 3rd May-7th May 2027 Orange Country Convention Centre, Orlando USA Organizer: Plastics Industry Association	IPLAS 2027 11th-14th June 2027 Chennai Trade Centre Chennai Organizer: The Tamilnadu Plastic Manufacturers Association	Plasto 2027 24th-27th November 2027 Piecc, Moshi, Pune Organizer: Association for the Promotion of Plastics
	10th Plexpo India 2028 7th-10th January 2028 Helipad Exhibition Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat Organizer: GSPMA	Plastfocus 2028 10th-15th February 2028 Helipad Exhibition Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat Organizer: Triune Exhibitors Pvt. Ltd.	

Indplas 2027

19th-22nd November 2027

Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan (Milan Mela), Kolkata

Organizer:

Indian Plastics Federation





INDIAN PLASTICS FEDERATION

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Special Request:

If you wish to share any information regarding Technological Advancements / Developments in Plastic Industry, you may send your articles with Supporting Photographs with research and Technical analysis.

Kindly send the same addressed to:

The Editor

Indian Plastics Federation

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E: office@ipfindia.org

- Matter will be given in Electronic Format: High Resolution PDF / PSD / JPEG / CDR as per given size above

MEMBERS SPEAK

Mr. Akshay Kumar Agarwal

Hindustan Plastics

LinkedIn The New Tool to scale your business online. Just learnt how to optimize my presence. An informative and Eye-Opening session. Kudos to IPF for the informative and Educational Seminar.

Mr. Sandeep Kumar Khaitan

Neutech Enterprise

Looking forward to much more informative Seminars. In LinkedIn session time should be provided on use of various App or can have a session on these types of Apps.

Mr. Rohit Ganeriwala

Sai Packaging

An extremely informative and necessary session much needed in today's rapidly developing world. I am glad to have been a part of it.

Mr. Nilesh Agarwal

Calco Polychem Pvt. Ltd.

I am pleased with this new learning and skill development initiative of IPF. It is very insightful and gives a lot of exposure on varied topics.

Mr. Chetan Agarwal

Rama Vyapaar Pvt. Ltd.

One of the best seminars held till date, got to learn a lot from this. Ready to attend more.

HELP DESK

For the benefit of its members, the Indian Plastics Federation (IPF) has decided to organise a helpdesk dedicated to issues related to taxation, extended producer responsibility (EPR), and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME). This initiative aims to provide IPF members with free consultation and guidance to address their specific problems in these areas.

The helpdesk will offer personalised assistance, helping members navigate the complexities of tax regulations, EPR compliance, and MSME-related concerns. By offering expert advice, the help desk seeks to empower members with the knowledge and resources necessary to optimise their business operations and ensure regulatory compliance.

IPF members are encouraged to send their queries via email to the Secretariat at office at office@ipfindia.org. This streamlined process will ensure that each query is addressed promptly and accurately, providing members with the support they need to resolve their issues efficiently. This initiative reflects IPF's commitment to supporting its members and fostering a robust, compliant, and thriving plastics industry in India.

ipf INDIAN PLASTICS FEDERATION MSME HELPDESK

Dear Members,

Please note that MSME helpdesk is available to members at the IPF office on first Saturday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with prior appointment.

Free consultation will be provided on the following topics by Suvidha Consultants Pvt. Ltd.

- MSME Incentive Schemes & Policies of West Bengal and Central Government
- MSME Incentive Schemes & Policies of Odisha, Assam and Uttar Pradesh Government
- Project report & Finance
- Delayed Payment under MSME Samadhaan
- Udyam Registration
- Statutory licenses for setting up unit
- Advisory services for setting up new & expansion projects

Please book your time by writing an e-mail at the following e-mail IDs for consultation or assistance.

Biswaroop Chakraborty: biswaroop@suvidhaconsultants.com
Suvra Chatterjee: suvra@suvidhaconsultants.com
Suvidha Office: suvidha@suvidhaconsultants.com

With a cc to office@ipfindia.org

Time slot will be provided on first come first serve basis

(Disclaimer :- Any further services taken is at the sole discretion of the member after fully satisfying and IPF has no role in same.)

Phone 033-2217-5700 | 033-4604-7820 | +91 79808 04570 (OFFICE)

Send your e-mail at least 3 days in advance for time slot booking (office@ipfindia.org)

ipf INDIAN PLASTICS FEDERATION

TAXATION HELPDESK

Dear Members,

Please note that Taxation helpdesk is available for members at the IPF office on the fourth Saturday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with prior appointment.

**Free consultation and guidance will be
provided by CA Suruchi Agrawal**

**Please send your queries to us at the following email IDs for
consultation or assistance.**

CA Suruchi Agrawal : ag.suruchi05@gmail.com

With a cc to office@ipfindia.org

(Disclaimer :- Any further services taken is at the sole discretion of the member and IPF has no role in the same)

Phone 033-2217-5700 | 033-4604-7820 | +91 79808 04570 (OFFICE)

Send your queries 3 days in advance for effective addressal (office@ipfindia.org)

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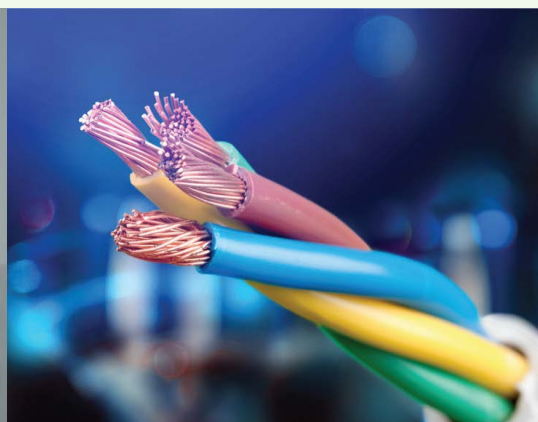
NOTES

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