



PLASTIC WORLD



AN OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

VOL XLII

No. 7

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July, 2025

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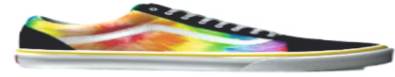


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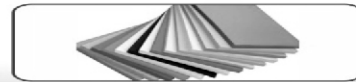
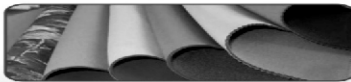
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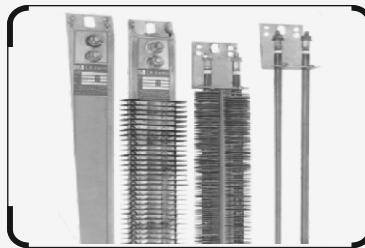
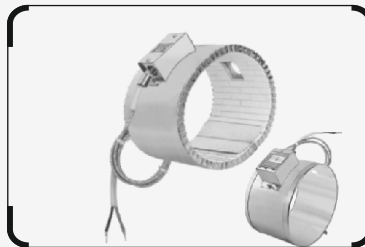
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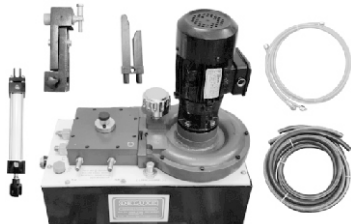
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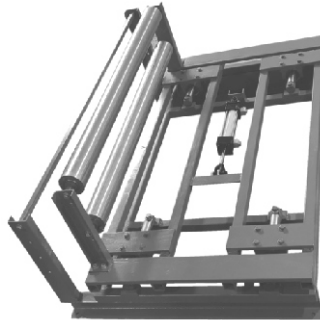
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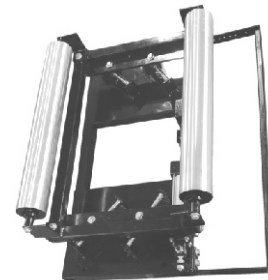
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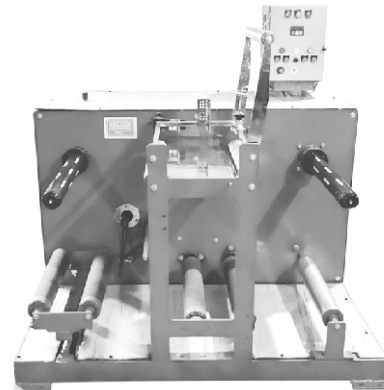
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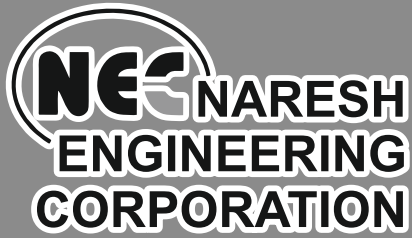
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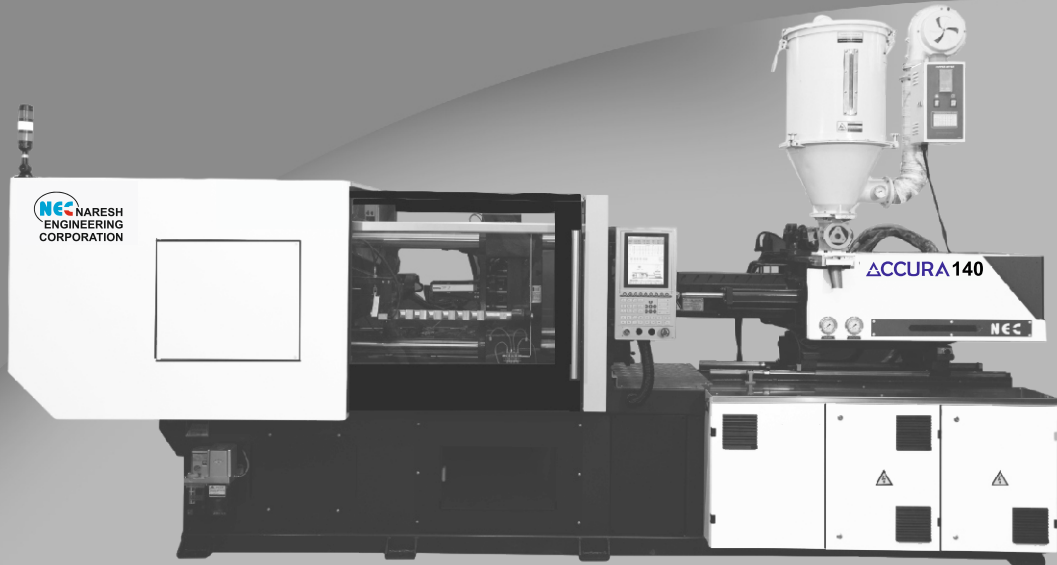

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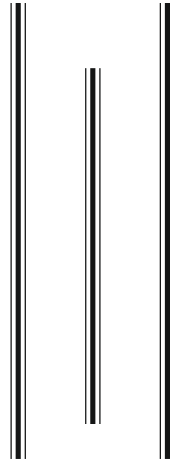
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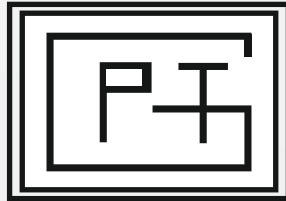


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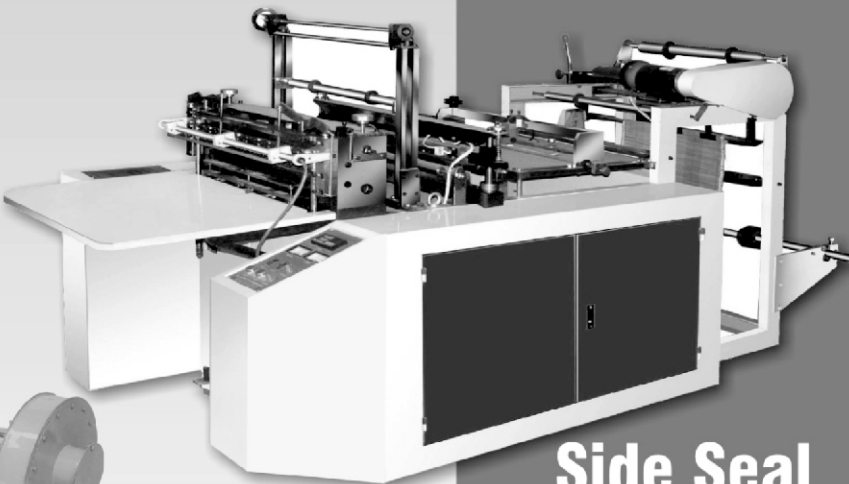
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Blowers

Uncertainty in June

The month of June has been a chaotic one because of many reasons. President Trump goes ahead with his impractical duty structure on international products, withdrawing some duties at will and changing some duties for the benefit of MAGA, i.e. make America Great Again.

Further he is on a mission to sign a critical mineral deal with Ukraine in return of support in war against Russia. He is also continuing his efforts for the peace deal between Israel and Iran, which he has successfully managed in the form of a ceasefire.

The Iran-Israel war immediately ignited the oil prices. At first USA bombed nuclear sites in Iran, with Iran retaliating, when it launched missile attack on American base in Qatar. All this happened before President Trump managed a ceasefire.

These international events effected the whole world including India. The Sensex also had a roller-coaster ride, shedding 1000 points in a session and then gaining it back shortly, especially after the ceasefire.

The small and the medium businesses are hardly geared up for these sudden ups and downs. Plastic is a crude oil product and therefore, anything that changes the price equation effects plastic raw material prices also. Iran is a major oil producing nation and disruption in the middle east supplies naturally affects the prices.

We as SME enterprises need to be extremely alert and vigilant to counter such sudden ups and downs. President Trump has also mentioned 9th July as the final date for tariff changes. He already has managed good business deals with many countries including China. We are also hoping to manage a good, industry-friendly duty structure with USA.

We hope, by the time this issue reaches you, the dust would have settled down and we can follow guidelines with some clarity.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION

F. No.:12/64/2023-HSM

Dated : 27th June 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Extension in timeline for filing of Annual Returns of PIBOs and PWPs-reg.

This has reference to the email of CPCB dated 29th May 2025 on the above cited subject.

2. The undersigned is directed to inform that the timeline for filing of annual returns for both registered PIBOs and PWPs for 2024-2025, is extended till 31st July 2025, as a special case, for removal of difficulties and facilitating filing of annual returns by PIBOs and PWPs, while ensuring that environmentally sound management of plastic packaging waste is done by PIBOS and PWPs as per EPR Guidelines, thus reducing pollution caused by littered and un-managed plastic packaging waste. The above is as per the provisions under Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023.

3. This issues with approval of Competent Authority.

(Amit Raj)
Director



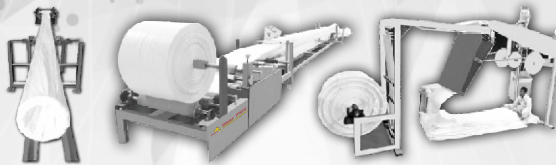
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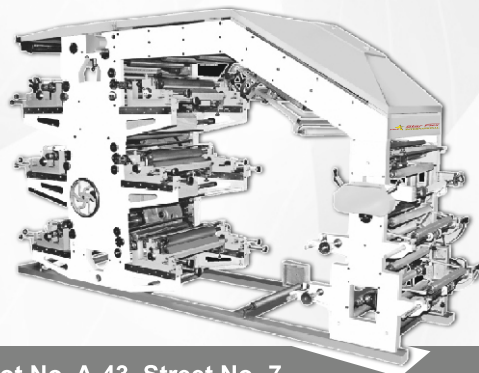
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ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

1. Letter dated 12th June, 2025 sent to the Chairman-CPCB regarding relief from Invoice-Level Data Upload Requirement under EPR for Small and Micro units

The authorities have very rightly taken the SME packaging sector out of the purview of EPR. But still a major grievance remains to the extent that these units are still, as we understand, obligated to upload bill-wise details on the CPCB portal. This is indeed a very laborious, time-consuming job, apparently for no benefit. Moreover, even the smallest SME will have to avail the services of different persons for this job and they can hardly afford the cost.

In view of the above, this is to request you to please absolve the Small and Micro sector from uploading the individual invoice details, and oblige.

2. Letter dated 2nd July 2025 sent to the Ministry of Commerce regarding Wholesale Price Index

India is currently a \$4 trillion economy and is well on track to becoming the third-largest economy globally—after the USA and China—by the year 2030. It is an established economic and historical fact that **plastic consumption is closely correlated with GDP growth**. As our economy expands, we are witnessing a **CAGR of over 6% in plastic processing**, and all indicators suggest that plastic usage will continue to rise significantly in the coming years.

In this context, we respectfully submit that **government policies should go hand in hand with this growth trajectory**. Rather than curbing plastic use, policies should facilitate its sustainable expansion. The widely held perception that “**plastic is polluting**” is a **myth**—plastic itself is not the problem. It is **improper disposal and careless consumer behaviour** that result in littering and environmental challenges. With proper waste management and recycling systems, plastic can be a sustainable and essential material.

As plastic consumption increases, so will the need for **plastic processing infrastructure**, particularly **machinery**. The plastic processing machinery sector is also therefore geared for a big thrust. We appreciate the government’s step to impose **anti-dumping duties on Chinese machinery**, which has offered vital protection to domestic manufacturers.

In continuation of this supportive approach, we earnestly request that the **GST rate on plastic processing machinery be reduced from 18% to 12%**. This will boost domestic investment, reduce the burden on MSMEs, and enhance the competitiveness of Indian manufacturers.

We are also enclosing AIPIA’s observations and suggestions for modification in the items listed under the ‘**Tentative Item Basket of Input PPI Goods and Services**’ for your kind consideration.

Thanking you for your continued support to the MSME sector.

LALA PLASTICO



Reprocessed Granules of

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E-mail : rp68jain@gmail.com

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Milky-Coloured Article Raffia * PPR & FIELD
PP * LDPE/LLDPE/LD (Agro)

Important points discussed during the monthly meeting held on 10th June, 2025

1. **To approve the minutes of previous Executive Committee Meetings held on 10th May, 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on **10th May, 2025** were reviewed.

Shri **Parshotam Kumar**, Patron, sought updates on the long-discussed **AIPIA Exhibition**. Shri **Brijesh Bhutani**, Hony. General Secretary, informed that **Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal** is looking after the matter but is **out of the country**.

Members also enquired about the **joint event proposal with the Non-Woven Exhibition**, as earlier suggested by **Shri Bhupesh Ralli**, who assured to provide updates by the next meeting. The matter was deferred for further discussion.
 2. **Approval of the Expenditure for the Month of April, 2025**

The monthly expenses for **May 2025** were reviewed.

The **Treasurer**, Shri **Amrinder Singh Arora**, highlighted that **some invoices from the printing press** were processed for payment **without stamps and signatures**.

The committee unanimously resolved that:

 - All future invoices must be **properly signed and stamped**,
 - They should be **placed before the Executive Committee** for review and only then approved for payment.

The expenditures for the month were **approved**.
 3. **Discussion on Industry-Related Matters**
 - i. **GST Portal – Transportation Compliance**

Shri Sahibdeep Singh explained GST norms related to goods transportation within and across states. He raised the concern that although GST numbers are mentioned on invoices, the requirement of a ‘bilty’ remains unnecessarily mandatory.

He added that within the state, only the vehicle number should suffice, and rickshaw transport is already exempt. We shall further contact the concerned officers for this.
 - ii. **PWM Rules – New Notification (4th June, 2025)**

Shri Amrinder Singh Arora informed that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has issued a notification on mandatory recycled content in plastic packaging, dated 4th June 2025.

The Ministry has invited public comments within 60 days from the issuance date.
 - iii. **Proposal for Quarterly Meetings in Industrial Areas**

Shri Parshotam Kumar, Patron, suggested organizing quarterly meetings in different industrial areas in collaboration with local associations.
- Benefits outlined:
- Help in membership promotion
 - Address regional industry concerns
 - Enhance association visibility and recognition through seminars
- The proposal was appreciated and will be further strategized.
- iv. **Change in Meeting Time**

It was agreed that Executive Committee Meetings will be held at 4:00 PM from next month onwards instead of 5:00 PM.
4. **Discussion to hold AGM-cum-Election-cum-Industry Meet for the session 2025-27.**

A **tentative date of 19th September, 2025** was proposed for holding the AGM, election, and industry meet.

The matter will be discussed in more detail in the next meeting.

Reshaping recycling

New EU recycling regulations have the potential to reshape the industry globally.

-By Helen McGeough, ICIS & Matt Tudball, ICIS

The European Union (EU) has long been at the forefront of environmental policy, with recycling serving as a cornerstone of its sustainability efforts.

In recent years, the EU has introduced a series of regulations aimed at transforming the recycling landscape, influencing everything from waste collection and sorting to trade and market competitiveness. Policies targeting plastic waste reduction are driving change, affecting the quality and economics of plastic recycling across Europe and beyond.

Transformative regulations

One of the key regulations driving change is the Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD), which came into force in July 2021. This directive specifically targets plastic waste reduction, particularly focusing on plastic bottles. It mandates the collection of a certain percentage of plastic beverage bottles, which also must contain a minimum amount of recycled content. For example, PET, or polyethylene terephthalate, beverage bottles must have at least 25 percent recycled content as of Jan. 1.

While this regulation seeks to drive demand for recycled plastic, it also has created uncertainties given the unclear enforcement mechanisms. Many EU member states have yet to implement strict penalties, leaving businesses unsure how compliance will be monitored and enforced.

Another initiative expected to improve recycling efficiency is implementing deposit return schemes (DRS) under the SUPD. These systems, which require consumers to pay a small deposit on beverage containers that is refunded upon return, have proven successful in increasing collection rates and improving the quality of recyclables. Countries such as Germany and the Netherlands have well-established DRS that yield positive results.

While new DRS have been introduced and more are planned in the next couple years, broader adoption across Europe could help address supply chain constraints for PET, in particular.

Another significant piece of legislation is the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), which came into effect this year.

Unlike the SUPD, which focuses on plastics, the PPWR extends to all packaging materials. This regulation enforces ambitious recyclability and reuse targets, requiring all packaging to be recyclable by 2030. The goal is to reduce waste and encourage companies to rethink their approaches to product packaging.

A major challenge has been a lack of clarity around methodologies and definitions, which has left businesses struggling to understand exactly how to comply. While the European Commission has stated it will publish some of these methodologies by the end of 2026, it leaves the industry without those specific requirements and creates the potential for significant change in operating modes once announced.

The impact of the EU's regulations extends beyond consumer packaging.

The proposed End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) Regulation is set to introduce mandates regarding using recycled content in the automotive sector. This would require manufacturers to use more recycled materials in vehicle production. Specifically, 15 percent of that target must be met using postconsumer plastic recycled from ELVs or scrap generated by vehicle workshops and preconsumer scrap from vehicle production. This regulation is expected to increase demand for recycled polymers overall. Even before full enforcement, this shift already has been influencing material prices and supply chains.

Economic implications

As these regulations reshape the recycling industry, the economic implications are becoming increasingly apparent. The cost of compliance in Europe is significantly higher compared with other regions, such as Asia and non-EU countries. European recyclers face steep operational expenses, including costly additional sorting processes.

In contrast, non-EU producers often can supply virgin plastic or recycled materials at lower prices, and some recycled resin suppliers are not meeting all compliance requirements, both of which create a competitive disadvantage for European businesses.

In some cases, individual countries within the EU have introduced additional measures to support recycling. Prior to the SUPD, the United Kingdom implemented a Plastics Packaging Tax, charging approximately 218 pounds sterling (\$292) per metric ton of plastic packaging that does not meet recycled content thresholds. However, many businesses have opted to simply pay the tax rather than increase their use of recycled materials in light of the delta between recycled and virgin prices, making it unfavorable to use recycled, thereby raising concerns about the effectiveness of such measures.

Spain has taken a more hard-hitting approach, introducing a 450-euros-per-metric-ton (\$508) plastics tax, making virgin plastic significantly less attractive. Italy initially planned a similar tax but delayed its implementation to July 2026 given economic concerns, highlighting the financial challenges associated with regulatory changes.

The effects of these regulations also are being felt at the market level.

In Poland, for example, the price of recycled PET (rPET) bales surged to nearly 900 euros (\$1,015) per metric ton in March 2024 owing to supply constraints. This increase highlights the volatility of the recycled plastics market and the difficulty businesses face consistently securing feedstocks at competitive prices. Speculation and market uncertainty further contribute to price instability, making it difficult to plan for long-term investments in recycling infrastructure.

Enforcement concerns & other challenges

Despite the EU's efforts to promote a circular economy for plastic, several challenges still remain. One of the biggest concerns is enforcement. While the regulations establish clear goals, no penalties or auditing mechanisms universally are applied to ensure compliance. Without stricter regulatory oversight, businesses could continue to prioritize using lower-cost virgin plastics over higher-priced recycled alternatives.

The struggle to balance economic sustainability with regulatory goals is not limited to Europe.

In Australia, the recycling industry has faced similar financial difficulties, with many companies questioning whether the sector can remain viable without adjustments to landfill and incineration fees. Policymakers have debated whether such fees should be adjusted based on market conditions to provide greater incentives for recycling. This underscores the broader global dilemma on how to create a financial framework that supports long-term investment in recycling infrastructure without placing excessive burdens on businesses.

One potential solution being debated is whether to tax virgin plastic more heavily instead of subsidizing recyclers. Some policymakers argue that increasing the cost of virgin plastic would create a stronger financial incentive for businesses to use recycled materials. However, examples of plastic taxes that have been introduced in the U.K. and Spain have shown mixed results as companies face the dilemma of weighing finances against sustainability. In current market conditions, the financial incentive to use more circular plastic alternatives in place of virgin plastic is not present.

As the recycling industry adapts to these regulations, the plastic value chain is forced to rethink its approach to more sustainable solutions. Many businesses are exploring ways to make recycling financially sustainable by improving efficiency, investing in better sorting technologies and securing more stable supply chains. However, without clear financial incentives and enforcement of these regulations to create a level playing field, businesses could continue to focus on using virgin plastic rather than making the necessary investments in promoting circular economy solutions.

Balancing environmental goals & economic realities

The future of recycling in Europe will depend on how these policies evolve and whether additional actions are taken to address the economic challenges for the plastics value chain.

If regulations are clarified, enforcement mechanisms are strengthened and financial incentives are properly aligned, the EU's push for a circular economy could serve as a model for the rest of the world. However, if businesses continue to face uncertainty and high costs for recycled plastic, the risk that recycling targets will be missed and reliance on virgin plastics will persist increases.

Ultimately, the EU's recycling policies are reshaping European markets while also influencing global supply chains and industry standards. As other regions of the world look to implement their own sustainability initiatives, they likely will draw lessons—both positive and negative—from Europe's experience. The success of these regulations will depend on achieving a balance between ambitious environmental goals and practical economic realities.

News Concerning Plastics

Flouting of rules by pan masala manufacturers: NGT issues notice to Centre

The National Green Tribunal has sought a reply from the Centre regarding the strict enforcement of the Plastic Waste Management Rules by the manufacturers of gutkha, pan masala and tobacco products.

A bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava and expert member A Senthil Vel noted the submissions of the petitioner's counsel that in October 2021, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) issued certain directions to 25 such manufacturers, including immediately closing down operations until they switched to environmentally sound alternatives, which were not complied with.

The bench, in its order dated May 30, noted that according to the counsel, Anuj Aggarwal, certain provisions of the plastic waste management rules were being outed.

These included the clause that "sachets using plastic material shall not be used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala" and "plastic material, in any form including vinyl acetate, maleic acid, vinyl chloride copolymer (used in plastic coating) shall not be used in any package for packaging gutkha, pan masala and tobacco in all forms", the bench noted.

It also noted the submission that these manufacturers were not complying with the Extended Producers' Responsibility (EPR) regime under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, which stipulated environmentally sound management of products, particularly at the end of their life cycle.

During the proceedings, the advocate also told the tribunal that no action had been taken against these manufacturers despite the EPR regime specifying consequences for non-compliance, including seizure of products, closure of units and penalties.

The tribunal said, "The original application (OA) raises substantial issues relating to compliance with environmental norms. Issue notice to the respondents."

It posted the matter for further proceedings on September 26.

The respondents in the matter are the Centre, Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) and some pan masala and supari manufacturers.

(Source: ET News, Jun 1, 2025)

Environment-friendly lifestyle real solution to end plastic pollution: Bhupender Yadav

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav on Thursday said an environment-friendly lifestyle is the real solution to beat plastic pollution and urged people to completely stop using single-use plastic items.

At an event to mark world Environment Day, the minister said, while plastic has become a big part of people's lives, it has also become a major challenge.

"Plastic has entered our soil and water, affecting our health. It is reaching our land, rivers and oceans," he said.

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The minister said India is among the first countries to ban single-use plastics that are less than 120 microns thick and urged everyone to stop using single-use plastic items.

Yadav said people need to adopt technologies that focus on reducing, reusing and recycling products.

The theme of this year's World Environment Day 2025 is 'Beat Plastic Pollution'. Two months from now, countries will meet again to continue talks on a global treaty to end plastic pollution.

(Source: ET, 5th June, 2025)

India's Plastic Credit Market Set to Reach \$1.7 Billion by 2030 Amid EPR Push.

Plastic credit market expansion expected as India enforces stricter recycled content mandates under EPR regulations.

India's plastic credit market is expected to grow 70%, reaching approximately \$1.67 billion by 2030, up from the current \$982 million, according to industry observers. The surge is largely driven by Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mandates that require producers, importers, and brand owners to include recycled content in their plastic packaging.

Under the new EPR framework, companies must demonstrate accountability in their use of plastic, either by incorporating recycled material or purchasing plastic credits to offset their virgin plastic use. This is fostering demand for plastic credits and accelerating investment in recycling systems.

However, industry experts have raised concerns over key implementation challenges. "While the regulation is a step forward, sourcing quality plastic waste at a viable price remains a hurdle," said one industry executive. "The price discovery mechanism for credits is still evolving, and reverse logistics is not fully developed."

Experts also pointed out that many recyclers are struggling with inconsistent collection systems and lack of infrastructure. The success of the credit mechanism, they argue, depends on improving waste segregation, streamlining logistics, and ensuring transparency in credit verification.

"The ecosystem needs better coordination between stakeholders—from local governments to waste aggregators and recyclers," said another sector stakeholder. "Without that, compliance alone won't drive circularity."

Despite the challenges, the overall outlook remains positive as both domestic and multinational companies operating in India align with global sustainability targets. The credit mechanism, similar to carbon trading, is expected to play a central role in India's evolving plastic waste management landscape.

(Source: Packaging MEA)

Pepsi reduces, extends global recycled resin goal

Citing factors outside the company's control, brand giant PepsiCo has softened its global post-consumer recycled content target and given itself more time to achieve the goal.

The company on May 22 announced that its goal of hitting 50% recycled content in global plastic packaging by 2030 has been changed to a goal of hitting 40% or more recycled content in certain markets by 2035. The identified markets cover more than 80% of the company's overall plastic use.

PepsiCo set the 50% by 2030 goal in 2021, which itself was an extension of a previous goal to hit 25% global PCR use by 2025.

Although PepsiCo uses significant quantities of PCR in some markets — recent California data indicated the company averaged 36% PCR in its bottles sold in that state in 2024 — its global PCR use remains relatively low. In its most recent sustainability reporting, PepsiCo hit 10% PCR globally in 2023, up from 7% in 2022, 6% in 2021, 5% in 2020, 4% in 2019, and 3% in 2018 and 2017, when numbers were first available.

In announcing the changes, PepsiCo said its modified goals "remain ambitious and will continue to require investment, innovation, and cross-sector collaboration to drive systemic change and support the business." But

it described substantial challenges that include a patchwork of recycled content-related regulation globally. “For example, India only passed laws allowing RPET for beverage packaging in 2023, with food packaging added this year, while China does not allow RPET inclusion in food-grade packaging,” the company wrote. Beyond its PCR goal change, PepsiCo ended a goal that aimed to deliver 20% of the company’s beverage servings through reusable packaging models by 2030, including refillable containers and products that enable at-home beverage preparation. The company will no longer work toward that specific goal but will continue “various efforts on reuse as part of its goal around designing packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable,” according to the announcement.

The company didn’t respond to an interview request.

The pivot comes after PepsiCo has regularly hinted at PCR-related difficulties in its annual sustainability reporting. As far back as 2017, the company noted challenges sourcing PCR, with then-CEO Indra Nooyi writing, “We are one of the largest users of food-grade recycled PET in the U.S. In fact, if more recycled PET were available, we’d buy it.”

By 2022, PepsiCo reported “external factors such as the limited availability and high cost of recycled content” hampering its progress, as well as the need for regulatory changes in certain countries to enable recycled resin use.

And in its 2023 report, PepsiCo described how “building sufficient collection, sortation and waste management infrastructure, as well as well-designed policies that support a circular economy, are significant challenges we and others face.”

The company identified a number of initiatives it is engaging with to help address those challenges, including supporting the Every Bottle Back program, through which brands fund local recycling infrastructure, and actively engaging with Circular Action Alliance, the producer responsibility organization that is managing packaging EPR programs poised to roll out in several U.S. states.

The PCR goal change also comes after the company narrowly missed a 2025 goal to make 100% of its packaging recoverable or reusable, instead hitting 98%.

India imposes anti-dumping duties on plastic processing machines imported from China, Taiwan

Synopsis

India has taken steps to protect its domestic industries. Anti-Dumping Duties are now in effect for five years on plastic processing machines. These machines are imported from China and Taiwan. The Directorate General of Trade Remedies recommended this action. Mica pearlescent pigments for automobiles will not face countervailing duty if imported from China.

India has imposed anti-dumping duties on plastic processing machines that are imported from China and Taiwan for a period of five years, the central board of indirect tax and customs (CBIC) said in a notification issued on Thursday.

The duty was imposed following the recommendation by the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) to protect the domestic industry from unfair trade practices.

In a separate notification, the CBIC clarified that mica pearlescent pigments used in the automobile sector will not attract countervailing duty imported from China and the anti-dumping duty will depend on the grade of pigment.

This pigment is used as a coating material to give a shining effect.

India had imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of pearlescent pigment imported from China in November 2023.

(Source: The Economic Times; 26th June, 2025)

How your plastic bottle fuels climate change - and what the UN plans to do about it

A recent briefing note and press release by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), warns that without enforceable trade measures covering plastic raw materials, the global treaty risks being ineffective.

New Delhi: The United Nations Environment Assembly's (UNEA) Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) is heading into its sixth and final round of talks in August 2025 to finalise an international legally binding instrument (ILBI) to curb plastic pollution. This instrument, born out of UNEA's Resolution 5/14 in 2022, is expected to regulate the entire life cycle of plastic—from production of raw materials (monomers and polymers) to disposal.

A recent briefing note and press release by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), warns that without enforceable trade measures covering plastic raw materials, the global treaty risks being ineffective.

What the data shows: Plastics are a global trade problem

According to the IEEFA report, a staggering 436.66 million tonnes of polymers and plastics, including feedstocks, were traded globally in 2022. In the same year, final plastic products worth 111 million tonnes were also traded. The sector is highly globalised, with countries like South Korea, the US, and Saudi Arabia leading the trade in raw plastic materials such as ethylene, propylene, and styrene.

IEEFA researchers point out that trade in polymers and monomers—especially those that produce single-use plastics (SUPs)—must be regulated at the international level. They argue that focusing solely on final plastic products and ignoring the trade of their raw materials will lead to emissions leakage and allow countries to bypass treaty obligations.

Why trade rules matter: Upstream emissions and global carbon budget

The production of plastics is heavily fossil fuel dependent. As much as 99 per cent of plastics are derived from fossil fuels. Plastic production generates 2.24 gigatonnes of CO₂, equivalent emissions annually—four times more than global aviation, according to estimates cited by IEEFA.

The carbon embedded in exported low-density and high-density polyethylene from the top five producer countries alone accounts for more than 100 million tonnes of CO₂, equivalent annually. The US leads with over 35 million tonnes, followed by Saudi Arabia at around 37 million tonnes.

IEEFA warns that if trade in these polymers is left unregulated, countries may continue exporting plastic raw materials without accounting for the emissions, undermining their Paris Agreement goals.

What the experts say

“Our research shows that petrostates lead trade in ethylene polymers—one of the largest categories of polymers contributing to the production of single-use plastics,” said Swathi Seshadri, petrochemicals specialist at IEEFA and co-author of the briefing note.

“A global regulation of plastic pollution without trade measures will only end up circumventing the problem without addressing it,” she added.

Abhishek Sinha, IEEFA's energy finance analyst and co-author, said: “An assessment of the existing laws to regulate plastic pollution demonstrates an inadequate legal framework to phase out primary plastic polymers.”

Connor Chung, another co-author, emphasised: “If parties manage to secure rigorous trade enforcement provisions, they will drive decarbonization in the process.”

India, Iran, Russia oppose trade provisions

A small group of countries—including India, Iran, and Russia—opposed the inclusion of trade measures in the treaty draft released in December 2024, citing concerns over conflicts with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and economic dependence on polymer trade.

IEEFA counters that WTO provisions do not restrict member states from adopting environmental policies, provided they are not discriminatory or protectionist. In fact, WTO's own Dialogue on Plastic Pollution (DOPP) has recommended measures to reduce harmful and unnecessary plastics.

Why polymer trade is the core of the problem

Single-use plastics, often made from ethylene, propylene and their derivatives, are at the heart of the plastic pollution crisis. These include packaging materials, plastic bottles, textiles and disposable consumer goods. In Asia, packaging accounts for 60 per cent of polyethylene (PE) consumption and 48 per cent of polypropylene (PP) demand in 2024.

China and other Asian nations accounted for 52 per cent of global plastics production in 2023. The US and Saudi Arabia remain dominant exporters due to abundant fossil fuel reserves. Countries like Belgium, Germany and Singapore act as re-processing or trans-shipment hubs.

Call for action: Treaty must include trade measures

IEEFA recommends that the proposed treaty must establish global and national targets for both production and consumption of primary plastic polymers. It also calls for including trade measures to prevent treaty circumvention and emissions leakage.

“The inclusion of trade provisions makes sense on economic grounds alone, given the interconnected nature of globalized trade,” the report states. “But a climate rationale also exists, for the simple reason that the plastic supply chain is a major contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions.”

(Source: ET Energy World, 27th June, 2025)

Indonesia to ease import restrictions on goods ahead of US tari deadline

Indonesia will ease import restrictions and rules on many goods and raw materials in a bid to make it easier to do business in the country, ministers said on Monday, ahead of the July 9 deadline for tari negotiations set by the United States.

While Indonesia is Southeast Asia's largest economy, traders have historically complained about excessive red tape. The matter was also highlighted in a recent report by the U.S. Trade Representative on foreign trade barriers.

Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto, speaking at an event, said the policy actions would affect 10 groups of commodities.

Indonesia Trade Minister Budi Santoso said restrictions would be eased on a number of products including those in the categories of fertilizers, forestry and plastics. He said the new policy would create more certainty for businesses by eliminating overlapping rules.

The easing of import requirements and restrictions will also help industry players who have been asking for an easier way to import raw materials, Indonesia Deputy Industry Minister Faisol Reza told a press conference.

The Trump administration imposed a 32% tariff on Indonesian goods in his drive to end U.S. trade deficits with countries worldwide. The U.S. goods trade deficit with Indonesia was \$17.9 billion in 2024, according to the U.S. Trade Representative.

(Source: The Economic Times; 30th June, 2025)

California advisory board examines barriers to EPR

Members of the California extended producer responsibility for packaging advisory board have identified dozens of barriers to implementation and offered up possible solutions in a recent report.

Under the law, the SB 54 advisory board was tasked with providing recommendations to address key barriers in diverting covered materials, minimizing plastic leakage into the environment, reducing reliance on virgin materials, improving pathways for reusable packaging, refillable systems and sustainable product alternatives, and ensuring that producer responsibility organizations adequately cover costs incurred by local jurisdictions.

The barriers and solutions report was finalized at the board's May 16 meeting, after the group ran out of time at the April 18 meeting.

The report largely focuses on "advancing a circular economy for packaging and foodware," the authors wrote, and "provides recommendations to transition from a linear system for managing packaging and foodware to one that prioritizes resource recovery, sustainable packaging, and waste prevention." It's intended to help PRO Circular Action Alliance create a program plan to implement EPR for packaging under SB 54.

Overall, the report found that achieving a circular economy will require making consistent recycling guidelines for consumers, standardizing packaging design and labeling, and supporting sufficient responsible end markets for recycled materials, as well as expanding composting services and scaling up reuse, refill and source reduction.

"The PRO plan should clearly describe key milestones in the transition from single-use foodware to foodware that is actually reused, recycled or composted, as this will have a significant impact on reducing the amount of foodware leaked or littered," the report added.

Recyclability

Looking first to recyclability, the report flagged a number of barriers, including limited available data and consumer education issues such as inconsistent guidelines, lack of standardized labels, multifamily residence access and lack of trust.

Insufficient end markets are also a barrier to recycling, as are the supply-demand gap between recycled plastic resin and virgin plastic resin and the "lack of alignment and absence of standardized criteria for waste brokers on acceptable contamination levels."

Outdated infrastructure, diverse packaging designs and confusion around regulations also play a role, according to the report.

The board suggested improving data collection at the state level, creating consistent labeling and recycling guidelines that are tailored to multifamily residences and disadvantaged groups, investing in long-term end market development and infrastructure updates, and standardizing packaging types, with an emphasis on mono-material designs.

"A balanced approach, combining financial support, regulatory enforcement, and consumer education, is critical to achieving the state's waste diversion goals," the group wrote.

Compostability

The advisory board highlighted four barriers to increasing composting in California. The first is rising cost due to packaging contamination, largely due to "wish cycling" of plastics that are not compostable or plastics that are marked compostable but still cause contamination, which has led many composters to stop accepting all compostable packaging.

A solution would be clear labeling and enforcement for compostable packaging, including "uniform markings, colors, and wording to aid identification and processing," more product testing and better consumer education.

Lack of access to composting facilities – or facilities that are at capacity – is a barrier that can be solved with local government collaboration, end market development and building new facilities, along with providing financial incentives and streamlined permitting processes for new composting operations.

There should be more funding and incentives for better compostable packaging design and testing, the board noted, and, finally, California should work to align its standards with the National Organic Program regulations.

“Expanding and upgrading composting collection and processing infrastructure will be crucial to managing the increasing volume of food and compostable materials effectively,” the board wrote.

“By implementing these measures, California can create a scalable and sustainable system that integrates compostable materials into the circular economy, reducing landfill waste and strengthening resource recovery.”

Reuse, refill and source reduction

Lack of data, high costs, low accessibility and limited incentives are all holding back the development of reuse and refill systems in California, the report noted, along with “resource-intensive washing, sanitization, and maintenance of reusable foodware.”

Reusable packaging also faces stricter standards compared to single-use alternatives, slowing down replacement.

Looking at source reduction, the board pointed out that the first requirement in statute is set to take effect in 2027, “before any producer has had the opportunity to report data.”

“As a result, the 2027 target is unrealistic and will likely be missed,” the board warned. In addition, there’s a lack of comprehensive tracking for source reduction efforts, such as lightweighting and elimination.

To address those problems, collaboration with retailers is key to getting reusables on shelves, as is funding the rollout of needed infrastructure and reassessing the required number of cycles for an item to be classified as reusable, “as the current threshold may be impractically high,” the board found.

To speed up adoption of reuse and refill, the PRO should focus on industries with high-frequency purchases and use, such as online purchase platforms with local delivery, medical and lab delivery services, personal care products and detergents and subscription-based models with established reverse logistics, such as meal-kit services.

Prioritizing closed-venue systems, such as schools, universities, concert and sports venues, as well as localized hubs and local laboratory specimen testing would also help, according to the report, as “controlled environments facilitate efficient reuse and collection logistics.”

Cost coverage

The reimbursement of local jurisdictions underpins EPR, and the advisory board called out several possible barriers to fulfilling the payments, such as how to reach communities that didn’t engage in the needs assessment and how to educate communities that may not understand which costs are eligible.

“Local jurisdiction staff need to be able to understand and articulate to their elected officials and communities how costs related to SB 54 implementation are being paid for and who is paying those costs,” the report wrote.

Working with organizations that represent local governments can help with outreach, the board suggested, and clear and transparent guidelines and records are essential. Municipalities and recycling service providers also have limited time and resources, so reimbursement systems should be streamlined and not a heavy lift, the board added.

Board members suggested ensuring the system is user-friendly and accommodates different jurisdictional needs, such as direct cost reimbursement versus performance-based models. It should also offer advance payment options for jurisdictions that lack upfront capital and the option for them to assign payments directly to their recycling service providers, or RSPs.

“Proactive education and effective coordination with local governments and RSPs will be critical in ensuring that the law’s implementation is fair, efficient, and beneficial for all stakeholders,” the board wrote.

Plastic pollution

The fifth section covered plastic leaking into the environment. Some barriers to stopping plastic pollution are the amount of plastics produced, financial incentives that favor virgin plastic over recycled, and regulatory challenges “due to the flexibility of plastic production methods and facilities, which can be altered to shift production based on market demands.” It can be difficult for policy to address production when methods can change and no longer be technically covered under policy.

In addition, while SB 54 focuses on packaging and foodware, broader policies are needed to address plastics in other sectors, according to the report, such as construction, agriculture, transportation and consumer goods.

The board suggested international collaboration through the United Nations and other global initiatives to curb overproduction, regulating “high-leakage plastic products,” increasing recycled content mandates, creating mechanisms to address the gap between virgin and recycled plastic costs, and strengthening enforcement measures.

The report also called on the PRO to “ensure that deceiving practices and false recycling solutions such as chemical recycling and mass balance schemes are not invested in” and to “ensure environmental justice by not allowing such chemical recycling facilities to be sited in disadvantaged communities.”

The report included over 100 pages of responses from MRFs, local governments and other groups across the state in the appendices.

(Source: Resource Recycling; 3rd June, 2025)

AE Global, rePurpose Global launch plastic negative and plastic neutral packaging certification badges

The firms say the new packaging badges identify brands taking action for a more sustainable supply chain.

AE Global, a Florida-based packaging developer, has released new verified plastic-negative and plastic-neutral certifications for product packaging. The environmental impact verification is conducted in partnership with the New York-based plastic action platform/ **rePurpose Global**.

Through the partnership, participating brands can display official on-pack icons signaling plastic recovery impact, either by collecting the same amount of plastic used to make the packaging (plastic-neutral) or twice the amount (plastic-negative). The companies say these badges differentiate products on retail shelves and e-commerce platforms as making a tangible impact on sustainability efforts.

According to the companies, consumer sentiment backs the move: a nationwide study from rePurpose Global claims that 95 percent of consumers indicated a willingness to pay more for products that fund plastic recovery. Among “conscious consumers,” those whose buying behavior suggests they prioritize impact in purchasing decisions, willingness to pay rises even further.

The icons are supported by rePurpose Global’s verification system, which includes traceable data, impact reporting and regular third-party audits. Brands already displaying rePurpose Global Plastic Neutral certifications include/ **Thrive Market**,/ **Saie Beauty**,/ **Beatbox Beverages**,/ **Megafood**,/ **Murphy’s Naturals**/ and/ **PAX Labs**, among many others.

“When brands show they’re taking responsibility for their plastic footprint, it drives real-world impact and consumer trust,” says Mike Foreza, managing partner at AE Global. “Through these on-pack icons with rePurpose Global, we’re making it easy for brands to integrate plastic recovery into their packaging strategy while delivering verified sustainability that stands up to scrutiny.”

The new certifications build on/ **AE Global and rePurpose Global’s partnership**, providing companies with a way to fund verified plastic recovery, eliminating friction while helping brands meet sustainability goals and consumer expectations. According to the companies, in 2024 alone, AE Global and rePurpose Global worked together to collect 380,000 pounds of ocean-bound plastic waste.

“Positive environmental impact and operational efficiency aren’t at odds. They can be built directly into a brand’s supply chain,” says Svanika Balasubramanian, CEO and co-founder of rePurpose Global. “Sustainability isn’t just good for the planet, it’s a competitive advantage, and these packaging certifications set a new standard for how packaging and purpose can align.”

(Source: Recycling Today; 30th May 2025)

BIR World Recycling Convention 2025: A troubled global plastics treaty

With treaty negotiations set to resume in August, countries remain divided on keeping commitments voluntary or legally binding.

Negotiations for a global plastics treaty are scheduled to resume Aug. 5-14 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, but speakers at the most recent Bureau of International Recycling (**BIR**) Convention & Exhibition warned that talks could grind to a halt with no consensus.

The BIR hosted its event in Valencia, Spain, May 26-28. During the meeting of the Brussels-based organization’s Plastics Division, Alev Somer, BIR trade and environmental director, said that the second part of the fifth session of the

Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, or **INC-5.2**, is intended to develop a legally binding instrument addressing plastic pollution, and would cover plastics for both single-use and long-term use.

With the proposals, Somer said, plastics recycling was in sharp focus.

“Since 2022, we at the United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee have been discussing reaching the ultimate goal of a plastics treaty that would address the whole life cycle of plastics and actually, perhaps, support the recycling industry. This treaty would be addressing plastic pollution not only on land, but also at sea.”

However, Somer said the “waste part” of the proposed treaty “is really dividing the negotiating committee into two groups, with low-ambition countries, oil-producing countries, pushing for it to be addressed only at the end of life so that they don’t have to do any changes in terms of their production and keep the commitments light with a voluntary agreement, and high-ambition countries pushing for the treaty to be legally binding and covering the entire life cycle of plastics.”

Summing up the progress, Somer said, “Basically, it’s like the Ottoman march. You make two steps forward and then one step back.”

When asked by session moderator and BIR Plastics Division President Henk Alssema if there was a real chance of a deal being signed, Somer said, “I think miracles can happen. But to be honest, no, I do not frankly see a binding treaty signed at the end of the session 5.2 unless there is tremendous progress, and then there might be further negotiations.”

Somer also said she had spoken with the secretariat working on the proposed treaty, who explained that if no agreement is reached at INC-5.2, the resources and budget do not exist to continue the negotiations. Instead, Somer suggested that more action could be taken through the Basel Convention on Plastics and other platforms, such as the Stockholm Convention, where persistent organic pollutants (POPs), could be addressed to potentially reduce the use of chemicals in plastics.

Markets and EPR

Sally Houghton, Plastics Division board member and the executive director at the **PET Recycling Corp. of California**, described the implementation of extended producer responsibility legislation for packaging in the United States as “exciting times,” though that same sentiment wasn’t being felt by domestic plastic recyclers at the moment, citing competition from inexpensive imported postconsumer resin (PCR).

“The problem we’re seeing in California is we have such an influx of cheap PCR coming into the state,” Houghton said.”

Regarding EPR, board member Max Craipeau, also of Hong Kong-based **Greencore Resources Ltd.**, said he felt that the best policy included a “push-pull mechanism with a minimum recycled content obligation, because if brands have no other choice but to include a certain portion of recycled content in their product, then upstream, downstream, the collection, everything is reorganizing itself because the demand is there.

“The pricing becomes attractive, the investment becomes a reality, and this is definitely why the BIR should be pushing for more such legislation.”

Commenting on global resin markets, Bashar Gadawala of **ALA Group & Fam Recycling FZCO**, United Arab Emirates, said there is a lot of raw material availability and polymer prices are dropping, especially virgin material, which has affected its recycled counterpart.

Craipeau added, “The impact of virgin is huge on our market. It’s not necessarily the case for the other commodities like metals and everything. But for us, we are really always coupled with virgin material prices.

“One of the major producing costs for beverage companies is the bottle itself, the container. So, when you have cheap virgin PET [polyethylene terephthalate], which you can find these days at \$800, whereas recycled is almost twice this, it’s an easy choice for them to do unless they have clear regulation and mandates that oblige them to incorporate recycled content.”

(Source: Recycling Today; 2 June, 2025)

Plastics treaty talks to resume in August

INC-5.2 is scheduled to take place Aug. 5-14 in Geneva.

Global plastics treaty negotiations will resume this summer.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced that the second part of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop and international and legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including the marine environment, or **INC-5.2**, will take place Aug. 5-14 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Additionally, the resumed session will be preceded by regional consultations Aug. 4.

The first part of the fifth session, **INC-5.1**, took place Nov. 25-Dec. 1, 2024, in Busan, South Korea, and was meant to be the final in the series, wrapping a two-year process to create a legally binding document to stop plastic pollution.

Despite some measures of progress, familiar points of contention, such as the push to cap plastics production; the desire by some countries to establish a financial mechanism to implement the agreement; and how to manage “chemicals of concern” found in certain plastic products led to a weeklong stalemate.

According to UNEP, more than 3,300 delegates, including members representing more than 170 nations and observers from more than 440 organizations, took part in INC-5.1 meetings. Some environmental organizations claimed more than 220 fossil fuel and petrochemical lobbyists also attended the event.

During the session, a majority group of more than 100 countries from various regions, led by Mexico and Rwanda, stated they would not accept a treaty without binding global bans and phaseouts of harmful plastic products and chemicals of concern. A group of countries that includes China, Saudi Arabia and Russia, have called for focus to be applied to managing plastic scrap rather than caps on plastic production.

Ana Rocha, the director of global plastics policy at the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (**GAIA**), a global alliance of more than 1,000 grassroots groups, nongovernmental organizations and individuals in more than 90 countries, says “the tides turned at INC-5” and the possibility of an ambitious plastics treaty is now more concrete than it’s ever been.

“At INC-5.2, governments must keep up the momentum and stay strong against fossil fuel interests in order to deliver the treaty that will keep us below 1.5 degrees,” Rocha says.

In particular, GAIA says member states must defend a provision for voting if consensus cannot be reached to ensure a democratic process where no one nation can block progress toward a treaty.

(Source: Recycling Today)

Packaging EPR legislation is here

Packaging producers should take five steps today to comply with EPR.

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation is poised to transform the life cycle of packaging products in the United States. This July marks a significant milestone for EPR programs, as Oregon becomes the first state to begin the implementation phase of its EPR program, the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (RMA). Colorado and California both have established reporting deadlines later in 2025, with full program initiation over the next two years.

As these new regulations take effect, packaging companies must take a proactive approach to working with various supply chain partners to understand state requirements, gather relevant data, optimize packaging design and manage program fee responsibilities.

EPR programs have been active in the U.S. since the early 1990s for a variety of products and materials, including paint, electronics and batteries.

In 2021, Maine became the first state to pass EPR legislation specifically targeting packaging. Oregon, Colorado, California and Minnesota also have passed EPR laws, and Maryland and Washington recently joined this list. However, earlier this year, California Gov. Gavin Newsom directed the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, or CalRecycle, to restart the regulatory process for the state’s Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, or **S.B. 54**.

Meanwhile, several states have introduced EPR bills this year, including New York and Tennessee.

Each state's approach to EPR varies, making compliance a significant challenge for producers. EPR programs use different management systems around the world, but in the U.S., the current laws employ a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to design program plans and charge fees to producers based on the types and amount of packaging materials they are responsible for.

Each state also has its own definition of who qualifies as a producer and the types of covered materials affected by the law. The programs specify different goals; some include postconsumer recycled (PCR) content mandates, while others have specific recycling rate targets.

The mechanisms used to measure progress also differ. In Oregon, life cycle assessments (LCAs) are incorporated into fee calculations, while Colorado's proposed plan would measure greenhouse gas emissions reductions using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model, or WARM tool.

The consequences for noncompliance with EPR laws can be serious. In Oregon's RMA, producers will be subject to audits. Producers that submit late or inaccurate information to the PRO will be required to retroactively pay all required fees and could face late charges and penalties.

To produce packaging that meets consumer needs, supports EPR program goals and minimizes fees, companies throughout the packaging industry must be well-informed about state requirements. Changing packaging designs can be beneficial, but it is essential producers have a comprehensive view of how different packaging materials and formats affect every stage of the package's production, use and disposal.

Producers can take five actionable steps today to help navigate the evolving landscape of EPR legislation.

Understanding the producer's role

The first step in understanding state EPR legislation is to learn how the law defines a producer of covered materials. For example, Oregon's covered products include packaging, printing and writing paper and food serviceware. The legislation outlines who is classified as a producer for items sold in retail stores, items sold through e-commerce and materials used for shipping. This also applies to companies that distribute items in Oregon from international suppliers.

Producers need to clarify all shipping and supply relationships to ensure each company submits the proper data.

Although Oregon's reporting deadline was in March, companies that missed the date but qualify as a producer still must register with the state's PRO, **Circular Action Alliance (CAA)**, and submit the required data. CAA also is the PRO for Colorado and California's EPR programs and has developed educational materials to help producers register and submit data.

Gather data

While most EPR programs are in the early stages of implementation, data collection and reporting are paramount.

Oregon's approved plan and Colorado's proposed plan include provisions for producers to retain records and comply with requests for records regarding EPR compliance. Packaging companies should solidify recordkeeping processes, particularly involving data collection protocols from suppliers and retail locations as needed. This detailed information also can be used to identify opportunities to improve.

As more EPR programs are finalized and fee schedules are defined, producers will be able to identify the most effective paths for fee reduction, such as reducing a package's weight or switching to a structure designed for recyclability.

Conduct life cycle assessments

LCAs will factor into ecomodulated fee incentives in the Oregon RMA program, providing an opportunity for producers to reduce their fee responsibilities.

Producers can receive bonuses simply for conducting and disclosing LCAs. They can add onto these bonuses by changing existing packaging or using different packaging, using LCAs to demonstrate the reductions in the environmental impact of their packaging.

Although not every state likely will rely on LCAs in the same manner, they are effective for benchmarking and tracking the impact of specific packaging changes.

Take a holistic approach to design

EPR programs require producers to examine every aspect of their packaging supply chains and the overall cost of a package, including potential EPR fees. Modifications to one component of a package can have cascading effects throughout the entire production process, and switching to alternative materials sometimes can require heavier packaging to achieve comparable performance, possibly negating EPR fee reductions.

Before making significant changes, it is crucial to assess the overall impact and value of any packaging changes.

Explore fee reductions

Producers should learn about the latest innovations in packaging materials.

While each state will adopt a different approach to fee structures, many EPR programs incorporate weight and material recyclability into fee structure calculations. Lightweighting and downgauging packages offer weight reduction and source reduction benefits. This is a key point to explore with packaging designers and material suppliers, as higher-performing versions of the current packaging material could enable lighter packaging and lower EPR fees with no need to change package formats or materials.

Designing for recyclability is another effective way to support EPR program goals. To advance principles of circularity, producers also can explore adding PCR content to their packaging to assist in the development of reliable demand for recycled materials.

Advancements in computer modeling and simulation, such as Nova Chemicals' Bonfire tool, have made it more efficient and cost-effective to explore package alternatives. Online databases enable packaging designers to compare properties of various materials and easily quantify material reductions, predict raw material costs and reduce the number of physical trials needed for testing.

Taking an integrated approach

The expansion of packaging EPR legislation represents a pivotal change in how many materials will be managed. It is crucial for producers to fully understand their roles and responsibilities under these new laws. Compliance with state-specific requirements demands a strategic, integrated approach—one that involves packaging design, data management and proactive collaboration across the supply chain. Producers should work with suppliers and converters to leverage the latest breakthroughs in packaging materials to create solutions that meet performance requirements while supporting important waste reduction and recycling goals.

Beyond compliance with these laws, these efforts present an opportunity for companies to lead in packaging innovation, reinforcing brand value and consumer trust. However, meaningful change only will be achieved through a combination of smarter packaging design and strengthened recycling infrastructure.

As EPR programs evolve, industry stakeholders, including producers, resin suppliers, recyclers and policymakers, must work together to build effective systems that advance material collection opportunities and PCR material markets.

(Source: Recycling Today; June 3, 2025)

NERC states preference for mechanical recycling

A committee of the Northeast Recycling Council says mechanical recycling currently is the preferred method of handling discarded plastic.

The Brattleboro, Vermont-based Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) has adopted a policy position on chemical recycling that was developed by a subcommittee of its Chemical Recycling Committee.

NERC, whose members are drawn from 11 northeastern states, says the purpose of the policy statement is to articulate guiding principles for environmentally responsible chemical recycling of plastics, which it notes also is referred to as molecular or advanced recycling.

NERC's Chemical Recycling Committee was established to better understand these processes and their environmental impacts to make informed policy decisions.

In line with its mission of moving toward a more circular and sustainable economy, NERC says mechanical recycling currently is the preferred method of plastic waste processing, as it creates fewer environmental impacts than other currently available chemical recycling processes.

“Using plastic to produce fuel or energy or other end products to be used for fuel is not considered a form of recycling,” the organization adds, noting plastic is “one of the least recycled material categories” despite the existence of recycling processes.

“Producing virgin plastic from fossil fuels is an extractive process that has compounding negative environmental and social impacts,” NERC says.

In part because of this environmental footprint, NERC says chemical recycling can be considered for plastics that can’t be feasibly eliminated, replaced, redesigned or mechanically recycled.

NERC also lists as preconditions for acceptable chemical recycling as when there is an equal or net benefit to human health and the environment with chemical recycling compared with other waste management processes or if it is less environmentally harmful and less energy intensive than virgin production of plastics.

“Recycled material must be verified through transparent third-party certification and mass balance accounting through the chain of custody that reflects the source material and true composition of the product,” NERC says of chemical recycling.

(Source: Recycling Today, 9 June, 2025)

Ineos Olefins & Polymers Europe receives first deliveries of pyrolysis oil made from recycled plastic

The company’s facility in Lavera, France, will use this material to manufacture recycled polymers.

Switzerland-based Ineos Olefins & Polymers’ manufacturing facility in Lavera, France, has received the first deliveries of pyrolysis oil made from recycling plastic.

According to Ineos, this product will be used to manufacture recycled polymers and could help satisfy the European Union’s regulatory requirement of 10 percent recycled content by 2030 for food contact, medical and sensitive plastic packaging.

Part of the Lavera pyrolysis unit had to be adapted to enable production of these materials from renewable naphtha made from biomass, organic waste or recycled materials, alongside traditional feedstocks, **Ineos** says.

“At Ineos, we recognize that delivering a circular economy requires both ambition and action,” Ineos Olefins & Polymers Europe CEO Rob Ingram says. “While mechanical recycling remains essential, advanced recycling plays a critical role in expanding the potential for plastics recycling and closing the loop—particularly for high-performance applications. We are making real and tangible progress. By converting our cracker in Lavera and securing access to pyrolysis oil, we are building the capability needed to produce virgin-quality polymers from recycled feedstocks. These materials will help our customers meet the EU’s stringent regulatory targets and sustainability goals.”

The pyrolysis oil is made in Europe from postconsumer plastic packaging that cannot be processed by mechanical recycling. The pyrolysis oil will be used to make recycled ethylene and propylene for conversion into recycled polyethylene and polypropylene at the Ineos polymer plants located in Lavera, France; Sarralbe, France; and Rosignano, Italy.

The company says the products have been independently certified under the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification program (ISCC PLUS), which validates that renewable feedstocks have been tracked through the production process using mass balance principles and validates renewable and recycled claims.

“We are committed to accelerating circularity by working with partners and leveraging our full portfolio of circular solutions, including our Recycl-IN hybrid polymers and our pilot line for fully recyclable MDO films,” Ingram says. “This is Ineos driving innovation with purpose.”

(Source: Recycling Today, 12 June, 2025)

NEWS IN BRIEF

India, US trying to finalise interim trade deal before July 9: Sources

India and US are engaged in negotiations for an interim trade deal and are trying to finalise the pact before July 9, sources said on Monday.

The high tariffs announced by the US on April 2 were suspended by the Trump administration till July 9.

The US, on April 2, imposed an additional 26 per cent reciprocal tariff on Indian goods but suspended it for 90 days. However, the 10 per cent baseline tariff imposed by America remains in place. India is seeking full exemption from the additional 26 per cent tariff.

“We are very keen, we are engaged, we are trying. Both sides are trying, but both sides have to be happy,” sources said when asked if the two countries are keen to finalise an interim trade agreement by July 9.

There are always certain areas which are difficult in a trade agreement, they added.

Agriculture and dairy sectors are “difficult and challenging areas for India. And India has not opened up dairy in any of its free trade pacts,” one of the sources said.

The US wants duty concessions on certain industrial goods, automobiles - especially electric vehicles, wines, petrochemical products, dairy, and agricultural items like apples, tree nuts, and genetically modified crops. India is seeking duty concessions for labour-intensive sectors like textiles, gems and jewellery, leather goods, garments, plastics, chemicals, shrimp, oil seeds, grapes, and bananas in the proposed trade pact.

When asked if the July 9 deadline is not extended, the sources said the tariffs would come to the April 2 level (26 per cent in the case of India). If it is not extended, India may gain in something and may lose some compared to other countries, but the US will also get affected because of the high tariffs, they said.

There is complete uncertainty over the further extension of tariff suspension beyond July 9.

For the next round of talks, the Indian team may visit the US. They have fixed a deadline to conclude the first phase by the fall (September-October) this year. However, dates for the same have not yet been decided. The US team was here from June 5-11 for the talks.

The negotiations will continue both virtually and physically in the days to come.

(Source: The Economic Times, 23rd June, 2025)

President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu to preside over ‘MSME Day’ on 27th June, 2025

President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu will preside over the ‘MSME Day 2025 - Udyami Bharat event’ on 27th June, 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi, Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State in the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and, Shri Manoj Kumar, Chairman, Khadi and Village Industries Commission along with officials from the Ministry and its organizations will attend the event.

MSME Day 2025 provides an opportunity to acknowledge the vital contribution of MSME sector in the economic growth and development of the country and it also works as a launch pad for various initiatives for a more resilient, competitive, and future-ready MSME sector.

Highlights of the Event:

- o Hon’ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, will release a special *Postage Stamp*, to commemorate completion of 25 years of Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) in providing credit support to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs). Over 1.18 crore credit guarantees worth Rs. 9.80 lakh crore were approved under Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS) since

inception by CGTMSE, with a record Rs 3 lakh crore worth of credit guarantees extended in the last financial year 2024-25 alone.

- o Hon'ble President will unveil the Ministry's newly developed *Online Dispute Resolution* (ODR) Portal. The sizable capital locked up on account of disputes related to delayed payments of Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) sellers constraints their business growth and competitiveness. To enhance ease of doing business, as also access to justice for MSEs, Ministry of MSME has developed an end-to-end ODR Portal, Parties to get the cases resolved from the convenience of their location, in a speedy and cost-effective manner.
- o Hon'ble President will also launch *MSME Hackathon 5.0* followed by the declaration of result of Hackathon 4.0. The Incubation component of the MSME Innovative under MSME Champions Scheme aims to promote innovation and adoption of advanced technologies among MSMEs. Innovators were invited to submit their ideas across multiple sectors and themes through registered Host Institutes (HIs) with a provision of granting up to Rs. 15 lakh per idea as financial support. Hackathon facilitates incubating novel ideas, support for mentorship and growth aligned with the *Atma Nirbhar Bharat* vision.
- o Hon'ble President will release '*MSME Patrika*', an in-house journal which will provide useful information and insights on the issues opportunities related to the MSME sector and will act as a forum for experience sharing among MSME. Alongside, a booklet '*Know Your Lender*' will be released which will provide guidance to MSMEs on credit and will enable MSMEs to better understand their rights for obtaining credit.

(Source: PIB; 26th June 2025)

CPCB to Issue Pollution NOC Directly via Common Consent Portal

In a major step towards easing the process of doing business in India, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will soon start issuing No Objection

Certificates (NOC) directly to entrepreneurs and business owners across all states and Union Territories.

This means industrialists will no longer have to run from office to office of the local pollution control boards to get necessary approvals.

To implement this, CPCB is launching a new initiative — a Common Consent Portal, expected to go live by early 2026.

Entrepreneurs will be able to apply for the NOC online, and CPCB will coordinate with the concerned state or UT's pollution board to gather the required reports. Based on these, the NOC will be issued within a fixed timeline.

Officials say this move is part of the government's broader Ease of Doing Business agenda and aims to eliminate delays and corruption in the approval process.

It is also expected to increase CPCB's annual revenue, as the board will charge a 5 per cent service fee on the total application cost.

However, the bulk of the NOC fees will still go directly to the respective state or UT's pollution control authority.

According to Anil Gupta, a CPCB member, this step will benefit millions of small and medium entrepreneurs by reducing paperwork and enhancing transparency.

The portal is currently under development, and once launched, it will serve as a single-window clearance system for businesses seeking pollution-related clearances across India.

(KNN; 25th June, 2025)

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal Chairs Review Meeting on PLI Scheme

India must focus on the sectors in which India has competitive edge over other countries and address the problems faced by the various stakeholders so that country's exports can grow. This was stated by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri

Piyush Goyal at the review meeting on Production Linked Incentive Scheme, one of the notable initiatives for making India “Aatmanirbhar’ in the manufacturing sector.

Shri Goyal urged the need for becoming self-reliant in the key sectors covered under the PLI Scheme. Emphasizing that the Ministries should focus on creating quality skilled manpower instead of focusing on the quantity and resolve infrastructure bottlenecks in collaboration with NICDC, Shri Goyal stressed on preparing a roadmap for the next five years both on investment and disbursement.

The meeting was attended by all the concerned Ministries.

The PLI Scheme is under various stages of implementation in 14 key sectors. The scheme has witnessed investments worth Rs. 1.76 lakh crores, which has generated production/ sales of over Rs. 16.5 lakh crore and employment of over 12 lakhs (Direct & Indirect) till March 2025. Cumulative incentive amount of Rs. 21,534 crore has been disbursed under PLI Schemes for 12 Sectors viz. Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM), IT Hardware, Bulk Drugs, Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals, Telecom & Networking Products, Food Processing, White Goods, Automobiles & Auto components, Specialty Steel, Textiles and Drones & Drone Components.

The impact of PLI Schemes has been significant across various sectors in India. These schemes have incentivized domestic manufacturing, leading to increased production, job creation and a boost in exports. Some of the notable sectors are as follows:

1. Pharmaceutical Drugs: The sector has witnessed cumulative sales of Rs. 2.66 lakh crore which includes exports of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore achieved in the first three years of the scheme. Export sales of eligible products under the scheme for FY 2024-25 was ¹ 0.67 lakh crore, which is approximately 27% of total pharma exports of the country during the same period. 40% of total investment (Rs 37,306 Cr) amounting to Rs 15,102 Cr has been undertaken by the approved companies under Research & Development (R&D) for eligible products under the scheme. The overall Domestic Value Addition in the Sector has been 83.70% as on March 2025.

2. Bulk Drugs

The PLI Scheme for Bulk Drugs aims to boost domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs), Drug Intermediates (DIs), and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in India. The scheme has contributed to India becoming a net exporter of bulk drugs (2280 cr.) from net importer (-1930 cr.) as was the case in FY 2021-22. It has also resulted in significant reduction in gap between the domestic manufacturing capacity and demand of critical drugs.

3. Food Products: PLI Scheme for food products has reported investments worth Rs. 9,032 crore which has resulted in production/sales of Rs. 3,80,350 crores and employment of 3,40,116 (Direct and indirect). By mandating the use of domestically grown agricultural products (excluding additives, flavors, and edible oils) in the manufacturing process, the scheme has substantially increased local raw material procurement, benefiting underdeveloped and rural areas while supporting farmers’ incomes. Under the PLI scheme, a significant proportion of beneficiaries are MSMEs, with 70 MSMEs directly enrolled and 40 others contributing as contract manufacturers for larger companies. This has strengthened SMEs by fostering innovation, improving competitiveness, expanding market access, generating employment opportunities, and supporting the broader value chain in the food processing industry. The sales of Value-Added Marine products increased at CAGR of 22% during the PLI period. With the launch of PLI Millet Scheme, the Sales of Millet Based Products increased 25 times in FY 25 over the Base Year (FY 21). The procurement of millets by the PLI beneficiaries has increased from 4081 MT in FY 2022-23 to 16130 MT in FY 2024-25 which has led to the increase in the rural household income.

4. Textiles: Exports of Indian Man-made Fibre (MMF) Textiles have reached US\$ 6 Billion during FY 2024-25 as against exports of US\$ 5.7 Bn. during the FY 2023-24. The overall exports of Technical Textiles from India reached US\$ 3,356.5 million during FY 2024-25 as against exports of US\$ 2,986.6 million during FY 2023-24.

(Source: PIB, 25th June, 2025)

GST Collection Rises To Rs 1.85 Lakh Crore In June, Up 6.2% YoY

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection reached Rs 1.85 lakh crore in June 2025, representing a 6.2 per cent increase compared to the same period last year, according to government data released Tuesday. The figure reflects continued growth in the country's indirect tax revenue system.

The June collection, however, showed a sequential decline from previous months. April 2025 recorded the highest-ever monthly GST collection of Rs 2.37 lakh crore, followed by Rs 2.01 lakh crore in May.

All major GST components—Central GST, State GST, Integrated GST, and cess—registered year-on-year growth during June.

As the GST system completes eight years since its implementation, the government highlighted significant progress in tax collection efficiency.

Annual GST collections have doubled over the past five years, reaching a record Rs 22.08 lakh crore in FY25, compared to Rs 11.37 lakh crore in FY21.

The FY25 collections marked a 9.4 per cent year-on-year increase from Rs 20.18 lakh crore collected in FY24, establishing the highest annual GST collection since the indirect tax system's launch in July 2017.

This growth trajectory demonstrates the maturation of India's unified tax structure.

Regional performance data indicates varied growth patterns across states and union territories. Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Lakshadweep, and Ladakh emerged as notable growth centres, according to the latest figures.

Government officials attributed the relatively modest month-on-month growth to prevailing geopolitical uncertainties, which appear to have influenced consumer sentiment and spending patterns.

The domestic GST collections for June present what analysts describe as a mixed performance amid these broader economic headwinds.

(Source: KNN 2nd July, 2025)

RXIL TReDS Crosses Rs Two Lakh Crore In MSME Invoice Financing

Receivables Exchange of India Ltd (RXIL), a leading Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform promoted by SIDBI and the National Stock Exchange (NSE), has surpassed Rs 2 lakh crore in cumulative invoice financing for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

This reflects growing traction for formal, digital credit solutions in India's MSME sector.

In FY2024–25 alone, RXIL facilitated invoice financing worth Rs 80,500 crore, with over 44,000 MSMEs registered across 1,600 postal codes nationwide.

Backed by stakeholders including the State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, and Yes Bank, and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the platform has enabled the discounting of over 88.5 lakh invoices since inception.

RXIL credited its sustained growth to strong ecosystem participation and continued support from the government and financial regulators.

The platform facilitates direct settlement of MSME receivables, thereby improving working capital access and strengthening supply chain financing across corporates, central public sector enterprises (CPSEs), and public sector undertakings (PSUs).

“Reaching Rs 2 trillion in invoice financing reflects our commitment to ensuring credit flow to the MSME sector through innovative, tech-enabled means,” said Manoj Mittal, CMD, SIDBI and Chairman, RXIL. “This is just the beginning—RXIL is poised for an even greater role in the MSME credit space.”

Ketan Gaikwad, MD and CEO, RXIL, emphasised the platform's potential to support a more resilient and inclusive financing ecosystem.

“With more corporates and government buyers joining, and deepening participation from financiers, RXIL is well-positioned to serve millions of small businesses,” he said.

(Source: KNN Bureau, 2nd July, 2025)

केंद्रीय बोर्ड सीधे उद्यमी-व्यापारियों को देगा प्रदूषण की एनओसी

देश के किसी भी राज्य या केंद्र शासित प्रदेश के उद्यमी-व्यापारियों को अब अपना उद्योग या व्यवसाय शुरू करने अथवा उसको चलाने के लिए स्थानीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के कार्यालय के चक्कर नहीं लगाने पड़ेंगे। इसके लिए केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड (सीपीसीबी) ही इन्हें सीधे एनओसी जारी करेगा। 'ईज आफ डूइंग बिजनेस' अवधारणा के तहत देश भर के उद्यमियों एवं व्यापारियों की राह आसान करने के लिए सीपीसीबी एक नई पहल करने जा रहा है।

दरअसल, राज्य स्तर पर एनओसी बनवाने के नाम पर उद्यमी-व्यापारियों को खासा परेशानी होती रही है। लंबा समय भी लगता है और लेन-देन का सहारा लेना पड़ता है, सो अलग। इसी सबसे स्थायी तौर पर छुटकारा दिलाने के लिए सीपीसीबी के स्तर पर पहली बार एक काम कंसेंट पोर्टल तैयार किया जा रहा है। यह पोर्टल बनाने का निर्णय सीपीसीबी की

एक उच्च स्तरीय बैठक में पिछले दिनों ही लिया गया था। इस पोर्टल के जरिये सीपीसीबी के राजस्व में भी इजाफा होगा।

अधिकारियों के मुताबिक इस काम कंसेंट पोर्टल पर आवेदन करने के बाद केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड अपने स्तर पर एक समयबद्ध सीमा में संबंधित राज्य अथवा केंद्र शासित प्रदेश के प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड या समिति से विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मंगवाएगा। इसके बाद उसी रिपोर्ट के आधार पर एनओसी जारी कर दी जाएगी।

उच्च स्तरीय मीटिंग के मिनट्स में साफ लिखा है कि एनओसी के लिए वसूली गई निर्धारित फीस संबंधित राज्य या केंद्र शासित प्रदेश के प्रदूषण निकाय के बैंक खाते में ही जाएगी। लेकिन इस फीस में सेवा शुल्क के तौर पर पांच प्रतिशत राशि सीपीसीबी खुद लेगा।

एक अनुमान के मुताबिक केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड को इस मद में प्रति वर्ष लगभग 142 करोड़ रुपये की आय होगी। इस पोर्टल को तैयार होने में छह माह से एक साल तक लग सकता है। इस दृष्टि से वर्ष 2026 की शुरुआत में इस पोर्टल के आरंभ होने की संभावना है।

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

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