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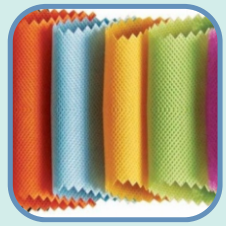
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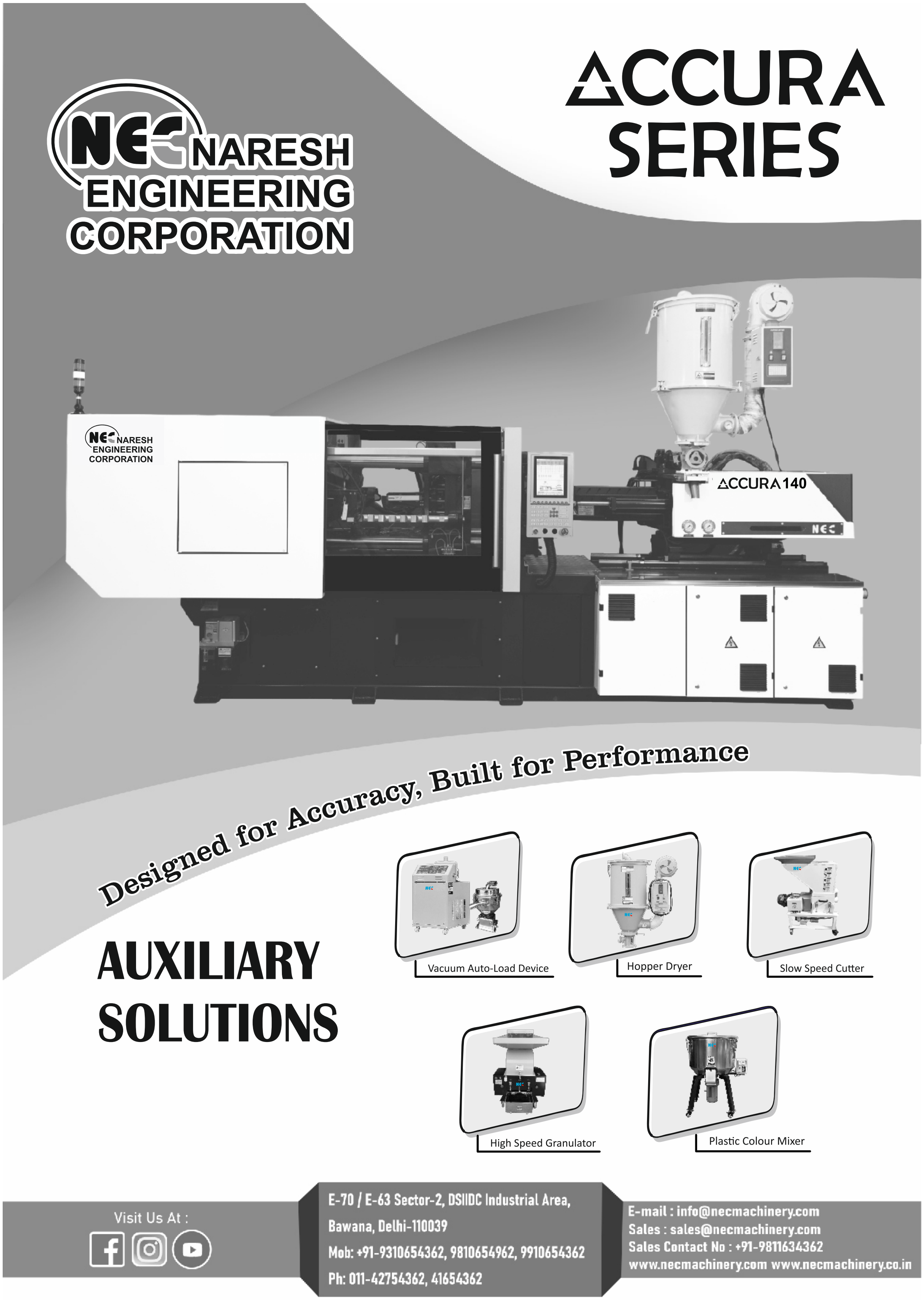
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Rethinking EPR Obligations for the MSME Plastic Sector

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) was first introduced in PWM Rules, 2016 with a view to curb pollution caused by plastic packaging. We have always opposed it for many reasons:

- It is against the Polluter pay principle. The 'producer' of plastic raw material or film or packaging has no hand in the so-called pollution. In fact, it is the careless CONSUMER who litters and causes pollution. It could have been rightly named 'Extended Consumer Responsibility'!
- The MSME sector does not have the infrastructure, financial or otherwise to fulfill its obligation. We are thankful to the authorities who recognized this and exempted the MSME sector from EPR Obligations. No payment was to be made.

  However, this was work only half done. The MSME sector still has to file cumbersome returns, which are very laborious and time consuming.

  MSME sector has always been the focus of manufacturing activity in our country. Their contribution to exports, job creation and GDP is unparalleled. In view of this, the requirement of filing returns should also be done away with.
- This will reduce compliance cost,
- Allow them to focus on innovation and focus on quality products.
- The fear of non-compliance is acting as a deterrent on expansion in this sector.

The environmental problem created by careless littering cannot be solved by this retrograde step on behalf on the authorities. The focus should be on collection and curbing litter. Filing return helps in neither.

We request the authorities once again to remove this burden of filing returns from the MSME plastic packaging sector, and see sector grow.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Presentation on 'Plastic Waste & Recycling: Challenges, Carbon Footprint, and the Way Forward' delivered by Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron-AIPIA, at the 6th Global Sustainability Summit & Expo organized by the MSME Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India on 18–19 September 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

Introduction: Current Status of Plastic Waste

- Plastics revolutionized industries but have become a major environmental challenge.
- Millions of tonnes generated annually—large portions reach oceans and landfills.
- India generates ~70 million tonnes MSW/year, with over 9 million tonnes plastic waste.
- Though only a small % of MSW, plastic is highly visible and easily saleable.
- Plastic waste is a resource at the wrong place.

Carbon Footprint of Plastic Waste

- Carbon footprint = total CO2 & greenhouse gas emissions from cradle to grave.
- Plastic resin production is the major contributor (~6 kg CO2 per 1 kg plastic). Different types of plastic production release different amount of gases.
- Recycling reduces carbon footprint since resin already exists.
- Studies show plastic often has lower footprint than alternatives (glass, metal, wood).
- Example: Delhi generates ~800 tons of plastic waste daily, worth ~₹ 40 lakh if recovered.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Challenges

- Usage of recycled content is mandatory but complicates EPR calculations.
- Micro & small plastic units exempt from EPR, yet must upload details online.
- Complicated formulas: differentiation by size, recycled content, biodegradables.
- Burden on MSMEs—time, cost, and compliance complexity.
- Request: Absolve MSMEs of all burdens, i.e. not only no payment but no uploading of data on the portal should be required.

Waste Management & Resource Generation

- Simple actions like DO NOT LITTER solve big collection problems.
- Segregation enables composting of organics & recycling of plastics.
- Plastic recycling reduces crude oil imports (India imports ~80% of oil).
- Proper disposal = national contribution towards Swachh Bharat & Atmanirbhar Bharat.

The 3R Principle: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- Reduce: Minimize unnecessary use, especially single-use plastics.
- Reuse: Extend product life through innovation and design.
- Recycle: Modern tech converts waste into raw material, fuels, and products.
- Circular economy ensures plastic remains a resource, not waste.

Different Roles in Tackling Plastic Waste

- Industry: Invest in recycling technologies, eco-friendly alternatives, EPR.
- Government: Enforce rules, incentivize recycling, support research.
- Citizens: Segregate waste, avoid littering, support recycling initiatives.
- Collective action = cleaner, greener, healthier future.

Conclusion & Call to Action

- Plastic is not the problem—disposal is.
- With Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, we can convert waste into wealth.
- Let's pledge to view plastic as a resource, not an enemy.
- Together we can build a sustainable future for generations to come.

Important points discussed during the monthly Executive Committee Meeting held on 13th October, 2025

1. **Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th September, 2025**

   The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September, 2025 were reviewed and confirmed.

2. Approval of expenditure for September, 2025.

   Expenses for September, 2025 were **reviewed and approved.**

   Shri Brijesh Bhutani reiterated the need to **raise funds** through **contributions from Executive Committee Members**, as per the earlier resolution, to ensure the smooth functioning of the Association.

   Shri Bhupesh Ralli, Joint Secretary, expressed that such contributions **should not be mandatory**, to which **Shri Bhutani** explained that **financial support is crucial at this stage** to meet operational expenses.

2. Discussion on Industry- related matters.

   General discussion held on current developments and industry concerns.

3. **AGM-cum-Election-cum-Industry Meet (2025-27)**

   a. **Finalization of Date**

   b. **To decide Venue**

   c. **Sponsorship proposals for AGM –**

   d. **To adopt Resolution, if any.**

It was proposed to hold the **AGM 2025** at **Hotel City Park** on **18th December, 2025.**

Shri Brijesh Bhutani will update the Committee within **2–3 days** regarding final confirmation.

4. Any additional matters, subject to the Chair's approval.

1. A **mail from Shri Amrinder Singh Arora** was received; however, due to **paucity of time**, it was **not read** during the meeting. It was decided that the **matter will be discussed** in the **next meeting**, and a **reply will be sent thereafter.**

2. **Shri Devinder Pal Singh, President**, appreciated the **Association's efforts for the Plast Eurasia Exhibition**, noting that while **Plexconcil** is leading a delegation at higher, non-subsidized rates, **AIPIA remains the only association reimbursing** amounts received from the Ministry.

3. Regarding the **proposed purchase of property No. 205**, it was agreed that the matter will be **discussed after Diwali**, once the **owner becomes available. Shri Mayank Aggarwal** suggested availing a **bank loan**, allowing the **bank to verify the property papers** for due diligence.

4. **Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal** shared his joy with the Committee on establishing a **new partnership firm – "Alternate Samadhan for Energy."** He explained that **methane gas is being formulated using wet organic waste**, with testing underway at **Shri Ram Institute.** Members congratulated him and wished success.

5. **Shri Brijesh Bhutani** informed that **Diwali gifts** will be distributed this year as per the **amount sanctioned last year.**

Article 1

Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2025: Competition, subsidies and state control — what changes

By: Saurav Anand (ETEnergyworld.com)

The Bill proposes to open up the sector to competition, allowing both government and private discoms to supply electricity in the same area.

New Delhi: The Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025, is the government's latest effort to reform India's power distribution sector — one of the weakest links in the country's energy chain. It seeks to bring competition into electricity supply, improve financial discipline, and make distribution companies more accountable, while ensuring that subsidies for farmers and poor households remain protected.

What is the Bill trying to change?

At present, electricity distribution in most states is handled by a single state-run discom, which operates as a monopoly. The Bill proposes to open up the sector to competition, allowing both government and private discoms to supply electricity in the same area under the supervision of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs).

This would mean that consumers could have a real choice between different suppliers, similar to how they choose between telecom operators. The aim is to make discoms more efficient and financially sound by linking their performance to consumer satisfaction rather than guaranteed monopoly revenues.

Will competition make electricity costlier?

The government says no. According to the Bill, competition is expected to reduce overall costs by improving efficiency and cutting technical and commercial losses — such as power theft or transmission waste — that are often hidden in the current monopoly model.

By allowing multiple suppliers to share the same network, the duplication of power lines and sub-stations will be avoided. This, in turn, will reduce the financial burden on discoms and the subsidy bill for state governments, while keeping subsidised tariffs unchanged for farmers and low-income households.

What happens to subsidised power?

The Bill keeps the subsidy mechanism intact. Under Section 65 of the Electricity Act, state governments can continue to provide subsidised power to eligible groups such as farmers or poor consumers. The reform changes how subsidies are managed — making them more transparent and better targeted — but it does not remove them. The government believes that by improving discom finances through competition and efficiency, the need for inflated subsidy payments will decline, easing pressure on state budgets.

What are cost-reflective tariffs?

One of the major changes proposed is the introduction of cost-reflective tariffs — where electricity prices better reflect the actual cost of generation and supply. This is meant to prevent discoms from running up massive debts by selling power below cost and relying on state bailouts. Hidden cross-subsidies, where industries and commercial users pay more to cover losses from subsidised sectors, will be replaced by direct, budgeted subsidies. According to the government, this will make the system more transparent and fair, helping industries remain competitive and attracting new investment.

How will network charges work under competition?

A common concern has been that private players might use existing government networks without paying fair compensation. The Bill addresses this by giving SERCs the authority to fix regulated, cost-reflective "wheeling charges" — the fee paid for using the network. These charges will be shared among all network owners, ensuring that utilities have adequate funds for maintenance, salaries, and expansion. The model is similar to India's inter-state power transmission system, where both public and private players share grid access under a regulated framework managed by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

Will private players only serve profitable areas?

The Bill mandates a “Universal Service Obligation” (USO) for all licensees — public or private. This means every electricity supplier must serve all consumers in its designated area, not just the high-paying ones.

Discoms that supply subsidised consumers will continue to receive state government support, and SERCs will monitor service quality, reliability, and compliance. Licences can be revoked or penalised if a company fails to meet these standards.

Large consumers using over 1 MW of power — such as industries or metros — can continue to buy electricity directly through open access. In such cases, the distribution licensee will act as a “supplier of last resort” if needed, charging a premium to recover costs.

Does the Bill reduce states’ powers?

Electricity is a subject on the Concurrent List, meaning both the Centre and states have the authority to make laws. The Bill does not alter this balance. Instead, it proposes a new Electricity Council as a consultative platform for both levels of government to coordinate policies. SERCs will continue to issue licences, regulate tariffs, and oversee intra-state operations. The Centre says the law aims to strengthen cooperative federalism, not centralise control.

Why it matters?

India’s power sector has long struggled with discom losses, delayed payments, and rising subsidy burdens.

The Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025, seeks to address these by opening the sector to competition and improving accountability. It promises consumers better service and choice while keeping subsidies for farmers and poor households intact. The success of the reform, however, will depend on how effectively states and regulators implement it — balancing the goals of efficiency, affordability, and federal coordination.

Article 2

India can lead the way on plastic waste

With global negotiations on plastic pollution stalled, the country can show how production control and waste management can align.

By: Aarti Sachdeva ,Ankur Bisen

The recent floods in Punjab, the worst in four decades, are increasingly being attributed to the State's choked drainage system. Single and multilayered plastic wrappers discarded after selling everything from ghukta to chips and bhujia rank among the major culprits.

Ongoing research at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata on biological solutions to break down microplastics has discovered that microbes carrying plastic degradation genes also possess metal resistance and antibiotic-resistant genes that stick to these microplastics. Plastic waste may not only choke ecosystems but also spread antimicrobial resistance.

The Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest stretching across India and Bangladesh, receives three billion microplastics every day.

The global plastic treaty negotiations collapsed in Geneva last month. The failure demands scrutiny both for the lack of global consensus on plastic waste and for India's stance when science and disasters are putting out evidence that India (and the world) is drowning and possibly staring at a public health crisis from the unhinged growth of plastic waste.

Over 2,600 participants gathered at Geneva, including more than 1,400 delegates from 183 countries, but attendees split into two opposing camps by the end. The intergovernmental negotiating committee could not get countries to agree and sign the global treaty on plastic pollution. The legally binding instrument expected to address plastic pollution based on its full lifecycle was meant to be concluded in December 2024.

A "like-minded" group of countries that produce or support petroleum and allied industries, including plastic, vetoed and no consensus could be reached. India was part of this group. This group argued that plastic has been demonised, whereas it has made life in human society far more convenient, safe, and affordable. Many use cases in drug deliveries, nutrition, mobility, and housing would collapse if production cuts to plastic were sought in the manner proposed in the treaty.

Replacement of plastic may increase stress on other resources and that may be counterproductive. Therefore, they managed to keep production cuts out of the purview of the plastic treaty based on the argument that recycling is the solution, despite only 9 per cent of all plastic ever produced having been recycled.

We now face a world with more plastic than fish in our oceans, and plastics have permeated even the most pristine ecosystems, including the human body itself.

The other group (which included much of the Global South) rebutted the argument that the issue of plastic waste is less to do with its production and more to do with the management of its waste. Transferring the entire onus on the management of plastic waste burdens them to build a waste management system that only looks good on paper.

If such a system did exist, then why has such a system not been demonstrated by the rich world yet, when most of the plastic waste generated by the most resourceful and rich nations also ends up in landfills, incinerated, or exported without any traceability?

The treaty collapsed because the two sides could not agree on whether the tap should be closed or the flow of plastic should be better managed. This conundrum that pushes the world into inaction sides with the "like-minded" group of plastic-producing nations because it does not change the status quo.

The collapse of negotiation cunningly hides the success of politics that shuns the growing evidence backed by science pointing towards urgently taking actions that include both slowing down the flow of the tap and deploying superior waste management systems. Microplastics will not stop flowing into the Sundarbans and the bloodstreams of living organisms or wait to hear a revert from the secretariat of the plastic treaty on next steps.

Building on strengths

In the swath of geopolitics where opportunities have closed for India to play the role of torchbearer, the collapsed negotiations of the plastic treaty present an opportunity for India to show the way. India, for all its development claims and support for the MSME sector that it invoked at the treaty negotiations to side with "like-minded plastic-producing nations", will need to look inwards and review its polarised stance.

Now that India's stated claim is that better waste management of plastic waste is the way forward, it should demonstrate this argument in action. India can build on its strengths, plug gaps, and propose a framework for the two partisan groups at the treaty to find common ground.

India, for all its weaknesses and challenges in waste management, has among the best recycling rates for PET bottles and rigid plastic in the world. Thanks to the army of two million plus ragpickers across the country who pick this plastic, sort it, and make it reach the doorsteps of PET and plastic recyclers, India's recycling rate in this category of plastic waste is more than 90 per cent and best in class.

How India proposes to make the role of invisible ragpickers visible and formal and their workplace more dignified and safer, what kind of employment contracts and work conditions sustain the supply of this plastic waste for recycling—these are worthy pursuits for India to show a mirror to the world.

India will also need to define the ideal blend of virgin and recycled plastic in engineered output sold in the country. Recycled plastic needs policy support that allows price parity and a level playing field. Virgin plastic granules are an output of big petrochemical producers but recycled plastic granules are not.

How India proposes an ideal blend of virgin and recycled plastic and draws up a roadmap towards its transition through policy, mandates, and regulations is an area where India can offer a master class to the world. If ethanol-blended gasoline for automobiles can be pushed down consumers' throats based on contested research, why cannot blended plastic of recycled and virgin be mandated at the starting point of the plastic's supply chain?

In the fourth amendment of the Plastic Waste Management Rules of 2022, India notified Extended Producer Responsibility, or EPR, which applies to all categories of plastic packaging, including the more problematic flexible and multilayered plastics. It requires the producers, importers, and brand owners (PIBO) to collect the post-consumer packaging, recycle them, and even use some of the recycled content in producing new packaging.

But beyond a soft suggestion, the EPR mandate remains a "feel-good" piece of legislation on paper. If it were any other way, Punjab's floods should not have exacerbated to such a tragedy, or cities like Gurugram would not be tossing around this waste from one illegal dump yard to the other, or wrappers of chips and biscuits collected in the recently concluded Kumbh festival would not have remained dumped in open landfills.

While rigid plastics such as PET have an established value chain, the flexible and multilayer plastics have negative value as they are non-recyclable. Despite a robust EPR policy, the use of such plastics is increasing as FMCGs are using sachet packaging to tap into the low-income and rural markets.

Rural Material Recovery Facilities in Karnataka report that 40-50 per cent of the total dry waste is non-recyclable, most of which is low-value and multilayered packaging. The most common disposal method for such plastics is incineration (sent to cement factories), which increases their operating cost by up to 20 per cent.

EPR in India should facilitate the collection and disposal of problematic plastics to ensure that Material Recovery Facilities remain operationally viable. This will require that the true cost of plastic collection and disposal be borne by the PIBOs and distributed across the plastic waste supply chain, instead of the current model where recyclers compete for low-cost EPR certificates.

Lessons from history

If India manages to trace measurable progress on the above counts, it can extrapolate the solution and deficit that will remain to be bridged on the issue of plastic waste. In doing so, it should conclude that with the best of intentions to manage the issue of plastic waste, the deficit that remains can only be bridged by slowing down the tap that produces plastic and take this argument to its “like-minded friends” for a revisit on their hard stance.

The world has confronted such vexed environmental issues in the past and emerged as a winner on the other side. The Montreal Protocol, an international treaty signed in 1987 to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances, has led to the phase-out of nearly 99 per cent of banned ozone-depleting substances nearly 40 years later. The treaty is hailed as one of the most successful examples of global environmental cooperation that achieved universal ratification and significant positive impact.

Why cannot the world come together with a similar resolve on the issue of plastic waste?

Plastic is a wonder of science that gained traction for daily uses in the post-Second World War era. Most of its inventions were devised for war purposes and monetised later for common use. Incidentally, sugar in daily food also traces its genesis in the post-Second World War order of the world.

Now, with sugar-rich diets increasingly coming under scrutiny for lifestyle-related diseases across income, demographic, and age groups, policies like “sugar tax” and “labelling standards” have gained currency. Silently but surely, private capital is also moving away from new investments in sugar-rich foods. The debate has decisively shifted towards “cutting down on sugar” across the board.

This is fuelling innovation in food science from farm to fork to open new frontiers with less sugar. Why cannot the same logic extend to plastic? Just like sugar activism does not mean the end of the crop of sugarcane but a reasoned transition to a new order, plastic also needs to be transitioned towards this new order, and India has a unique opportunity to play thought leader in steering plastic towards this new goal.

News Concerning Plastics

India starts probe into increased imports of chemical from South Korea

Synopsis: In a significant move, India has initiated an investigation into the rising influx of chemical products from South Korea. A local enterprise argues that these imports, which thrive on advantages from a free trade agreement, are threatening the livelihoods of domestic producers. The inquiry will determine whether the spike in imports, driven by tariff reductions, inflicts substantial harm.

India has initiated a probe to ascertain if a significant spurt in imports of a chemical, used in the plastic industry, from South Korea is impacting the domestic producers.

A complaint regarding this has been filed under the pact by KLJ Plasticizers Ltd, which has sought complete withdrawal of the duty concessions on the imports of 'Non-phthalate Plasticizers in the form of Dioctyl Terephthalate (DOTP) and Diethylhexyl Cyclohexane (DEHCH)' from Korea.

The application was filed under the bilateral safeguard measures rules of the India-Korea free trade agreement. Under the pact, India has given customs duty concessions on this product. The pact was implemented in 2010.

The applicant has claimed that the imports have increased in both absolute and relative terms due to the phased reduction and elimination of the duty.

In a trade pact, two countries either significantly reduce or eliminate import duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them.

According to a notification of the commerce ministry's arm Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), the applicant has stated that an increase in imports has caused "serious injury" to the domestic industry.

The rate of increase in imports is higher than the rate of increase in demand. "Having determined that there is sufficient prima facie evidence to justify initiation of the safeguard investigation, the authority considers it appropriate to initiate the investigation," it said.

In the probe, the DGTR would determine whether the imports from Koreà constitute increased imports due to the phased reduction and elimination of customs duty and whether the increased imports have caused or are threatening to cause serious injury to the domestic industry.

The finance ministry will take the final call to impose the duty. The duty helps in providing a level playing field to the domestic industry in terms of the pricing of the chemical in the domestic market.

(Source: The Economic Times; 17th October, 2025)

S&P Global Ratings highlights India's big petrochemicals push could tip Asian supply imbalance

Synopsis: India will become a major force in petrochemicals. This move will intensify supply imbalances in Asia. India's expansion mirrors China's earlier steps. Both nations aim for self-sufficiency. This will challenge Asia-Pacific petrochemical exporters. India's domestic demand will keep its sector resilient.

India is set to become the next major force in the petrochemicals industry, a move that could intensify supply imbalances already troubling Asia, according to a press release citing recent reports by S&P Global Ratings.

The research points out that India's plans to expand its petrochemical production mirror the earlier steps taken by China, which is already reshaping the global market. This shift comes as both countries, with China being the world's largest consumer and India the third, look to reduce their dependence on imports for essential chemicals used in everyday products such as plastics, packaging, and auto components.

"India's capacity additions in petrochemicals, which follows those of China, will increase competition within the broader Asian industry over the coming years," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Ker Liang Chan in a statement.

The first report, "First China, Now India: Self-Sufficiency Goals Will Add To Petrochemicals Supply", anticipates that India will stick with major investment plans to reduce import dependency on chemicals used in everyday goods, from plastic bags to auto parts. This is an overhang on a sector that already faces overcapacity in the Asia-Pacific.

Chan explained that greater self-sufficiency in India and China would challenge petrochemical exporters in Asia. "Greater self-sufficiency in India and China markets pose a challenge for Asia-Pacific petrochemical exporters, absent mitigating actions to diversify sales and optimize capital expenditure," he said.

The release stated, "We view USD 25 billion in spending from Indian public sector undertakings as sticky because they integrate with refinery expansions; planned private sector capex of USD 12 billion could be more flexible."

This trend could spell trouble for regional exporters, who currently supply more than half of China and India's chemical imports. Redirecting these volumes to other markets, such as the United States, may not be economically viable because of tariff barriers. S&P noted that this may negatively impact earnings and lead to consolidation within the industry.

At the same time, India's petrochemical sector is likely to remain resilient thanks to strong domestic demand. The country is projected to surpass the United States to become the world's second-largest consumer of polyethylene, a key plastic material.

"The self-sufficiency goals of China and India exacerbate the structural overcapacity in the industry, particularly amid lackluster recovery in global demand amid trade tensions," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Shawn Park in a statement.

(Source: The Economic Times; 14th October, 2025)

Guwahati Railway Station set to become India's first fully plastic recyclable station

Northeast Frontier Railway launches innovative waste management system with IIT Guwahati and Pollution Control Board of Assam.

In a pioneering step toward sustainable railway operations, the **Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR)** has introduced a comprehensive plastic waste management system at **Guwahati Railway Station**, paving the way for it to become **India's first fully plastic recyclable station**.

The initiative is being implemented under a **three-party Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** signed between NFR, the **Pollution Control Board of Assam**, and a **local recycling partner**, with technical expertise provided by **IIT Guwahati**.

The system features **colour-coded bins for waste segregation**, **bottle crushing machines**, **composting units**, and a **QR code-based monitoring mechanism** to ensure real-time tracking of waste management efficiency. "Eco-friendly compostable bags, developed by IIT Guwahati, have replaced single-use plastics in trains, significantly reducing plastic waste generation," said **K.K. Sharma**, Chief Public Relations Officer of NFR.

The initiative forms part of **Indian Railways' Green Mission 2030**, which seeks to make major stations across the country environmentally sustainable. Guwahati's transformation into a zero-plastic, circular-waste model is expected to serve as a blueprint for replication across other zones.

To enhance public participation, NFR has launched **”Waste-to-Art” exhibitions**, **street plays**, and **digital awareness campaigns** promoting responsible waste disposal. Officials said these efforts have led to a **60% reduction in passenger cleanliness complaints**, indicating rising environmental awareness among travelers.

NFR officials added that the integration of IIT Guwahati’s biodegradable alternatives and real-time monitoring tools marks a significant technological leap in railway waste management. “Our goal is not only to eliminate plastic waste but to create a sustainable ecosystem that engages passengers, vendors, and railway staff alike,” Sharma said.

With Guwahati Railway Station leading the charge, the initiative underscores Indian Railways’ growing commitment to climate-friendly operations and circular waste economy principles in line with India’s broader sustainability targets.

(Source: Assam Front; 8th October, 2025)

Strengthening EPR with deposit return system for waste management

A 2022 study by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) found that India recycles about 12% of its plastic waste. Media reports sometimes cite higher figures, mostly referring to PET bottles, which have a high resale value compared to other plastics. Less discussed is that about 40 per cent of plastic packaging is non-recyclable and has no market value, such as multi-layered packaging (MLP) used for snacks and food. Since they have no resale value, they are mostly littered, burnt, or dumped. Even high-value plastics face challenges outside urban areas, where collection systems are patchy or non-existent. This leaves India with two problems in plastic waste management: even valuable plastics can be difficult to collect, and low-value ones are rarely collected.

To address this, the 2016 Solid Waste Management Bye Laws introduced Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). It assigns Producers, Importers and Brand Owners (PIBOs) responsibility for their plastic packaging. In turn, PIBOs fund collection through authorised recycling agencies working with municipalities and panchayats, or buy credits/certificates from recyclers. This has expanded collection, especially for low-value plastics that were previously ignored. In remote places like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the North East, EPR has made recycling possible even for high-value plastics by covering high transportation costs. Still, operational gaps remain.

In 2024, reports stated six lakh fake EPR certificates across four states, worth ₹ 355 crore. Some recycling centres had overstated capacity, while others were found to be non-operational. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) ordered reverification, but only for recycling agencies, not for PIBOs that bought the fake certificates. Since EPR lacks state-specific targets, PIBOs prefer credits with the lowest costs. Certificates presently sell for about ₹ 0.5 to ₹ 1.5 per kg, well below on-ground costs, especially from remote areas. For instance, such costs are far higher in Ladakh or Aizawl than in Delhi or Mumbai.

This raises questions regarding pricing, transparency, and monitoring across the waste chain, from collectors and recyclers to PIBOs. While EPR has laid an important foundation, it needs strengthening to deliver its promise to support plastic waste management. One way to strengthen it is through a complementary system such as the Deposit Return System (DRS), already used in more than sixty countries. DRS models require consumers to pay a small deposit when buying packaged goods, which they receive back on returning the packaging. This incentive encourages recovery and reduces littering. DRS also nudges PIBOs toward shared responsibility through transparent and traceable collections aided by technology, creating a verifiable chain of accountability across the value chain. When combined with EPR, it can bridge participation and enforcement gaps, making waste recovery a shared responsibility.

While traditional DRS systems depend on costly deposit machines, an Indian version must be low-cost and community-based, using local shops and collection points. This model would work especially well for low-value plastics. Paying a small deposit and getting it refunded gives consumers a reason to return packaging rather than discard it. In Kedarnath, a pilot led by the Rudraprayag district administration has successfully channelised nearly 80% of plastic bottles over the past four years preventing thousands of kilograms of waste from entering rivers and safeguarding the region's fragile Himalayan ecosystem. Goa recently became the first state to legislate DRS, allowing citizens to deposit plastic packaging for refunds. With Goa, for the first time in the world, DRS includes multi-layered and low-value plastics, setting a global precedent for traceable and accountable waste recovery.

India's waste challenge cannot be solved by regulation alone. EPR has laid the foundation for producer responsibility, and systems like DRS can complement it by linking value to behaviour, rewarding recovery, and making accountability more visible and fairer.

(Source: The Times of India; October 28, 2025)

K 2025 Insights: American supply chain and Chinese exports under US tariffs

During K 2025, Donald Trump, the President of the United States, announced that the country will impose an additional 100% tariff on Chinese goods, starting November 1, 2025.

This announcement accelerated the discussion on the US tariff among companies in press conference and interactions during K 2025.

At the press conference of EUROMAP, the organization showed the complicated calculation of tariffs on plastic machine, blown film machine, recycling equipment, molds and more.

Take injection molding machine as example, calculation of US tariff on machines exported from the European Union, Japan and China vary. Among them, US tariff on machines exported from China is relatively higher.

Injection molding factory in US: Limited effect on purchasing mold

With the additional tariff, how will the domestic plastic processing industry in the US be affected?

Adsale Plastics Network has contacted a representative from an injection molding factory in the US, who had an interview with us before. He managed an injection molding factory for a plastic tiles company, which purchase molds mainly from China.

He replied, "I have recently purchased mold from China, and they are transporting to us. Even with the US tariff, the molds cost less than the ones made in the US. The US tariff does not affect our business."

This response shows that, in short term, additional US tariff has not affected purchase decision for some manufacturing companies. Price and supply chain remain to be key factors for companies to choose where to purchase from.

However, this is just an individual company's response. How about the overall US plastic processing industry?

Stable operation of plastics industry in the US

The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) released a new economic analysis. When the US announced higher tariffs on imports in 2025 spring, one of the industry's main concerns was their impact on the industry supply chain. So far, the data shows that there is limited impact.

As of July 2025, the value of US imports of plastic materials and resins, plastic products, plastics machinery, and molds decreased 1.0% year to date. In resin production, there was a 6.9% decrease in May year over year, followed by an increase of 0.7% in June and 7.6% in July year over year.

This reflects that the US plastic material supply remains stable in overall. With the US being a net exporter of plastic materials and resin, the tariffs have not impacted its supply of plastic materials.

For plastics processing, the Industrial Production Index (IPI) for plastic products manufacturing increased in the beginning of 2025 but shifted to a decline since April. Plastic production in August was with a 2.7% pullback.

However, plastic and rubber products manufacturers' finished goods inventories have remained virtually flat, valued at $15.7 billion in January and $15.5 billion in July, which have not diverged much from $16.8 billion post-COVID-19 peak in 2023. This implies that supply appear to have been mitigated by available inventories.

Highly rely on imported equipment and molds

From trade structure, the tariff affects differently to parts of plastics industry. According to PLASTICS' recently released 2025 Global Trends Report on plastics trade, domestic shipments for resin and plastic products imports in 2024 were 17.4% and 20.5% respectively.

On the other hand, Plastics equipment and molds for plastic production imports had trade flows as a percentage of domestic shipments of 68.8% and 93.0% respectively. This suggests that higher tariff rates on both could have a greater likelihood of causing supply chain disruptions.

Perc Pineda, Chief Economist of PLASTICS, pointed out that given the capacity utilization rate in plastic products manufacturing has been low, there is sufficient capacity to tap should supply chain disruptions occur via equipment and molds.

Impacts on Chinese plastic products and machinery exports

According to the report from PLASTICS, the US plastics industry import of raw materials, processing machines and plastic products valued a total of US$ 78.2 billion in 2024, of which 25% are imported from China.

Export of Chinese plastic products and molds to the US valued at around US$ 18.14 billion and US$360 million respectively.

China's low-value-added products and molds account for the majority of US imported plastic goods. These are mainly competitive on the price, which may be easily affected by the rise in tariff. If the additional 100% tariff was implemented, related companies may have significant sales reduction in short term while some orders may be shifted to Mexico and Vietnam.

However, speaking in longer term, the US domestic production cost and mold productivity may not fully replace China's supply chain in short run, especially for mold and extrusion equipment. Chinese companies still own advantages in delivery time, system integration ability, and parts supply.

Notably, this additional tariff may create internal "redistribution effect" in global manufacturing industry. As Chinese plastic equipment has higher cost-performance ratio in European and American markets, other markets, such as Latin America, Middle East and Africa), may also be new markets for expansion. Chinese plastic machinery providers that focus on export should consider multi-market distribution for future strategic development.

Conclusion: Industrial restructuring still under observation

US tariff is undoubtedly the concern for plastics industry. However, the effects caused by it are still unclear.

In short term, supply chain of the US plastic industry will remain stable. As companies have sufficient stock, productivity may not be affected.

In mid-long term, as the high tariff continues to be implemented, importing equipment and molds may cause economic pressure to US companies.

In general, the plastics industry is currently in a new balancing cycle. Although US tariff may shift trading paths of Chinese suppliers, cost, efficiency and technology remain to be core to the industry.

(Source: Adsale Plastic Network; 28th October, 2025)

International News

Philadelphia lawsuit alleges companies deceived consumers over recyclability of plastic products

The city alleges that Bimbo Bakeries and S.C. Johnson & Son have misled consumers by "deceptively" advertising that their single-use plastic bags are recyclable.

The week of Sept. 22, the city of Philadelphia filed a lawsuit against bakery product manufacturing company Bimbo Bakeries and S.C. Johnson & Son, alleging the companies have misled consumers by "deceptively" advertising that their single-use plastic bags are recyclable.

According to **the lawsuit**, published Sept. 24, Bimbo Bakeries and S.C. Johnson & Son print the chasing arrows symbol on their packaging to mislead consumers into thinking their single-use plastic film products and packaging are recyclable.

"Each time a well-intentioned Philadelphia consumer has put a plastic bag in her municipal recycling bin, it has not been recycled—rather, unbeknownst to her, it has gone to a waste facility," the filing reads.

On some products, packaging could indicate the plastic film can be brought to a local supermarket for recycling, while others merely include the chasing arrows recycling symbol, the city says in a statement released last week. It notes that both labeling mechanisms are misleading because "plastic bags are not recyclable in the way that ordinary consumers expect when something is labeled as recyclable."

"Most consumers believe that is not true with respect to plastic film products or packaging, which cannot be reprocessed through Philadelphia's municipal recycling system and overwhelmingly end up going to waste when consumers try to recycle them—even when consumers try to recycle them through store drop-off programs," the city says.

According to Philadelphia officials, because of the high rate of consumption of Bimbo Bakeries and S.C. Johnson & Son products combined with confusion around the proper method of disposal, plastic film produced by these companies has become "a very common contaminant" in the Philadelphia recycling system.

"The presence of nonrecyclable packaging at Philadelphia's recycling plants reduces efficiency and causes damage to city infrastructure, leading to greater operational costs and increased waste," the city continues. "Meanwhile, the companies gain profit by deceiving consumers who believe that they are shopping consciously to reduce waste."

Through the lawsuit, the city is seeking relief in the form of an injunction ordering the companies to revise their marketing for transparency around the recyclability of their plastic packaging. Additionally, the city is seeking remedies, including civil penalties consistent with Philadelphia's **Consumer Protection Ordinance**, and compensatory damages to cover costs and losses accrued by the city due to what it calls the companies' "deceptive conduct."

"Philadelphia residents want clean and litter-free streets, and many are doing their part to reduce waste by recycling and shopping sustainably," Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle L. Parker. "Companies that label their products with the goal of implying their product is recyclable when it isn't are not just breaking the law, but they are violating public trust and contributing to waste."

(Source : Recycling Today; 30th September, 2025)

Plastics Industry Association and Society of Plastics Engineers to join forces

SPE will become a division of Plastics, with the merger set to be finalized by the end of the year.

The Plastics Industry Association (Plastics), Washington, and the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE), Danbury, Connecticut, have announced a merger to represent the plastics supply chain.

Both companies voted on the recommendation for a potential merger last week, which the companies say was presented under the banner of "Better Together," outlining how the industry and organization members could benefit from the collaboration.

"This is a historic day for the plastics industry," **Plastics** President and CEO Matt Seaholm says. "By bringing our organizations together we're creating a stronger, more connected platform to serve our members and advance the industry."

The organizations say the merger will be finalized by the end of 2025. **SPE** will then become a division of Plastics, governed by an executive committee modeled after SPE's current leadership structure, with full operational integration expected to begin Jan. 1, 2026.

Plastics says SPE members will retain their membership status, benefits and identity within the new division.

"SPE is excited to be joining forces with Plastics," SPE CEO Patrick Farrey says. "For SPE members, this is about opportunity. Our technical expertise and professional development programs will now reach more people, supported by the resources and global platform that Plastics brings. This combination ensures we continue to serve plastics professionals while advancing the entire industry."

(Source: Recycling Today; 2nd October, 2025)

Study finds rPET flake produced at Republic Polymer Center has reduced carbon footprint

The environmental services company commissioned the product carbon footprint study, which took place during the first seven months of 2024, at its Las Vegas Polymer Center.

Waste and recycling services company Republic Services Inc., Phoenix, claims a recently completed product carbon footprint (PCF) study confirms that recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET) flake produced at its Las Vegas Polymer Center for use in packaging has a lower carbon footprint than representative rPET or virgin PET in the U.S. market.

Additionally, the company says the study confirms the material's potential to help customers decarbonize supply chains and reduce Scope 3 emissions.

Republic says that, on average, the global warming potential of its bottle-grade, clear rPET flake produced in Las Vegas is 54 percent lower than the rPET flake alternatives evaluated, and 82 percent lower than virgin PET. These finding are included in an independent cradle-to-gate **PCF study** conducted at the Polymer Center during the first seven months of 2024, which included comparisons to representative rPET and virgin PE produced in the U.S. as well as material imported from Asia.

"We developed our Polymer Centers to enable bottle-to-bottle circularity and help meet increasing demand for high-quality recycled plastics," says Pete Keller, Republic's vice president of recycling and sustainability. "The rPET flake we produce is not only helping customers meet goals and requirements for recycled content in their packaging but also helping reduce their environmental impact."

Republic says it makes an average of 5 million recycling and waste pickups daily and operates 75 recycling facilities across North America. Recycled plastics from these facilities are delivered to a Polymer Center for secondary processing, and PET is shredded and washed to produce bottle-grade, clear rPET flake ready to be remanufactured into new beverage bottles.

The company claims the lower carbon footprint of its rPET is primarily due to more effective energy use at the Las Vegas Polymer Center. The facility uses a patented equipment line that the company says uses less electricity and thermal energy per kilogram of flake than other mechanical recycling processes, for example. Also, processing is shared with other key materials recovered, and the regional utility grid has a lower carbon footprint than either the average U.S. grid or the Asian market's grid mix considered in the PCF study.

Republic says the rPET produced at its Las Vegas location has additional environmental benefits, such as:

- **Bottle-grade product:** The PCF study notes that Republic's rPET flake is bottle-grade, enabling bottle-to-bottle circularity.

- **Integrated supply chain:** Republic manages postconsumer recycled material from curbside to flake production, in contrast to imported rPET.
- **Enhanced circularity:** The Polymer Center process also recovers and recycles non-PET materials from the stream that otherwise would be disposed of through landfill or incineration.

Republic operates Polymer Centers in **Las Vegas** and **Indianapolis**, with a **third facility under construction** in Allentown, Pennsylvania. The company says each facility will have the capacity to produce approximately 120 million pounds of bottle-grade recycled plastics annually.

In August, Keller told *Recycling Today* the 10-acre Allentown site would begin construction in late October, with the potential for equipment installation to begin in April 2026. The facility is expected to be operational by the end of next year.

"Early indications are that demand for our rPET flake will be strong," he said in August. "With our existing Las Vegas and Indianapolis facilities, Allentown will help us continue to build out our national hub-and-spoke Polymer Center network."

Each Polymer Center mechanically processes plastics collected from homes and businesses, including PET, high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP). While PET is processed to make rPET flake for use in new bottles, HDPE and PP are sorted by color and type and sent to Blue Polymers, a joint venture between Republic and **Ravago**, a Luxembourg-based plastic recycling and distribution company, to be compounded, blended and pelletized, creating custom drop-in products for customers.

(Source: Recycling Today; 30th September, 2025)

Making meaningful change

Three big shifts can help brands cut packaging waste and win consumer trust.

With the **COP30** global climate summit approaching, now is the time for businesses and consumers alike to take a step back and confront how we handle materials, packaging and waste.

The numbers tell a sobering story. Globally, we create **57 million tons** of plastic pollution every year. Even if every piece of packaging labeled "recyclable" actually made it through the system—which it doesn't—**recycling rates would top out at only 25 percent**. That's a massive gap.

This isn't news to consumers. They've been told for years that recycling is the answer, yet they still see landfills overflowing and beaches littered with plastic bottles. So, it's no surprise that frustration is rising. People want to support brands that are part of the solution, but they're tired of being misled.

Data from Netherlands-based Trivium Packaging's Global Buying Green Report, alongside a recent survey from the **Conscious Consumer,** paints a clear picture: nearly half of consumers (49 percent) stop buying from brands when they suspect greenwashing or see vague sustainability claims. Among the most environmentally conscious shoppers, that figure jumps to a staggering 87 percent.

But here's the flip side—there's a huge opportunity for brands that get it right. That same report found 87 percent of consumers are willing to pay more for products from brands they trust. Trust is the ultimate currency in today's marketplace.

Consumers say they want honesty and transparency, and many do. But there often is a gap between intention and action. People may express strong preferences for sustainable packaging, yet their actual purchasing decisions are influenced by convenience, price and habit. That's why it's not enough for brands to simply say they're sustainable; they must make it easy for consumers to follow through.

When companies take real, visible action and communicate clearly while removing friction from the process, people notice. And when the experience aligns with their values, they are far more likely to reward that effort with trust, loyalty and repeat purchases.

Companies can start making meaningful change by focusing on three big shifts: embracing circular systems, collaborating across the value chain and choosing materials that get recycled.

Rethinking the system: From linear to circular

For decades, most businesses have operated on a simple model: take resources, make products and, when those products are used up, toss them out. This model is efficient in the short term but is inherently wasteful.

Circular systems are changing the way we think about packaging and waste. Instead of a "take, make, dispose" model, these systems keep materials in circulation longer and at a higher value. This might take the form of closed-loop production, refillable packaging, takeback programs, repair pathways or even product-as-a-service models. The advantages build quickly. They reduce environmental impact, create stronger and more resilient supply chains and signal to customers that a brand is serious about stewardship and sustainability.

One example of a circular packaging solution is **Rainforest Water**, which partnered with Trivium to avoid the use of plastic and set an example in the beverage industry. Together, they created a recyclable aluminum bottle that can be refilled and reused multiple times. The bottle includes an internal lining to preserve the taste and quality of the water, has zero plastic elements in the design and is unlike any packaging they have used before.

Consumers are paying attention to where their products come from and where they end up, and metal packaging is a standout example of how circularity can work in practice. As a global leader in metal packaging with 61 locations around the globe, Trivium aims to protect, promote and preserve the products that millions of people around the world rely on every day through their infinitely recycled metal.

Unlike many plastics that degrade after a single use, metal can be recycled endlessly without losing its quality—making it infinitely recyclable. Given the high demand for metal scrap and the fact that it's easily sorted among other types of materials due to its magnetic properties, metal packaging has consistently high recycling rates globally. When brands transition their products into packaging formats that are not only widely collected but also actually processed at scale, they make an immediate dent in waste. At the same time, they send a powerful message: this is a long-term commitment to sustainable practices, not just a passing trend.

Collaboration: Turning ideas into action

No matter how well a circular system is designed, it can't succeed in isolation. A package that technically is recyclable is only part of the equation—it also has to move through a network that supports it. That means suppliers who can source lower-carbon materials, recyclers equipped to handle different packaging formats and policymakers willing to create clear, consistent rules.

Consumers are the final link in the sustainability chain, and their role is just as important as that of suppliers, manufacturers or policymakers. For a circular system to truly work, people need to understand exactly what to do with packaging—and feel that their effort makes a difference.

That's easier said than done. Recycling rules vary wildly from place to place. A container labeled "recyclable" in one city might end up in the trash in another. Instructions often are confusing, leaving even the most motivated consumers unsure of whether they're helping or hurting. When the system is inconsistent, frustration builds and valuable materials that could have been recovered are lost.

To counter misinformation about metal packaging, Trivium **collaborated with Metal Packaging Europe** in the development of the Metal Recycles Forever logo. The logo is designed to be placed on metal packages and communicates to consumers that the package is infinitely recyclable.

Choosing materials that truly recycle

Honesty is just as important as innovation when it comes to sustainable packaging. Today's consumers are informed and skeptical. They've seen plenty of lofty environmental promises fall flat and they quickly spot anything that feels like greenwashing. A vague claim like "recyclable," especially when paired with a tiny asterisk and a long list of exceptions, does more harm than good. Instead of building trust, it raises doubts and frustration.

To earn confidence, brands must be clear about what can and cannot be recycled. If a package isn't accepted everywhere, say so plainly and explain the plan to improve access. If it is widely recyclable, provide simple instructions, such as rinse lightly, keep the cap on and recycle curbside. This clarity empowers consumers and prevents contamination—a major issue that can send entire loads to landfills.

Youtheory is a great example of a company that not only uses recyclable materials but also effectively communicates to consumers how to recycle their product. Trivium collaborated with Youtheory to create a threaded aluminum bottle for its ocean-friendly omega supplement, and through its partnership with How2Label, Youtheory provided specific instructions on the recyclability of each component of the package.

Progress over perfection

By reducing waste in ways consumers can see and understand, brands not only protect the planet—they also strengthen relationships with the very people whose choices make a circular economy possible, fostering trust, loyalty and long-term engagement that drives lasting, meaningful change and supports a more sustainable future for everyone.

Alice Bazzano is the sustainability director of Amsterdam-based Trivium Packaging, which develops a wide range of metal packaging products for a global customer base. To learn more, visit **the Trivium Packaging website**.

(Source: Recycling Today; 3rd October, 2025)

Industrial liquid recycling: Infinite ways to protect the planet

Discover why industrial liquid recycling is essential for manufacturers seeking compliance, cost savings and greener operations.

Life expectancy and quality of life have dramatically improved over the last century and a half—unlike any time in history.

In 1850, global average life expectancy was 29.3 years, and 87 percent of the world's population lived in extreme poverty.

Today, global average life expectancy is 73.2 years, and it is estimated that less than 10 percent of the world's population lives in extreme poverty.

How did this happen in just 175 years? In 1859, oil was discovered in Titusville, Pennsylvania. That discovery has been the driving force in generating those quality of life outcomes.

Petroleum products are used to propel vehicles, heat buildings, produce electricity and make plastic. From the oil in your engine to the metalworking fluids for manufacturing and everything in between, petroleum-based fluids are used across industries to get the job done.

While those positive results have been impressive, negative environmental impacts related to oil also have arisen. This includes the generation of billions of gallons of industrial liquids each year that no longer serve their purpose.

When left untreated, industrial liquids—unlike solid waste—easily seep into the ground, wreaking havoc on our planet and wasting valuable materials. This is where the industrial liquid recycling industry comes in.

The industrial liquid recycling industry is organized by **Enfinite: The Industrial Liquid Recyclers Association**, based in Gainesville, Virginia. For more than 40 years, our 350 members have recycled and reused industrial liquid waste.

The industrial liquid recycling industry

Enfinite has been active in all legislative and regulatory initiatives related to the industrial liquid recycling sector at the federal and state levels to ensure the environment is protected.

This includes the promulgation of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 40 CFR Part 279, the used oil management standards, and EPA 40 CFR Part 437, the treatment standards for centralized waste treatment facilities (CWTs) managing industrial wastewater.

The association's efforts to ensure that these laws and regulations are reasonable and achievable have helped to form an industry that collects used liquids such as oil, fuels, wastewater, glycol, solvents and so much more to transform into usable products.

Used oil

The U.S. EPA has declared that 1 gallon of used oil can make a million gallons of fresh water undrinkable, making the collection of this material a clear priority.

Each year, 1.4 billion gallons of used oil are collected and recycled into base lubricants or fuel.

Approximately 70 percent of collected used oil is treated at rerefineries that create quality base lubricants, vacuum gas oil and marine diesel oil. The other 30 percent of the used oil collected is treated locally to create recycled fuel oil that is used in applications such as heating aggregate at asphalt plants. This reduces the need for virgin energy sources.

The association adopted an official position in 2013 calling for a ban on used oil filters in landfills. It is estimated that 768 million used oil filters are generated each year, each containing 0.2-1 quart of oil. Used oil can leak out of these filters over time and could seep into and pollute the local water supply.

Enfinite members collect and responsibly recycle the steel, oil and paper in these filters.

Industrial wastewater

Manufacturers, landfills and many other industry sectors generate billions of gallons of industrial wastewater annually.

Enfinite members operate state-of-the-art CWT facilities that treat water in compliance with federal, state and local regulations, assisting public water authorities in providing clean drinking water.

Waste management companies that operate landfills often will contract with CWTs to manage their leachate water. When rainwater moves through the waste, it generates leachate water that can contain heavy metals, organic compounds and toxic chemicals. CWTs offer sustainable leachate treatment options to help keep landfills compliant.

Today, the major regulatory issue surrounding industrial wastewater is per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Since the 1950s, many products commonly used by consumers and industry have been manufactured with or from PFAS. More than 9,000 PFAS have been identified, according to the National Institutes of Health. Since PFAS are "forever chemicals" and do not break down under typical environmental conditions, they will affect wastewater streams (including leachate water) indefinitely.

The U.S. EPA has a drinking water standard for perfluorooctane sulfonate and perfluorooctanoic acid with limits of four parts per trillion.

The drinking water standards will continue to put pressure on publicly owned treatment works (POTW) to look upstream at CWTs to limit PFAS entering POTWs and subsequently any drinking water resources (e.g., lakes and rivers) to which the POTWs discharge.

Enfinite members are at the forefront of numerous research and development projects, and many companies offer PFAS solutions to industry, including the removal of PFAS from contaminated waters, deep well injection and other disposal options that adhere to strict environmental regulations.

Enfinite is a member of the PFAS Regulatory Coalition, a broad collection of trade associations, companies and municipal entities engaged in and/or affected by PFAS-related developments. The mission of the coalition is to ensure that PFAS are regulated based on sound science and that members, which neither manufacture PFAS nor control the addition of PFAS into the wastewater they treat, are recognized and understood for the environmental benefits they provide. Enfinite members provide critical wastewater treatment services to society and should not be punished by overly stringent and unnecessarily costly regulatory mandates. Through the PFAS Regulatory Coalition, Enfinite provides input to the U.S. EPA and others related to all proposed PFAS regulations.

Hazardous and specialty waste

Earlier this year, the association announced the **formation of its Hazardous & Specialty Waste Management Council**. Members increasingly are involved with hazardous materials and specialty waste as companies grow and diversify.

The mission of the council is to create a platform where members easily can connect and network. It also aims to identify and address related opportunities and threats facing members while promoting the environmental importance of hazardous and specialty waste companies.

The future

Mergers and acquisitions are extremely prevalent in the industrial liquid recycling sector, leading to larger companies in the space that offer a much broader set of services than would have been the case decades ago.

The current movement related to onshoring production and manufacturing operations and the increase in chip manufacturing facilities and data centers will lead to generation of more industrial liquids that will need to be recycled.

The growing interest by the public and corporations regarding sustainability will drive opportunities for industrial liquid recyclers. As an industry, we need to do a better job of telling the story of the importance and necessity of the entire waste and environmental sector.

The Enfinite board of directors has approved funding for a new website, launching in early 2026, that will do just that. The site also will feature a new tool built for the general waste community to help find area specialty industrial liquid recycler service providers.

Industrial liquid recyclers are in the business of sustainably giving liquid waste new life and creating a circular economy where nothing goes to waste. When others see industrial liquid waste, industrial liquid recyclers see infinite potential and infinite ways to protect our planet.

The author is the executive director of Enfinite: The Industrial Liquid Recyclers Association. He can be contacted at **sparker@enfinite.org**.

New study discusses impact of EU regulation on global recycled plastics demand

The study says the influence of the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation on global supply chains will affect sourcing strategies and boost demand for certified recycled materials globally.

London-based International Commodity Intelligence Services (ICIS) and Beijing-based China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation (CPCIF) have released a study on how the European Union's circularity regulation impacts global demand for recycled plastics, generally and for China's chemical industries, with points across the packaging, automotive and textiles industries.

Driven by the implementation of the **EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation** (PPWR), a regulation designed to minimize packaging waste, enhance recyclability and promote sustainable practices across packaging, the study predicts a sharp increase in demand for recycled content, particularly for polyethylene (rPE), polypropylene (rPP) and polyethylene terephthalate (rPET).

Key findings

The study says by 2030, EU producers will require approximately 5.4 million metric tons per year of rPE, rPP and rPET to meet the mandated minimum recycled content targets. The organizations expect this figure to more than double, requiring 11.5 million metric tons per year by 2040, due to regulations across packaging, automotive and fiber applications.

The study says chemical recycling will be essential to meet the required volume of recycled polyolefins for packaging due to limitations in mechanical recycling.

The interconnected nature of trade means EU regulations will influence global supply chains, as exporters placing goods in the EU market must comply with recycled content requirements. The study says this will impact sourcing strategies and boost demand for certified recycled materials globally.

ICIS and **CPCIF** say China will continue to play an important role in the EU's plastics supply chain. As a major EU trade partner, the study says China is expected to supply more than 1 million metric tons per year of recycled plastics by 2040 to meet the demand for export-bound finished goods.

The study highlights a shift among Chinese exporters from reactive compliance to proactive positioning, saying firms are investing in certified recycled and bio-based materials, aiming to turn regulatory requirements into sources of competitive differentiation.

Although short-term operational costs are expected to rise due to redesigns, certification procurement and supplier changes, the study points to emerging market opportunities for high-performance, EU-compliant recycled plastics—including companies standardizing packaging across markets to streamline compliance.

The report says the EU's regulation is acting as a catalyst for China's domestic recycling reforms, potentially boosting internal demand for recycled content and improving consistency in material traceability and quality.

"This study shows that EU circularity regulation is no longer just a regional policy; it's becoming a global market force, shaping industrial strategies and supply chains worldwide," says Helen McGeough, ICIS global analyst team lead for plastics recycling. "China's proactive response may prove pivotal in narrowing the gap between domestic and international standards and accelerating the global transition to a circular economy."

The full report includes case studies, an overview of China's regulations on recycled polymers and key trends in the textile, automotive and packaging industries.

(Source: Recycling Today; 22nd October, 2025)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indian chemical industry to see single-digit revenue decline due to US tariffs: Ind-Ra

FY26 capex will be largely focused on cost optimisation and committed capex with deferrals of early-stage capex in most export-oriented segments

India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) believes the increased US tariff of 50% can lead to a single-digit decline in revenue for the Indian chemical industry, given the US accounts for around 15% of India's exports, of which nearly half is under the list of exempted products.

Given the vastly different dynamics of various chemicals, the impact of tariffs would not be uniform across the sector. Domestic-focused companies present in chemicals not exported to the US would see minimal impact, while the hit will be higher for a few entities with a sizeable exposure to non-exempt products in the US.

The direct impact of tariffs on the sector profitability for the year is likely to be limited to 10%-15% of EBITDA margins, with the Chinese demand-supply balance remaining a key determinant of global chemical prices and profitability. Although remaining below than the cycle average, Ind-Ra expects a lower price erosion to cushion the sector EBITDA in FY26. The sector EBITDA margins recovered marginally to 14% over 4QFY25-1QFY26 (average of 13% over 4QFY24-3QFY25) as inventory losses reduced and volumes recovered.

"Domestic demand is likely to be healthy in FY26, as growth in end-user industries enables chemical companies serving the domestic market to outperform their export-focused peers. Also, the balance sheets of most Ind-Ra-rated players have the headroom to manage any immediate pressure on their profitability and credit profiles. However, companies undergoing large capex or medium, small and micro enterprises (MSME) with limited liquidity headroom and financial flexibility could face challenges over the near term", says Siddharth Rego, Associate Director.

Most of the portfolio has comfortable liquidity, barring a few entities undergoing large capex. About 12% of Ind-Ra's chemical portfolio was on a negative directional indicator as of end-August 2025.

Tariffs to Pressure Exports and Affect Sector Recovery

The Indian chemical sector was poised for a turnaround in FY26, led by volume growth with a gradual moderation in channel inventories and near bottoming out of prices after two weak years. This is indicated in the improving performance over 4QFY25-1QFY26.

However, the uncertainty and disruption from the increased US tariff rate effective 27 August 2025 could affect the performance over the near term. Exports would be under pressure, given the muted global demand environment, exacerbated by the high tariffs.

The US accounts for close to 15% of India's chemical exports, where India's tariff is higher than not only China, but also other competing countries namely Canada, Mexico, Germany, and Ireland. While India's cost structure is competitive compared to European countries, the tariff difference could offset the advantage, affecting specialty chemical players. However, the silver lining is that around half of India's exports to US are on the exempt list, limiting the first order impact.

Organic chemicals and agrochemicals form the biggest chunk of India's exports to the US segments. Dyes and inorganic chemicals have less than 10% exposure to the US and will therefore see a limited first order impact. However, the slowdown in textiles because of a decline in export demand and the US tariff could affect demand for dyes.

Players with Strong Market Position and Cost Competitiveness better Placed

Ind-Ra opines that US bound chemical shipments slowed down in September 2025, even as discussions and negotiations are on with customers on possible sharing of the additional cost. While typically a critical component, the cost of chemicals is often a small part of the total value of the product, which may enable a higher pass-through to the end user in some cases. Furthermore, some large specialty chemical players are global leaders in their products with a high level of integration in the value-chain, placing them at a relative advantage compared to small players that may be easily replaced. However, given India's relative tariff disadvantage over competing countries, the risk of losing market share does exist. Ind-Ra believes the extent of market share loss will depend on the interplay of a) the share of the customer's business, b) the criticality of the chemical in the final product performance, c) the proportion of the cost of the end-product, d) the scale of integration and cost competitiveness determining the ability to absorb additional cost, and e) the customer's focus on supplying chain diversification.

China's share in the US chemical imports declined to around 10% in 2023-2024 from an average of 12.8% during 2018-2022. However, India's share remained largely stable at 3.5% - 4% over 2018- 2024, indicating Indian exporters' inability to gain the market share lost by China. However, the US remains India's key chemical export destination. India's chemical exports in FY25 stood at USD34.6 billion, of which the US accounts for roughly 13%. Players are also in discussion with other export customers, particularly in Europe and Latin America, to increase their market share, though that will happen only gradually. However, discussions with the US on tariff/trade deals has resumed due to which the current situation could change.

While the reversal in India's tariff differential with China limits the benefits of China+1 supply chain re-orientation, it also reduces some of the risks of excess capacities finding their way into the Indian markets.

Sector-level Revenue Hit Likely to be Limited to Single Digit; Lower Price Erosion to Cushion Tariff Impact on Profitability: Ind-Ra expects a single-digit revenue decline for the Indian chemical sector, due to the additional US tariffs, given around half of the 15% exports are in the exempt category. The fall could stretch to low teens for a few entities that have a sizeable exposure of non-exempt products to the US. The direct impact of tariffs on profitability is likely to be limited to 10%-15% of EBITDA margins but will be contingent on the additional tariff cost-sharing arrangements.

While margins are likely to remain lower than the cycle average, Ind-Ra expects a lower price erosion to cushion sector EBITDA in FY26. Specialty chemical prices witnessed signs of bottoming out, with China's Producer Price Index growing yoy in early 2025, after almost 2.5 years. Sector EBITDA margins recovered to 14% over 4QFY25-1QFY26 (average of 13% over 4QFY24- 3QFY25) as inventory losses reduced and volumes recovered. However, the tariff induced disruption is likely to affect profitability in 2Q-3QFY26. Also, other than India's access to the US markets, a recovery in China's domestic consumption and global demand fundamentals remain key to a rebound in operating margins.

Bulk chemicals are likely to be a mixed bag, with segments such as soda ash, caustic soda, and carbon black, witnessing a comfortable performance, even as polyvinyl chloride, phthalic anhydride could witness pressure. Government policy support in the form of anti-dumping duties/minimum import price to combat the threat of low-priced imports and incentives to boost export competitiveness would also be a monitorable amid the external weakness.

Capex in Slow Lane, Working Capital Management Key: Considering the ongoing industry headwinds, FY26 capex will be largely focused on cost optimisation and committed capex with deferrals of early-stage capex in most export-oriented segments. While a continued high tariff can lead to a supply chain re-orientation over the medium term, any capex in this direction is unlikely at this stage given that the scenario is still evolving with ongoing negotiations.

Lower shipments could unwind working capital, aiding cash flows for specialty chemical companies that typically operate on moderate-to-high working capital cycles. However, Ind-Ra opines that a slowdown in orders can result in entities offering longer credit periods to their customers and/or raising inventory cycles to optimise production cost and cater to anticipated order flow in the near term. As a result, the movement in working capital will be a key monitorable from a liquidity standpoint.

Balance Sheet Headroom to Absorb Near-term Weakness: Balance sheets of most Ind-Ra rated chemical players have headroom, although those undergoing large capex could face challenges. Most high-rated commodity chemical players have limited debt. The higher leverage of specialty players is typically offset by a less volatile margin profile, but working capital movement could be a key determinant of the liquidity profile. Also, large corporates with better access to funding through banking and capital markets are better placed to weather the storm than MSMEs that typically operate with limited cushion and funding flexibility. However, Ind-Ra believes continued high tariffs, affecting revenue and profitability, could gradually reduce the headroom. IndRa will therefore continue to monitor the fast-evolving geo-political developments and assess their impact on the sector participants.

Paper industry warns of price rise for consumers due to GST hike

The Indian paper industry has warned that the recent GST hike on paper and paperboard to 18 per cent will have a far-reaching adverse impact on consumers and MSMEs, leading to higher prices of paper products.

Calling the GST hike on paper from 12 per cent to 18 per cent a regressive step, the Indian Paper Manufacturers Association in a statement said that the increase will have widespread repercussions across education, packaging, MSMEs and consumers at large. “Paper is a necessity, not a luxury.

It is integral to education, literacy and eco-friendly packaging. We were expecting paper to be brought under the 5 per cent slab, but instead, it has been hiked to 18 per cent. This decision will have far-reaching adverse consequences,” IPMA President Pawan Agarwal said.

An increase in GST on the widely used input will create a cost-push across sectors and inevitably raise consumer prices. Paper is used in the packaging of essential goods, food items, pharmaceuticals, hygiene products and FMCG.

Pointing out an inverted duty structure, the IPMA said that the GST on boxes, cartons, sacks and bags made of paper has been reduced from 12 per cent to 5 per cent, the GST on the primary raw material-paper and paperboard-has been raised to 18 per cent.

With nearly 90 per cent of kraft and packaging paper used in cartons and boxes, such an inverted duty structure will block significant working capital, especially for MSMEs, which form the backbone of the packaging sector.

IPMA estimates that over Rs 500 crore of working capital will get locked up, forcing small businesses to grapple with recurring refund compliances and disrupting operations, Agarwal said.

Urging the government to reconsider the decision, Agarwal said, “The treatment given to the Paper Industry is in contradiction to the Prime Minister’s vision that only non-essential items would move from 12 per cent to 18per cent. We appeal for an urgent review to safeguard consumers, MSMEs and the long-term health of the Indian Paper Industry.”

(Source: The Economic Times; 25th Sep., 2025)

US sanctions on Russian oil giants send shockwaves across China

US sanctions on Russia’s energy giants are sending shockwaves deep into the heart of China’s oil industry, where both state and private refiners face heightened pressure to keep up supplies while steering clear of penalties.

As much as 20% of China’s crude imports — about 2 million barrels a day in the first nine months of this year — come from Russia, making it one of the country’s leading sources of oil for processing into products such as diesel, gasoline and plastics.

The Trump administration’s blacklisting of Rosneft PJSC and Lukoil PJSC is the latest in a series of measures rolled out by the US, the European Union and the UK targeting buyers of Russian crude, and the contribution they make to Moscow’s coffers and its war efforts in Ukraine. Transactions involving the two firms need to be wound down by Nov. 21, according to the US government.

The risk for China as well as India, Russia’s biggest customers, lies in their dealings with sanctioned entities, which can leave companies exposed to crippling secondary penalties. These include being cut off from western banking systems and access to dollars, or frozen out by the western producers, traders, shippers and insurers that form the backbone of global commodities markets.

Of particular concern is the role western firms play as investors and operators across major oil-producing regions such as the Middle East and Africa, traders say. Chinese and Indian companies that opt to continue working with sanctioned firms risk being sidelined or cut off from large numbers of projects.

If they choose to comply with the sanctions, they'll lose access to deeply discounted supplies of oil that have helped keep energy costs low for industry and consumers. Additionally, buyers outside China and India are grappling with the impact on Lukoil, which is involved in Iraq's Basrah project and the Caspian Pipeline Consortium in Central Asia.

The UK's moves last week to blacklist Rosneft and Lukoil, as well as China's Shandong Yulong Petrochemical Co. for its Russian imports, had already put traders on edge. Western companies have since become wary of supplying the privatelyowned refiner. Other recent US sanctions have targeted major Chinese ports including Rizhao and Dongjiakou, key conduits for both Russian and Iranian oil.

Central to the mammoth trade between Russia and China is the long-term contract between Rosneft and state-owned China National Petroleum Corp., which involves purchases of ESPO crude via pipelines to landlocked refineries in the northern Daqing region. The plants there rely predominantly on Russian feedstock, according to traders, making them particularly vulnerable to any disruptions.

It's unclear, however, if these pipeline flows — about 800,000 barrels a day — will be affected by the sanctions due to the government-to-government nature of the project. CNPC didn't immediately reply to an email seeking comment. Phone calls to the company also went unanswered.

Rosneft and Lukoil are also among the firms exporting ESPO from Russia's eastern port of Kozmino to the private refiners clustered in Shandong province and along the coast.

Together, the two firms supplied about one quarter of Russia's oil exports to China last year, according to data analytics firm Kpler.

(Source: The Economic Times; 23rd October, 2025)

यूएस टैरिफ से MSME सेक्टर भी हुआ प्रभावित, अब सरकार उठाएगी मदद के लिए कदमय लॉन्च होगी नई स्कीम

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप द्वारा लगाए गए टैरिफ (Trump Tarrifs) से प्रभावित MSME को राहत देने के लिए सरकार कदम उठाने जा रही है। टेक्सटाइल, अपैरल और कारपेट जैसे सेक्टरों को मदद मिलेगी। अमेरिकी सरकार ने भारतीय एक्सपोर्ट पर 50% तक टैरिफ लगाया है। सरकार क्रेडिट सपोर्ट स्कीम के माध्यम से एक्सपोर्टर्स को अमेरिकी बाजार में होने वाले नुकसान से बचाने और नए बाजार खोजने में मदद करेगी।

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने भारत पर जो टैरिफ लगाए हैं, उनसे देश के माइक्रो, स्मॉल एंड मीडियम एंटरप्राइजेज (MSME) पर भी निगेटिव प्रभाव पड़ा है। अब इसी प्रभाव से निपटने के लिए सरकार कुछ कदम उठाने जा रही है।

सरकार का प्लान जल्द ही टेक्सटाइल, अपैरल, कारपेट जैसे सेक्टर्स में छोटे और मध्य कारोबारों की मदद के लिए कुछ कदम उठाने का है। ये वे सेक्टर हैं, जिन पर अमेरिकी टैरिफ का सबसे अधिक प्रभाव पड़ा है।

बेरोजगारी और NPA बढ़ना चिंता की बात

यूएस टैरिफ से प्रभावित सेक्टर्स के लिए क्रेडिट गारंटी स्कीम के अलावा भी कई अन्य उपाय किए जाएंगे। मीडिया रिपोर्ट्स के अनुसार सरकार जल्द उन MSME की मदद के लिए 4–5 कदम उठाएगी, जिन पर US टैरिफ का सबसे ज्यादा असर पड़ा है।

इन सेक्टर्स में नॉन–परफॉर्मिंग एसेट्स के बढ़ने और बेरोजगारी को प्रमुख चिंता का विषय माना जा रहा है। इसीलिए सरकार कुछ जरूरी कदम उठाने जा रहा है।

किन सेक्टरों पर लगा टैरिफ

अमेरिकी सरकार टेक्सटाइल, कपड़ों, कालीन, रत्न, ज्वैलरी और सी–फूड इंडस्ट्री जैसी चीजों के भारतीय एक्सपोर्ट पर कुल 50: का टैरिफ लगा चुकी है। इससे पहले वित्त मंत्रालय ने कहा था कि टैरिफ से प्रभावित MSME की मदद की जाएगी और इसके लिए एक नई क्रेडिट सपोर्ट स्कीम बनाई जाएगी।

नई क्रेडिट सपोर्ट स्कीम जल्द से जल्द शुरू हो सकती है। सरकार के उपायों का मकसद एक्सपोर्टर्स को अमेरिकी बाजार में कम कॉम्पिटिशन की वजह से होने वाले नुकसान से बचाना है। इसके अलावा उन्हें नए बाजार खोजने में भी मदद की जाएगी।

एमएसएमई की और क्या हैं समस्या

MSME के सामने पेमेंट में देरी की वजह से कैपिटल की कमी हो रही है और लगभग 40 लाख करोड़ रुपये के क्रेडिट एक्सपोजर के साथ ये दिक्कत और गहरा सकती है। इससे NPA (लोन चुकाने में असफलता) भी हो सकते हैं। क्रिसिल रेटिंग्स के अनुसार, US टैरिफ की वजह से बैंकिंग सिस्टम के डैडम्‍ पोर्टफोलियो में ग्रॉस NPA FY25 में 3.59% से बढ़कर FY26 के आखिर तक लगभग 3.9% तक पहुंच सकते हैं।

क्रिसिल के अनुसार MSME लोन अभी बैंकिंग सिस्टम में कुल बकाया क्रेडिट का लगभग 17% हैं।

(Source: Dainik Jagran; 30th October, 2025)

भारत के अगले आर्थिक सुधारों का फोकस छोटे उद्यमों को ग्लोबल सप्लाई चेन से जोड़ने पररू नीति आयोग

नीति आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष सुमन बेरी ने कहा है कि भारत के अगले आर्थिक सुधारों का फोकस छोटे उद्यमों (MSMEs) को वैश्विक सप्लाई चेन से जोड़ने पर होगा। उन्होंने बताया कि जल्द ही राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण मिशन लॉन्च किया जाएगा, जिसमें पांच प्रमुख सेक्टर्स, स्किल डेवलपमेंट, MSME सशक्तिकरण, टेक्नोलॉजी एक्सेस और क्वालिटी प्रोडक्शन पर काम किया जाएगा।

इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर स्टडीज इन इंडस्ट्रियल डेवलपमेंट (ISID) के तीसरे वार्षिक सम्मेलन के दौरान नीति आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष सुमन बेरी ने आर्थिक सुधारों पर टिप्पणी करते हुए कहा कि भारत के अगले चरण के आर्थिक सुधारों का फोकस छोटे और मध्यम उद्यमों (MSMEs) को वैश्विक सप्लाई चेन में जोड़ने पर होना चाहिए।बेरी ने कहा कि भारत अब आयातित तकनीकों या बिखरी उत्पादन प्रणाली पर अनिश्चित काल तक निर्भर नहीं रह सकता है। उन्होंने बताया कि हाल के सामाजिक सुरक्षा आकलन से यह स्पष्ट हुआ है कि भारत की स्थिति पहले की तुलना में बेहतर है। इस दौरान उन्होंने कहा कि हम एक अच्छी शुरुआत कर रहे हैं, लेकिन मैन्युफैक्चरिंग का इंजन अभी भी उतनी तेजी से नहीं चल रहा, जितनी हमें आवश्यकता है।

नेशनल मैन्युफैक्चरिंग मिशन पर काम जारी

नीति आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष ने बताया कि केंद्रीय बजट में घोषित "राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण मिशन (National Manufacturing Mission)" की जिम्मेदारी नीति आयोग को दी गई है और इसका कैबिनेट पेपर अभी तैयारी के चरण में है। उन्होंने कहा, "भारत की औद्योगिक सफलता राज्यों और जिलों में मजबूत औद्योगिक इकोसिस्टम तैयार करने से ही संभव होगी। यह दिल्ली में नहीं बनेगा। हर राज्य की अपनी भौगोलिक, सामाजिक और आर्थिक विशेषताएं हैं, इसलिए नीति भी स्टेट स्पेसिफिक होनी चाहिए।"

पांच मुख्य फोकस एरिया तय

बेरी ने बताया कि प्रस्तावित नेशनल मैन्युफैक्चरिंग मिशन पांच प्रमुख क्षेत्रों पर केंद्रित होगा।

1. इज एंड कॉस्ट ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस।
2. भविष्य की नौकरियों के लिए कुशल कार्यबल तैयार करना।
3. सशक्त और गतिशील MSME सेक्टर विकसित करना।
4. आधुनिक तकनीक की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना।
5. गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पादों के उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देना।

घरेलू वैल्यू चेन को प्राथमिकता

बेरी ने कहा कि भारत में घरेलू वैल्यू चेन को मजबूत करना नीति आयोग की प्राथमिकता है। उन्होंने कहा कि "भारत को अब 'Make in India' से आगे बढ़ते हुए एकीकृत विनिर्माण नीति की दिशा में सोचना होगा, जिससे विभिन्न औद्योगिक पहलों को जोड़ा जा सके।"

छोटे एंटरप्राइज को ग्लोबल नेटवर्क से जोड़ना जरूरी

बेरी ने कहा कि अगले सुधारों में ध्यान सप्लाई चेन विकास, मानकीकरण और स्किल इकोसिस्टम पर होना चाहिए, जिससे छोटे उद्यम (SMEs) वैश्विक उत्पादन नेटवर्क में शामिल हो सकें और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा में अपनी भूमिका बढ़ा सकें।

तकनीक और जलवायु–संवेदनशील विकास पर फोकस

बेरी ने यह भी कहा कि भारत की औद्योगिक नीति को अब तकनीक–आधारित और क्लाइमेट–रेस्पॉन्सिबल ग्रोथ की दिशा में आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा, "ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन, इलेक्ट्रिक मोबिलिटी, सेमीकंडक्टर और एडवांस्ड मटीरियल्स जैसे क्षेत्र भविष्य की औद्योगिक क्रांति को परिभाषित करेंगे।" साथ ही उन्होंने कहा कि औद्योगिक परिवर्तन का लक्ष्य सिर्फ उत्पादन बढ़ाना नहीं, बल्कि उत्पादक रोजगार, उच्च आय और समान अवसरों का वितरण होना चाहिए।

हाल ही में चीन यात्रा से लौटे बेरी ने कहा, "हम चीन से सीख सकते हैं, लेकिन भारत का विकास मॉडल अलग होगा। हमें अपनी परिस्थितियों के अनुरूप रास्ता बनाना होगा।"

मैन्युफैक्चरिंग सेक्टर विकास का इंजन

ISID निदेशक और रिजर्व बैंक की मौद्रिक नीति समिति (MPC) के सदस्य नागेश कुमार ने कहा कि मैन्युफैक्चरिंग सेक्टर के पास सभी उत्पादक क्षेत्रों में सबसे ज्यादा बैकवर्ड और फॉरवर्ड लिंकज हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि यह सेक्टर रोजगार सृजन और आर्थिक वृद्धि का सबसे मजबूत इंजन बन सकता है।

(Source: The Economic Times; 29th October, 2025)


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