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VOL XLIII

No. 1

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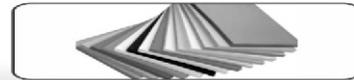
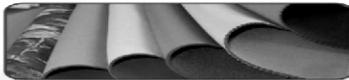
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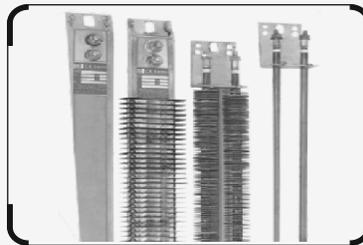
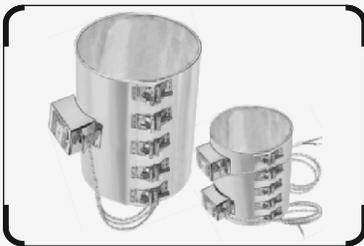
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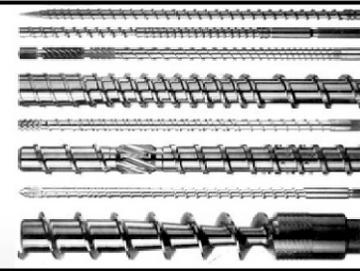
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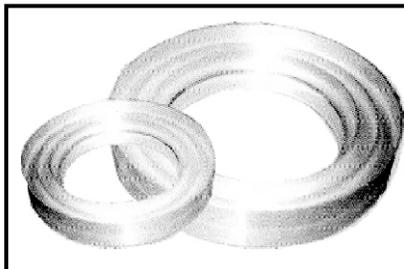
Iris Ring



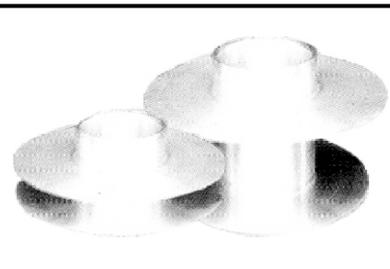
Rotating Die Heads



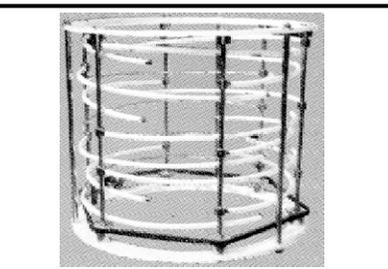
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PP Water Bath



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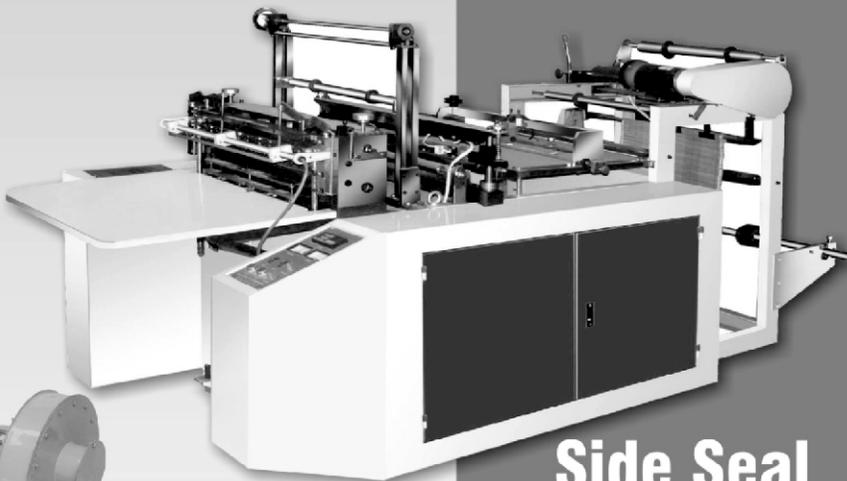
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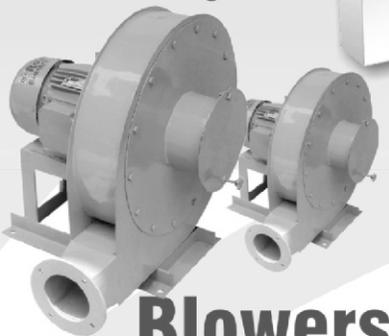
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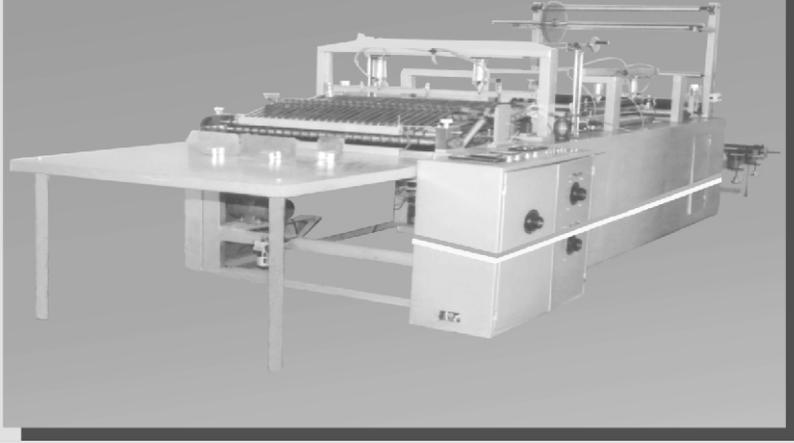
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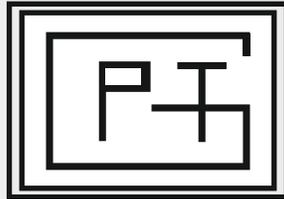


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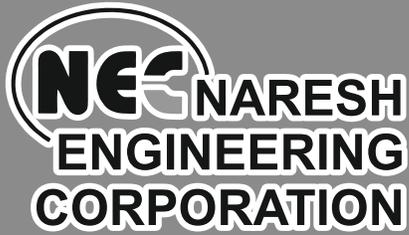


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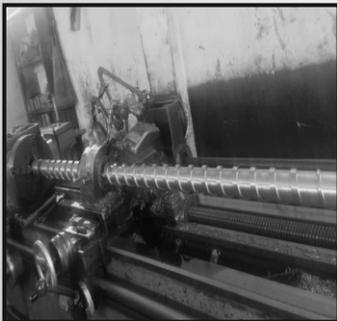
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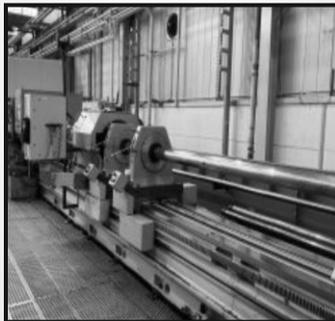
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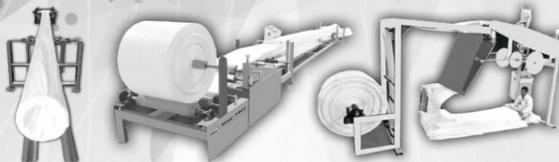
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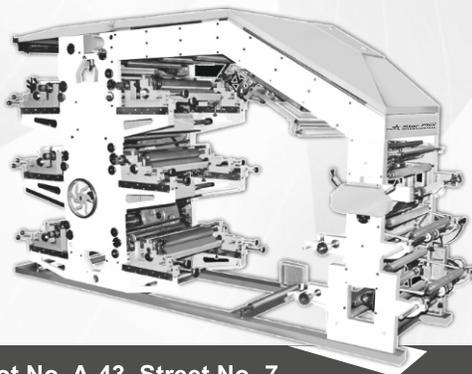
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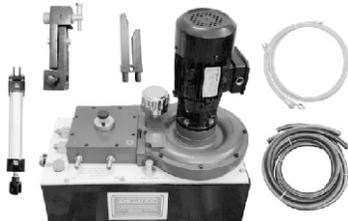
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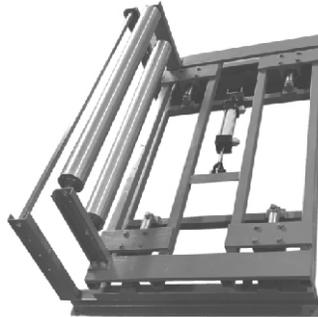
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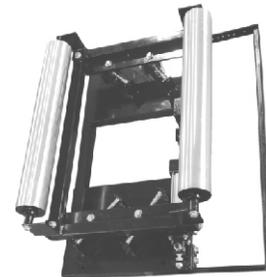
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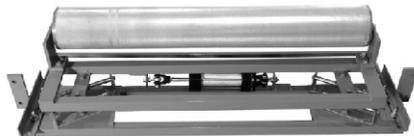
UNWINDER TRACKER



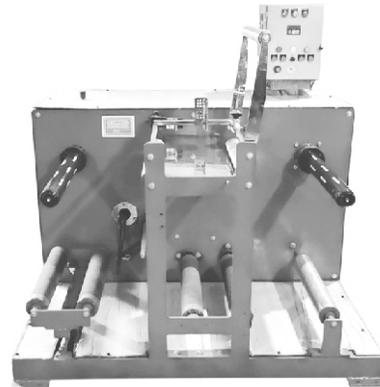
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2026 – Good Prospects

With the dawn of the New Year, expectations also grow. Generally speaking, the way ahead for the plastic processing industry this year is good and optimistic. One of the key sectors is packaging, coupled with two other segments—construction and building, and automotive. It is poised to grow at a CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of over 6%.

Sustainability has also become a key word for new developments. Recycled content has been made mandatory by the authorities. Ever since single-use plastic has been banned, the focus has shifted to agri-waste for making disposable cutlery, which is a very large segment. Sugarcane waste and rice waste are now being regularly used, with new avenues opening up.

The e-commerce platform is expanding with double-digit growth. Moisture-barrier films and tamper-proof pouches are gaining ground due to increasing demand.

There is regular demand from the automotive sector to reduce the weight of vehicles, which will mean more plastic instead of metal. Many new materials are being developed that can substitute metals in applications involving bearing stress.

Overall, therefore, the prospects are very good. Our MSME sector also fits in well with this forecast, as maximum growth is expected to come from this sector. Increasing the 'ease of doing business' should be practically demonstrated by the authorities. They could also help through easier financing and quality control measures.

Lastly, and very importantly, going out of the 'EPR' net remains at the top of our wish list. Filing returns is a very big and cumbersome task. If the same energy is devoted to making quality products, it will go a long way in making India self-reliant.

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Important points discussed during the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee held on 10th December, 2025

1. **Approval of the minutes** of the previous Executive Committee Meeting held on **10th November, 2025**.

The minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on **10th November, 2025** were placed before the Committee. The same were **reviewed and confirmed**.

2. **Approval of expenditure** for **November 2025**.

The expenditure statement for **November, 2025** was reviewed and duly approved.

3. **Discussion on industry-related matters**.

- Members highlighted difficulties faced by industry due to complex GST compliances.

Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron, informed the Committee that the **Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed several important orders/judgments under GST** impacting input tax credit, refunds, interest, penalties, and procedural compliance. He emphasized that the Supreme Court has reiterated that GST should be **technology-driven, taxpayer-friendly, and procedurally fair**, and that **genuine taxpayers should not be penalized** for -Portal glitches, Minor procedural lapses and System-driven errors.

- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):**

Members noted that despite being explicitly exempt, **small and micro units are still required to upload annual returns**, and the issue of formal exemption remains unresolved. It was emphasized that excessive compliance requirements are contrary to the government's **Ease of Doing Business** initiative, as MSMEs are compelled to focus more on compliances than on improving productivity, quality, and exports. The need for **encouragement and incentives** for small units was emphasized to boost domestic manufacturing, exports, and GDP growth.

Shri Manuj Gupta, Executive Committee Member, suggested collaboration with the **PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry**, stating that the objectives of industry associations are aligned towards easing business operations. He further suggested that a **representation be made to the Hon'ble Commerce Minister** highlighting these concerns.

- **BIS and Anti-Dumping Issues:**

Members expressed concern over the **arbitrary imposition of BIS standards on raw materials**, despite their removal earlier. It was also noted that **anti-dumping duty on Titanium Dioxide** has adversely impacted the industry, and members suggested that **DGTR intervention** is necessary to safeguard domestic manufacturers.

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Brief Report on the 43rd Annual General Body Meeting & Industry Meet

All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA) 18th December, 2025 at Hotel City Park, Pitampura, New Delhi

The 43rd Annual General Body Meeting (AGM)-cum-Industry Meet and Election of the All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA) was held on 18th December, 2025 at Hotel City Park, Pitampura, New Delhi, under the chairmanship of **Shri Devinder Pal Singh, President**. The meeting commenced after completion of quorum and was attended by **over 125 members**, sponsors, and invitees.

Key Highlights

The President, in his opening address, welcomed the members and thanked sponsors and supporting industrial associations from **Bawana, Narela, Kirti Nagar, and Sadar Bazar**. He highlighted major issues affecting the plastic industry, including **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), electricity tariff hikes by DERC, BIS norms, factory licence fees, environmental compensation, GST and import duty issues, waste management regulations, Global Plastic Treaty (INC-5), and conversion of leasehold to freehold rights in industrial areas**. He also announced purchase of new office of the Association in the same corridor of the existing office.

AGM Proceedings

The **Minutes of the previous AGM held on 20th September, 2024** were confirmed.

The **Annual Report** was presented by **Shri Brijesh Bhutani, Hon. General Secretary**, outlining the Association's activities and publications. Members were encouraged to support the Association through advertisements and membership expansion.

The **audited accounts for 2024-25** and **Budget Estimates for 2025-26**, presented by **Shri Bhupesh Ralli, Joint Secretary**, were unanimously approved. **M/s Suresh & Associates** were appointed as Auditors for **2025-26**.

Industry Issues

Industry concerns were addressed by **Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron**, focusing on EPR compliance and rising electricity costs. **GST compliance difficulties** faced by MSMEs were highlighted by **Shri Vipin Gupta**, while **environmental pollution-related issues** were discussed by **Shri Dinesh Gupta, President – Delhi Plastic Packaging Industries Association, Bawana**.

Resolution

The General Body unanimously approved a **resolution amending the Rules & Regulations of AIPIA** regarding the **composition of the Executive Committee**, including rationalization of office bearer posts and revised strength of the Committee.

Removal of Membership

The General Body considered the proposal placed by the Hon. General Secretary regarding termination of Mr. Amrinder Singh Arora from the membership of AIPIA. After deliberations, the General Body approved his removal from membership, with more than 60 members favouring the termination and none against it.

Presentations & Felicitation

Sponsor presentations were conducted during the second session of the AGM. Plast Asia, the Exhibition Partner, presented PLAST ASIA-2027. The Diamond Sponsors showcased their company videos, which were highly appreciated by the members. All sponsors were felicitated with mementos in recognition of their support.

Shri R. K. Tripathi was specially felicitated for his 40 years of dedicated service to the Association.

Conclusion

The AGM concluded with a vote of thanks by the Hon. General Secretary, followed by dinner. The event was successfully conducted, reflecting strong member participation and a collective commitment to addressing industry challenges.

Minutes of 42nd Annual General Body Meeting & Industry Meet held on 20th September, 2024

The 42nd Annual General Body Meeting & Industry Meet of the **All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA)** took place on **20th September 2024**, at 6:30 p.m., at **Hotel Hyatt Centric, Janakpuri, New Delhi**. The meeting was presided over by **Shri Devinder Pal Singh, President**, and was initially adjourned due to a lack of quorum.

Opening Remarks:

Shri Devinder Pal Singh extended a warm welcome to all present members, sponsors, and guests. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Association's members, sponsors, and supporting associations such as **Bawana, Narela, Kirti Nagar, and Sadar Bazar** for their unwavering contribution and support. In his address, the President touched upon several key issues impacting the trade and industry:

- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):** current scenario on **EPR**, with ongoing efforts for full exemption.
- **Price Regulation:** Emphasized the need for stabilization of plastic raw material prices to tackle market fluctuations.
- **BIS Standards:** Called for easing **BIS standards** to assist the micro and small sectors.
- **MSME Financial Schemes:** Highlighted the need for better access to these schemes and voiced opposition to increased **electricity charges by DERC**.

The President also commended the **Executive Committee** and staff for their contributions toward the growth and transparency of the Association. Additionally, he announced plans for a **major exhibition** next year and encouraged members to remain actively engaged.

AGM Proceedings:

The **minutes of the 41st Annual General Body Meeting**, held on **20th September 2023** at Seven Seas Hotel, Rohini, New Delhi, were presented by **Shri Rohit Sarna, Joint Secretary**, and approved by the members.

The **Annual Report** was presented by **Shri Brijesh Bhutani, Hony. General Secretary**, covering the Association's key activities (reproduced in this issue).

Shri Amrinder Singh Arora, Treasurer, presented the audited accounts for the year 2023-24 and the **Budget Estimates for 2024-25**, both of which were unanimously approved. **M/s Suresh & Associates** were appointed as auditors for the year 2024-25.

Industry-Related Issues:

Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron, addressed critical matters concerning the industry, particularly focusing on:

- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):** He highlighted the complexity and financial burden of EPR, reiterating the Association's request for the government to **fully exempt small and micro plastic processing units**.
- **Electricity Charges:** Raised concerns over rising electricity charges and surcharges, including **Pension Trust surcharge** and **Power Purchase Cost Adjustment charge**, which are impacting the financial viability and competitiveness of small units.
- **BOPP Film Pricing:** He discussed the hardships small and micro units face due to **unfair pricing policies** by BOPP film producers.

Exhibition and Events:

Shri Jatin Raheja, Organizing Secretary, provided an update on the Association's participation in **national and international exhibitions**.

Special recognition was given to two early birds, sponsored by **Premium Plastic**, and five lucky draw prizes, generously sponsored by **Shri S.N. Mittal**, were awarded to lucky members.

Shri Rakesh Sachdeva, Sr. Vice President, thanked all participants, concluding the first session with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Second Session – Presentations:

The second session featured sponsor presentations. **Axis Bank**, the **Banking Partner**, introduced a specially designed **MSME program**, aimed at empowering micro, small, and medium enterprises with swift and convenient access to financial resources. Members raised queries, which were addressed during the session.

Ms. Payal Arora, Director of Trash to Treasure, delivered a presentation on **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** under **Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules**, outlining:

- Micro & Small Producers are **not liable for EPR** but must register.
- **Producers must include Contract Manufacturers.**
- **Revision in obligated entities.**
- Introduction of **Category V** (Biodegradable Waste).

Other sponsors also delivered PowerPoint presentations.

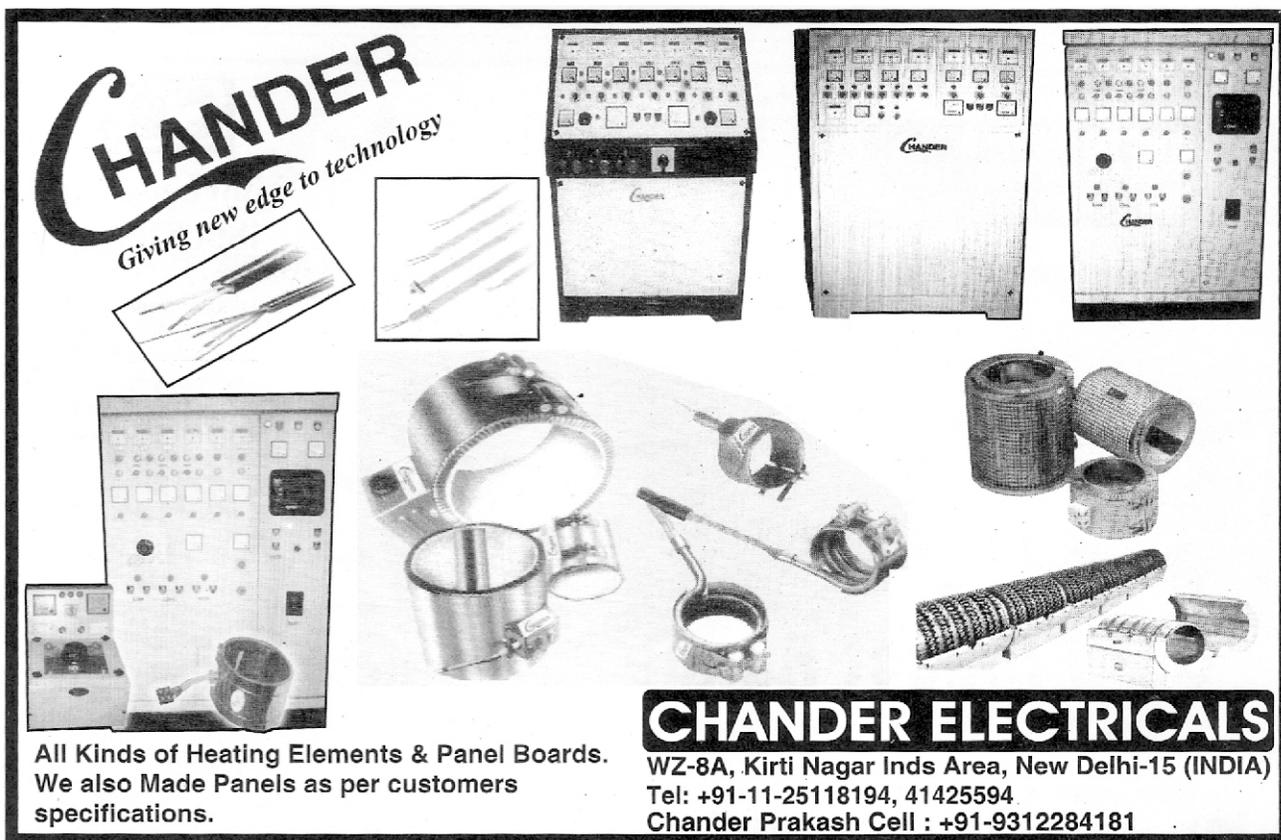
Felicitation and Closing Remarks:

Shri Amrinder Singh Arora announced the **Sponsor Recognition Felicitation**, followed by a vote of thanks to sponsors delivered by **Shri Bhupesh Ralli, Joint Secretary**. The meeting was formally declared closed, with members proceeding for cocktails and dinner.

The event was a great success.



(Brijesh Bhutani)
Hony. General Secretary



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43rd Annual General Body Meeting – 18th December, 2025

SECRETARY'S REPORT on the Activities of the Executive Committee (2023-25) For the Period 2024-25 (till date)

Dear Members

On behalf of the office bearers and all executive committee members, I am pleased to welcome you to the 43rd AGM of our association. It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report of All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA) for the year 2024–25. This year has been one of significant progress, strong representation, and collective resilience for our industry.

The Executive Committee convened on 16 occasions, holding regular monthly meetings where we addressed key issues to improve the plastic industry and serve our members. This year, AIPIA continued to work tirelessly towards strengthening the plastic and packaging sector. Our efforts were focused on policy advocacy, addressing member grievances and enhancing industry knowledge. We appreciate the cooperation extended by our Executive Committee, Members, Industry Partners, and Government Authorities.

Representations & Issues Addressed to Government Authorities

AIPIA has actively engaged with multiple government departments to represent industry concerns. Major issues addressed include:

1. Representations on Plastic Waste, Environment Policy & International Negotiations (INC-5, Busan – November 2025)

The Government of India sought AIPIA's comments for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5) deliberations on plastic waste and global treaty discussions held at Busan, South Korea. AIPIA submitted a comprehensive document addressing environmental concerns, global diversity in waste management capacities, and India's specific challenges.

Key Submissions to Government

- **India generates 25,000–30,000 MT/day of plastic waste, about 50% of which is collected; plastic forms only 8% of MSW.**
- **The core issue is lack of effective collection, not plastic itself.**
- **Emphasis must be placed on consumer behaviour, as pollution occurs *only when the consumer discards irresponsibly.***
- **AIPIA recommended creation of model MRFs, strict ban on open burning, and increased automation for high-quality recovery.**
- **Plastic waste is a valuable resource that can generate thousands of crores annually if properly collected and recycled.**
- **AIPIA strongly opposed unnecessary burden through EPR compliance for MSMEs, advocating elimination of filing requirements for small units.**
- **Advocated for a circular plastic economy, enhancement of recycling quality, and avoidance of raw-material production caps.**
- Submitted practical measures for **ocean and river waste interception**, including nets at tributaries and mandatory compactors on vessels.

2. Plastic Waste Management Rules – Suggestions on Draft Notification (June 2025)

AIPIA welcomed the mandate for **recycled content in packaging** but recommended:

- Development of **simple and low-cost testing methods** to measure recycled content.
- BIS involvement in standardising **recycled material quality** and testing protocols. -
- Standards for **high-quality recycling**, enabling ease of blending with virgin polymers.

3. Electricity Tariff & Regulatory Interventions (DERC)

(a) Request to Accept Udyam/Udyog Registration Instead of Factory Licence

Requested DERC to accept **Udyam/Udyog Registration** as a valid document in place of factory licence for availing tariff benefits—reducing administrative burden on micro & small industries.

(b) Objections to Proposed Tariff Increase

AIPIA highlighted:

- Delhi electricity effective cost exceeds ₹ 14–16 per unit, much higher than neighbouring states.
- Doubling of fixed charges in 2019 has already burdened industry.
- Requested **rollback to ₹ 125/kW fixed charge**.
- Sought a **33% rebate** for plastic processing industries due to heating load characteristics.

4. Environmental Compensation – Removal of MSME Units from CPCB List

AIPIA objected to MSME units being included in CPCB's list of units liable for Environmental Compensation.

Key points submitted:

- Rule 9(2) of PWM Rules clearly **exempts micro & small units from EPR**.
- Most inclusions appear **erroneous and must be withdrawn**.
- Requested immediate removal of MSMEs from the list.

5. MCD Factory Licence Fee Increase – Request for Rollback (13 January 2025)

AIPIA raised strong objections to the **ten-fold hike** in licence fees from ₹ 5/HP to ₹ 50/HP.

Submission included:

- Impact on financially fragile MSMEs.
- Stress on MSME role in national economy and employment generation.
- Request for **immediate rollback to old rates and refund/adjustment** for units that already paid revised fee.

6. Ease of Doing Business – Submission to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi

AIPIA highlighted:

- Urgent need to rationalise electricity tariff and reduce fixed charges.
- Elimination of **redundant factory/trade licences** for units in approved industrial areas.
- Need for single-window simplification since units already hold **GST, property tax and Udyam registrations**.
- Requested a meeting for detailed discussion.

7. Waste Management Project Proposal – Mussoorie

AIPIA, through its associate **Green Planet Waste Management**, submitted a proposal for a **Horticultural/Green Waste Management Facility**, covering:

- Shredding, heating, cyclone-drying and composting systems.
- Complete O&M responsibility by AIPIA.
- Mandatory compost procurement by the authority.
- Request for site visit and technical assessment.

8. International Trade & MSME Export Promotion

(a) Representation to JS-MSME on India–Turkey Collaboration (24 April 2025)

AIPIA highlighted outcomes from Plast Eurasia 2024 and proposed:

- B2B meetings with PAGEV and Turkish manufacturers.
- Cluster visits and industry tours under the **MSME-IC Scheme**.
- Long-term commitment through AIPIA's **three-year agreement** with Plast Eurasia.

(b) Opposition to Anti-Dumping Duty on Titanium Dioxide

Key arguments submitted to Hon'ble Commerce Minister:

- India produces only **10%** of domestic Titanium Dioxide requirement.
- ADD will severely hurt masterbatch & paint MSMEs.
- Risk of shifting demand to **cheaper Chinese masterbatches**, causing closures & job losses.
- Requested **withdrawal of proposed ADD**.

9. EPR Filing Burden – Request for Relief

AIPIA requested CPCB to exempt MSMEs from **invoice-level data uploads**, stating:

- MSMEs already exempt from EPR obligations.
- **Uploading bill-wise data has no environmental impact but incurs severe cost and labour burden.** 10. Representation on Wholesale Price Index & GST on Plastic Machinery (2 July 2025)

Submitted to Ministry of Commerce:

- Plastic consumption increases with GDP growth; India heading toward **third-largest economy by 2030.**
- Requested reduction of **GST on plastic machinery from 18% to 12%** to boost domestic manufacturing.
- Provided inputs for improving the **Input PPI Goods & Services Basket.**

11. Comments on INC (Additional Submissions)

AIPIA submitted a detailed additional note reaffirming:

- Ban/curtailment of hazardous chemicals in plastics.
- BIS-led standards for recycled content measurement.
- River and ocean waste control measures (nets before tributaries, compactors on vessels).
- Request for DCPC–CIPET study on litter-prone vs. durable applications.

12. Representation to Hon’ble CM Haryana

Submission on **additional stamp duty on declaration deeds**, seeking relief for industrial units operating in Haryana.

Conclusion

During the year, AIPIA has been at the forefront of:

- Protecting MSME interests,
- Engaging with national regulators (CPCB, DERC, MCD, MoEFCC, MoMSME, MoC),
- Supporting sustainable waste-management initiatives,
- Facilitating global business opportunities, and
- Ensuring competitive industrial growth.

AIPIA remains committed to working collaboratively with Central and State governments for the progress of the plastics sector and the MSME community.

Members of the association participate in Exhibitions/seminars/meetings concerning the industry convened by State/Central Government Departments and Industry associations. I mention below some of these:

Date	Exhibitions/Seminars/Events/Meeting Attended by AIPIA Members
10 th November,2024	The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) initiated an anti-dumping investigation on calcium carbonate filler masterbatch imported from Vietnam. This material, used extensively in the plastic industry, is suspected of being sold at lower-than-normal value in India, impacting the domestic market adversely. The investigation period for examining dumping is from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, with an injury assessment spanning from 2020 to 2023. AIPIA participated in a meeting.
24 th February, 2025	A meeting was conducted by CPCB in virtual mode under the Chairmanship of Ms Divya Sinha on 24 th February, 2025 with the Industrial Associations regarding onboarding the users on EPR Portal with enhanced security features. Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron and Shri Bhupesh Ralli, Joint Secretary attended the meeting.
9-12 May, 2025	8th edition of Plastasia, organized by Triune Exhibitors in association with the Plastics Machinery Manufacturers Association of India (PMMAI) took place from May 9-12, 2025, at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru. AIPIA supported and participated in this show.
13 th June, 2025	A stakeholder consultation meeting was held on 13th June, 2025 at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Dilip Kumar Sinha, DDG, DPIIT regarding consultations on the manufacturing item basket of WPI 2022-23 . On behalf of AIPIA, Ms. Kavita Roy Secretary General attended the meeting.

18th -19th September, 2025	6th Global Sustainability Summit & Expo Organized by the MSME Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India on 18th & 19th September 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron–AIPIA, was felicitated at the event and he was also one of the speakers in this prestigious summit. The event witnessed participation from several AIPIA members. Extract of the paper will be reproduced in the next issue.
20th September, 2025	Launch Function of PLASTINDIA 2026 was held on 20 th September, 2025 at Convention Hall, The Ashok, New Delhi. The event was graced by Smt. Rekha Gupta-CM Delhi. AIPIA members also actively participated in this important industry gathering.
10-13 December, 2025	2nd IntraPac India organized by IPAMA was held from 10-13 December, 2025 in Greater Noida. For the betterment of packaging industry, our Association supported this show as the Industry Partner. Shri Devinder Pal Singh, President and Shri Brijesh Bhutani, General Secretary were honored by team IPAMA during the inaugural ceremony of the show.

AIPIA's Activities:

- AIPIA delegation to PLAST EURASIA-ISTANBUL (04-07 December, 2024)
A business delegation comprising 20 members and 1 office bearer participated in Plast Eurasia Istanbul, held at Tuyap Fair, Istanbul, Turkey, from 4th to 7th December, 2024. This initiative was part of the International Cooperation (IC) scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India.
- **FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION**
For the financial year **2024–25 (till date)**, the Association's funds stand at approximately **₹ 5,00,000/-** in the savings account balances. These funds have been raised through new membership enrolments, participation in exhibitions, sponsorships, and advertisements.
We have successfully **purchased a new office** in the same corridor. We request all members to kindly extend their financial support towards this significant milestone. We also welcome you to visit the new office at your convenience.
- **PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:**
The Association continues to publish its **Directory** and **Monthly Journal**. I request all members to consider placing advertisements in both publications to strengthen the Association's financial resources and support its activities.
- **Plastic World Directory – 2026**
 - The new edition for Plastic World-2026 will be launched shortly.
 - Invited members to update details and book advertising space.

Circulars & Notifications

- **Regular updates on government circulars, notifications, policy changes, and compliance requirements.**

Social Media & Public Engagement

- **Enhanced presence on WhatsApp Groups, and email communications.**

I once again thank the Office Bearers, Executive Committee Members, staff, and all our esteemed members for their valuable guidance and support. Together, we will continue to work towards the growth, progress, and success of our industry.

Thanking you,



(Brijesh Bhutani) Hony. General Secretary

**Resolution Approved by the Executive Committee of the
All India Plastic Industries**

Association (AIPIA) in its meeting dated 11th August 2025 to Amend the Rules and Regulations of AIPIA regarding the composition of the Executive Committee

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA) has reviewed the current provisions of the Rules and Regulations concerning the structure and number of office bearers and elected members;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to amend the said provisions in order to streamline the functioning and structure of the Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the following amendments be made to the existing clause of the **Rules and Regulations of AIPIA** regarding the composition of the Executive Committee:

1. **Removal of Posts:**

- The posts of **one (1) Vice Presidents** out of the existing two (2) shall be removed. ? The post of **one (1) Joint Secretary** out of the existing two (2) shall be removed.

2. **Revised Composition:**

- The Executive Committee shall consist of a **minimum of seven (7)** and a **maximum of twenty-two (22)** elected members, including the following office bearers:
 - **The President** ● **The Senior Vice President** ● **The Vice President** ● **The General Secretary** ● **The Joint Secretary** ● **The Treasurer** ● **The Organizing Secretary**

RESOLVED FURTHER that this amendment shall come into force with immediate effect upon approval by the General Body, as required under the Rules and Regulations of AIPIA.

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PLASTIC WORLD DIRECTORY – 2026

All India Plastic Industries Association (AIPIA) invites you to **book your advertisement space** in the upcoming **Members' Directory –**

Plastic World Directory 2026

Showcase your products, services, and brand to a highly targeted and influential audience across the plastic industry.

Limited slots available.

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For bookings and details, please contact AIPIA Office:

Phone: 011-49064336 Mobile : 8527606500

Email: aipiadelhi@gmail.com, aipia1982@rediffmail.com



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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
4C, Bigjo's Tower, Netaji Subhash Place
Pitampura, Delhi-110034
Ph: 011- 45058028
Email: admin@sureshassociates.in

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the **Members** of **ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION**

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **M/s. ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION ('Association')**, having Registered office at **203 Hansa Tower, 25 Central Market Ashok Vihar, Delhi-110052, PAN: AAAAA0915D** which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2025, and the Income and expenditure Statement, Receipt and Payment Account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India of the state of affairs of the Association as at March 31, 2025, its income over expenditure and Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on that date.

We also report that:

- We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Association so far as it appears from our examination of those books.
- The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Receipt and Payment account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.

For **Suresh & Associates**

Chartered Accountants

Firm's registration number - 003316N

(CA Narendra K. Arora)
Partner

Membership No. 088256

Date : 10.11.2025

Place : New Delhi

UDIN: 25088256BMKTBN1141



ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
203 HANSA TOWER, 25 CENTRAL MARKET ASHOK VIHAR DELHI-110052

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

PREVIOUS YEAR	LIABILITIES	SCH NO.	CURRENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR	A S S E T S	SCH NO.	CURRENT YEAR
(Amount in Rs.)							
	<u>CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT</u>				<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	3	253,396
(577,709)	Opening Balance		102,488	304,976			
630,197	Less: Excess of Income over Expenditure		35,934	4,111,668	<u>INVESTMENTS</u>	4	3,991,555
102,488			138,421				
5,935,050	<u>LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND</u>		6,333,050	898,179	<u>LOANS AND ADVANCES</u>	5	1,132,029
	<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS</u>				<u>CASH AND BANK BALANCES</u>		
36,207	a) Current Liabilities	1	17,720	575,050	a) Balance with Bank		7,750,900
	Creditors		6,581,815		Bank of India		
	Exhibition subsidy payable	2	253,561	77,959	State Bank of India		51,430
380,684	b) Provisions			435,302	Yes Bank		133,955
				51,295	b) Cash in hand		11,304
6,454,429			13,324,568	6,454,429			13,324,568

AUDITOR'S REPORT
AS PER OUR SEPARATE REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED
for SURESH & ASSOCIATES
FRN : 003316N



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
[Signature]
[CA NARENDRA K. ARORA]
PARTNER

M. NO. 088256
DATE 10 NOV 2025
PLACE : DELHI
UDIN : 250882568MKT0N1141

FOR ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

[Signature]
(DEVINDER PAL SINGH) (BRIJESH BHUTANI) (BHUPESH RALLI)
PRESIDENT SECRETARY JT SECRETARY

ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
203 HANSA TOWER, 25 CENTRAL MARKET, ASHOK VIHAR DELHI-110052

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

(Amount in Rs.)

PREVIOUS YEAR	EXPENDITURE	CURRENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR	INCOME	CURRENT YEAR
	5,242 Advertisement & Publicity	-	3,000	Annual Subscription FY 2022-23	-
691,312	Annual General Meeting Expenses	678,318	123,500	Annual Subscription FY 2023-24	6,000
10,000	Audit Fees	20000	15,400	Annual Subscription FY 2023-28	-
4,185	Bank Charges	225	-	Annual Subscription FY 2024-25	141,000
2,250	Books and Periodicals	2,565		Membership subscription 2023-2028	61,600
10,712	Circular & Photostate Expenses	8,087		Membership subscription 2024-2029	79,000
12,313	Computer Repair Expenses	12,440	3,500	Admission Fees	-
23,485	Conveyance	18,640	1,566,621	Advertisement Income	847,621
48,489	Depreciation	51,580	322,117	Interest Income from bank	428,192
46,710	Electricity Expenses	56,846	1,270	Magazine Subscription	1,312
26,929	Entertainment Expenses	22,138	402,900	Exhibition Income	315,000
542,938	Exhibition Expenses	511,101	890,000	Sponsorship Income	1,041,000
24,072	Fees and Subscription	-	900,000	Exhibition Subsidy	700,000
62,299	Festival Expenses	74,462	-	Interplas 2023 Income	33,000
5,000	Ground Rent	5,000	-	Misc Income	23,810
1,365	Insurance Expenses	-	-	Round off	1
2,490	Interest On TDS	-			
50,428	Legal & Professional Expenses	51,600			
721,660	Magazine & Directory Charges	492,998			
5,900	Membership Fee	500			
1,350	Misc. Expenses	262			
16,831	Motorcycle Repairs & Maintenance	42,164			
23,761	Office Expenses	40,748			
172,054	Postage and Courier Charges	174,061			
38,107	Printing & Stationery	23,364			
12,234	Property Tax	10,942			
969,830	Salary and Wages	1,195,470			
40,205	Staff Welfare Expenses	44,039			
17,351	Telephone Expenses	21,608			
5,975	Previous Year Tax	82,444			
2,634	Roundoff	-			
630,197	Excess of Income over Expenditure	35,934			
<u>4,228,308</u>		<u>3,677,536</u>	<u>4,228,308</u>		<u>3,677,536</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT

AS PER OUR SEPARATE REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED
for SURESH & ASSOCIATES

FRN :003316N

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

[CA NARENDRA K. ARORA]
PARTNER

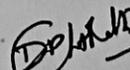
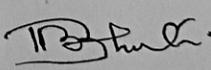
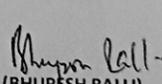
M. NO. 088256

DATE : 10 NOV 2025

PLACE : DELHI

UDIN : 25088256BMKTBNI141

FOR ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION




 (DEVINDER PAL SINGH) (BRIJESH BHUTANI) (BHUPESH RALLI)
 PRESIDENT SECRETARY JT. SECRETARY



ALL INDIA PLASTIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

(Amount in Rs.)

PREVIOUS YEAR	EXPENDITURE	CURRENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR	INCOME	CURRENT YEAR
		-	5,000	Annual Subscription FY 2023-28	
678,318	Annual General Meeting Expenses	600,000	141000	Annual Subscription FY 2024-25	
20,000	Audit Fees	20,000	61,600	Annual Subscription FY 2025-26	450,000
225	Bank Charges	500	79,000	Annual Subscription FY 2024-29	131,000
2,565	Books and Periodicals	3,000	1,000	Admission Fees	15,000
8,087	Circular & Photostate Expenses	8,500	847,621	Advertisement Income	1,880,000
12,440	Computer Repair Expenses	15,000	428,192	Interest Income from bank	400,000
18,640	Conveyance	20,000	1,312	Magazine Subscription	15,000
51,580	Depreciation	50,000	315,000	Exhibition Income	
56,846	Electricity Expenses	59,500	1,041,000	Sponsorship Income	800,000
22,138	Entertainment Expenses	25,000	700,000	Exhibition Subsidy	
511,101	Exhibition Expenses	30,000	33,000	interplas 2023	
-	Fees and Subscription		-		
74,462	Festival Expenses	80,000	23,810	Misc Income	25,000
5,000	Ground Rent	5,000	1	Round off	-
	Insurance Expenses				
	Interest On TDS				
51,600	Legal & Professional Expenses	52000			
492,998	Magazine & Directory Charges	1100000			
500	Membership Fee	1000			
262	Misc.Expenses	500			
42,164	Motorcycle Repairs & Maintenance	45000			
40,748	Office Expenses	43000			
174,061	Postage and Courier Charges	180000			
23,364	Printing & Stationery	25000			
10,942	Property Tax	12000			
1,195,470	Salary and Wages	1200000			
44,039	Staff Welfare Expenses	46000			
21,608	Telephone Expenses	25000			
82,444	Previous Year Tax Roundoff	30000			
35,934	Excess of Income over Expenditure	40,000			
3,677,536		3,716,000	3,677,536		3,716,000

Environmental concerns, greenwashing, and India's plastic waste management

By: Nimit Aggarwal, Founder of EcoEx.

India faces significant plastic pollution, with greenwashing misleading consumers about sustainability. While government initiatives exist, false claims hinder progress. Technology, stricter audits, and consumer education are vital to achieving genuine waste management and sustainability goals

Environmental concerns, particularly plastic pollution and sustainability, have gained significant attention in India, especially among younger consumers. The increasing demand for eco-friendly products has encouraged companies to promote sustainability initiatives. However, not all businesses adopt genuinely environmentally friendly practices. Some engage in greenwashing — misleading consumers with exaggerated or false claims about their sustainability efforts. This tactic allows companies to capitalise on the sustainability movement without making meaningful contributions to reducing plastic waste.

India produces approximately **10.2 million tonnes** of plastic waste each year. However, only **60%** of this is recycled. The rest of the plastic waste is either burned or disposed of in landfills. Despite government initiatives to curb plastic pollution, false claims hinder real progress.

False Claims about Plastic Waste Reduction

Greenwashing is prevalent in the plastic waste management industry. It can take many forms, such as misleading product labels and exaggerated recycling statistics. Terms like 'biodegradable', 'compostable', or 'degradable' are often used without proper certification, leading consumers to believe their plastic waste decomposes naturally. In reality, many so-called 'biodegradable' materials require industrial conditions to decompose, which are not available in India's waste disposal infrastructure.

Another common tactic is overstating recycling rates, which are not verifiable. Some companies promote partial sustainability measures, like reducing plastic packaging, while continuing harmful waste practices in other parts of their supply chain. These deceptive tactics create a false sense of progress and hinder genuine improvements in plastic waste management.

Greenwashing and India's Sustainability Goals

India has implemented several policies aimed at addressing plastic waste, including the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2022, and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. These initiatives are designed to create a sustainable circular economy through waste reduction, recycling, and producer accountability. However, greenwashing undermines these efforts by reducing corporate responsibility, misleading consumers, and discouraging investments in effective waste management.

False corporate claims of plastic waste reduction divert attention from critical issues. Companies focus on superficial marketing campaigns that create the illusion of being environmentally responsible rather than investing in sustainable production and recycling infrastructure. This misleading practice causes consumers to believe they are making environmentally friendly choices, reducing public pressure on companies to adopt real solutions.

India's Plastic Waste Management Framework: Challenges and Gaps

A major issue is the absence of an auditing system to verify sustainability claims. Many businesses report compliance on paper without taking significant steps to manage plastic waste. Companies can exploit loopholes in the compliance tracking system to manipulate data, ensuring no environmental impact while meeting regulatory requirements.

Another challenge is the lack of consumer awareness. Consumers often trust sustainability claims without verifying their authenticity, making it easier for businesses to greenwash. Additionally, regulatory bodies lack the resources to enforce compliance effectively.

Impact on India's Sustainability Goals

Businesses that mislead customers with false claims divert resources and attention away from effective waste management. Companies continue using conventional plastic production techniques instead of investing in sustainable packaging and recycling infrastructure.

Misinformation also plays a significant role. Consumers misled into believing they are making environmentally friendly choices are less likely to demand stricter regulations or corporate accountability. This lack of pressure allows companies to persist with unsustainable practices, facing no consequences.

Regulatory agencies struggle to enforce EPR due to the lack of transparency in reporting waste management. Without strict enforcement, companies manipulate data and produce misleading sustainability reports. Ineffective recycling leads to more plastic pollution, as waste that is falsely advertised as recyclable or biodegradable ends up in landfills and water bodies, causing severe environmental damage.

Technology-Driven Solutions to Combat Greenwashing in Plastic Waste Management

Technology can revolutionise plastic waste management by adding much-needed transparency, traceability, and accountability, combating greenwashing.

Blockchain-based systems are a promising solution. These platforms help trace plastic waste across the value chain — from collection to recycling and credit generation. Blockchain can time-stamp and geo-tag every transaction, creating tamper-proof records and allowing stakeholders, from regulatory bodies to consumers, to access real-time evidence of sustainability claims.

Advertisement

AI and machine learning tools are increasingly used to analyse patterns in waste management data, particularly for EPR compliance. These technologies can detect irregularities or inconsistencies in the data, such as missing geo-coordinates, inflated recycling volumes, or duplicate entries.

Digital compliance dashboards and automated reporting tools also help address enforcement gaps. For producers and brand owners participating in India's EPR framework, automated platforms can track credit issuances, material recovery reports, and recycler certifications in real-time, improving transparency in sustainability disclosures and aiding compliance determination.

Technology can also assist consumers in making informed decisions by ensuring sustainability data is more accessible and verifiable. For instance, verified information on recycled content, material sources, and waste offsetting can be accessed through mobile apps and QR code-linked product labels. According to PwC's 2024 **Voice of the Consumer Survey**, consumers are willing to pay an average premium of 9.7% for products that are sustainably produced or sourced, despite ongoing concerns around inflation and the rising cost of living.

Strengthening the EPR Framework to Prevent Greenwashing

Companies making false sustainability claims should face strict penalties. Third-party audits by independent bodies can verify compliance with plastic waste management regulations, ensuring transparency in corporate sustainability efforts. Transparency in the trading of EPR certificates is also crucial. All EPR certificate transactions should be publicly disclosed to prevent fraud.

Educating consumers on recognising genuine sustainability claims is key to reducing deceptive marketing. By raising awareness, consumers will demand true environmental responsibility from businesses.

Through the implementation of stricter audits, better data tracking, and consumer education, India can establish a more transparent and effective plastic waste management system. These steps will help the country meet its sustainability goals and combat the greenwashing that undermines progress.

News Concerning Plastics

Driving the Circular economy: Role of AI and emerging technologies

The fourth revolution is here, and it is a technology-led wave of change. A shift in how we understand and live life, how data and digitization have changed the working world, the economy, politics, geopolitics, as well as our day-to-day life. In recent years, a key pillar of this change has been led by generative Artificial intelligence (AI). AI has been making everyday tasks simpler through understanding and innovation, which is a result of extensive machine learning and training these large-scale and small-scale models.

The use of AI also spans beyond professional efficiency, and despite connotations around how artificial intelligence applications can be largely energy intensive, when used in the right way it can be deeply transformative. One major use case for this is that of waste management and circular economy.

If technology-led innovations were purely conceptualised to solve human problems waste management would be extremely crucial. Waste has been a pertinent human as well as cultural issue with serious implications on health and wellbeing, a threat to the marine ecosystem, land and soil pollution, among other effects. AI also tracks waste flows, promoting reuse and eco-friendly alternatives. Real-world examples from Indian states showcase these advancements. AI is crucial for a sustainable, lowcarbon future.

While waste management startups, and government programs like the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan have mobilized the waste ecosystem, AI has the potential to transform the entire waste landscape. Reimagining the use of AI towards smart waste management with the aim of closing the loop towards a circular economy can make change the way waste management and recycling systems operate, making them smarter, more efficient, and more sustainable.

One of the most impactful applications of AI lies in smart waste sorting through machine learning, and track recycling performance. Advanced computer vision and robotics are now capable of identifying and separating waste types with high accuracy, minimizing human error and significantly improving recycling efficiency. This allows for better recovery of valuable materials such as plastics, metals, and paper, while also reducing contamination in recycling streams. AI powered robots can adapt to complex and mixed waste inputs, ensuring that even difficult-to-sort materials can be processed effectively. They can even recommend process adjustments to maximize resource recovery. This not only increases the quantity of materials recycled but also helps in a quality check, creating higher-value outputs for industries that rely on recycled raw materials.

Another development is predictive waste management. AI systems can analyse patterns of waste generation in real time, helping municipalities and businesses anticipate collection needs and optimize logistics. This reduces unnecessary trips, cuts fuel consumption, and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. In urban settings, AI-enabled smart bins equipped with sensors can detect fill levels and automatically alert collection services, ensure timely pickups while avoiding overflow and littering.

Even at the household level, AI is beginning to influence waste processing. In Bengaluru, for example, an AI-powered robot has been introduced to process wet waste at the household level, converting organic matter into compost and significantly reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills. Such innovations highlight how AI can decentralize waste management, empowering citizens to actively contribute to sustainability efforts.

In industrial and municipal contexts, AI tools are supporting circular economy models by tracking waste flows, identifying opportunities for reuse, and recommending eco-friendly alternatives. For instance, AI can suggest ways to reduce single-use packaging, optimize supply chains for minimal waste, or design products that are easier to recycle. These solutions are not limited to recycling but extend to prevention, reuse, and the creation of closed-loop systems that minimize environmental impacts.

AI is also proving valuable for monitoring of environmental parameters linked to waste management. By analysing satellite images, IoT data, and waste processing metrics, AI can provide insights into landfill emissions,

illegal dumping activities, and long-term waste management risks. This can also be useful in regulatory compliance for businesses of varied scale – AI can facilitate better tracking and monitoring for regulations like Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) among other evolving requirements.

Real-life examples have also been seen in Indian states like Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. Meghalaya government's Smart Village Initiative has deployed an AI-enabled robotic boat to collect floating plastic waste in marine bodies. In Madurai, the municipal corporation conducted a pilot, wherein AI-powered cameras were installed to monitor garbage disposal and illegal dumping with alerts being generated for overflowing bins. Vishakhapatnam and Varanasi saw AI analytics being implemented for littering and overflowing bins, in tandem with CCTV sensors. Thiruvananthapuram government has implemented a solid waste management project involving sensor- based bins, automatic baling and recycling stations enabled through smart systems.

In Pune and Bengaluru, a mix of companies and civic initiatives are also using technology and AI to modernize waste management. Pune has efforts like the Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative, which uses GPS-enabled vehicles and citizen apps, and startups which apply digital platforms and recycling innovations. The city has also piloted machines for contactless waste picking and supported large-scale e-waste collection drives. In Bengaluru, technology-driven efforts include AI Smart Bins, which deploy IoT-enabled bins, GPS tracking, and data-driven monitoring to optimize waste collection. The Bengaluru municipality has also integrated smart systems such as QR-coded pickups, GPS-linked autotippers, and dashboards for civic monitoring.

Outside India, smart bins embedded with sensors and AI have been shown to cut operational costs and optimize waste collection routes, while predictive AI analytics in waste operations can reduce downtime in processing systems as well. Waste, emanating from lifestyle and livelihood automatically makes waste-management a non-negotiable need at all levels of urban and rural governance. As we aim to transition into a low-carbon economy, new technologies for circular solutions and a cradle-to-cradle approach are also necessary. As artificial intelligence can enable waste management on an every-day basis, it can also help in organizational processes like life cycle analysis and understand the granularities of product sustainability.

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

HMEL to invest Rs 2,600 cr in Bathinda refinery expansion

HPCL Mittal Energy Limited (HMEL) will invest Rs 2,600 crore to expand operations at its Guru Gobind Singh Refinery in Bathinda, setting up polypropylene downstream units and fine chemical projects, the firm said on 23rd December, 2025.

HMEL Managing Director and CEO Prabh Das said apart from producing fuels such as petrol, diesel and gas, the refinery is now planning to further expand industrial activities through fine chemical projects in Bathinda. Das said the refinery has positioned Punjab as a key polypropylene manufacturing hub, meeting nearly 14 per cent of India's total polypropylene demand. He added that the refinery has operated without interruption for several years and that HMEL now plans to broaden its industrial footprint beyond fuels into fine chemicals. The refinery, commissioned in 2011 and spread across about 2,000 acres, generates an annual turnover of around Rs 90,000 crore. It contributes approximately Rs 2,100 crore annually to the state exchequer and accounts for 5-6 per cent of India's petrol and diesel production.

HMEL is now making "new investment of Rs 2,600 crore in polypropylene downstream and fine chemical projects to boost industrial growth in Punjab," the company said in a statement.

The fresh investment is expected to generate additional employment. The Punjab government is considering developing a dedicated plastic industrial park near Ludhiana to strengthen the state's plastics manufacturing ecosystem.

The statement quoted Punjab's Minister of Industry & Commerce Sanjeev Arora as assuring HMEL of time-bound approvals for the expansion and said the company plans to set up petrol pumps across Punjab, with

licences now being issued within two days. Future outlets will include multi-fuel stations offering petrol, diesel, CNG and electric vehicle charging.

Arora said the investment would spur growth in refinery-linked industries across Punjab and added that the state's push in renewable energy would further enhance industrial competitiveness.

KSPCB initiates task force to control single-use plastic in Mysuru

Mysuru: The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has initiated measures to form a district-level Special Task Force to control the use of single-use plastic in the district.

The task force, involving marshals and teams, will be entrusted with the responsibility of putting a full stop to the sale, storage, and transportation of single-use plastics and its products in the district. The task force will also monitor manufacturing units, warehouses, and sales outlets.

Officials conducted a special drive along with city corporation officials and raided 5,000 shops within its limits, seizing 26,000 tons of single-use plastic materials. They also recovered a penalty of Rs 26 lakh from them in the district.

As chief minister Siddaramaiah has given directions to the district administration to free his home district from the harmful plastic menace, the state pollution control board has initiated measures following the orders from environment and ecology minister Eshwar Khandre in this regard.

The minister not only gave directions to all district administrations and KSPCB officials but also to the districtlevel task force to prepare a comprehensive action plan for the elimination of single-use plastic and for the effective implementation of plastic waste management rules 2016.

The district-level task force will be headed by the deputy commissioner, involving KSPCB officials, the MCC commissioner, and all urban local bodies' chief administrative officers as members. The zilla panchayat will take care of dealing with single-use plastic in rural areas. The rural areas task force will be headed by the ZP CEO and will be monitored through the rural drinking water and sanitation wing.

The department of forest, environment, and ecology has prohibited the sale and use of all types of plastic carry bags below 50 microns, plastic banners below 120 microns, bunting and flex, plastic flags, plastic plates, cups, spoons, spread on dining tables, and thermocol products across the state.

Speaking to TOI, KSPCB district officer Kumar said that the board has made all preparations for the constitution of the district-level force headed by the deputy commissioner in the district and the ZP CEO level for rural areas. "The task force will work independently and will be formed in one month. The task force will also spread awareness and sensitise the public. The board has written a letter to its higher-ups regarding the constitution of the district-level task force," he said.

(Source: TNN, 22nd December, 2025)

Bokaro Cracks Down on Single-Use Plastic: Rs 48,000 Fines Imposed in Chas

Bokaro: To enforce the ban on single-use plastic and other prohibited materials, the Chas Municipal Corporation (CMC) on Monday carried out an enforcement drive across key commercial hubs and imposed hefty fines. The surprise crackdown was conducted across dozens of shops in the market committee area and around Jodhadih More during which several establishments were found vending single-use plastic and other restricted items.

Fines totalling Rs 48,000 were imposed and recovered from the offending outlets, officials said. The drive was led by assistant municipal commissioner Smita Kiran.

(Source: TNN, Dec 29, 2025)

Plastindia Foundation Holds Roadshow For PLASTINDIA 2026 In Ahmedabad

The Plastindia Foundation on Wednesday, 17th December, 2025 held a roadshow for PLASTINDIA 2026 in Ahmedabad, bringing together stakeholders from Gujarat's plastics and manufacturing sector to outline the industry's growth outlook. The 'Bharat Next' roadmap, targeting a national plastics industry valuation of \$50 billion by 2026, was also unveiled on the occasion.

The roadshow, organised in the run-up to PLASTINDIA 2026 scheduled to be held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from February 5 to 10, was attended by senior industry leaders and policymakers. The event was organised in partnership with the Gujarat State Plastic Manufacturers' Association. Gujarat's role as a major contributor to India's plastics production, processing, and exports was a central focus of the discussions, with emphasis on the state's integrated petrochemical base and established manufacturing clusters.

Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi was the Chief Guest on the occasion, while Mamta Verma, Principal Secretary of Industry and Mines Department, was the Guest of Honour.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Harsh Sanghavi said, "PLASTINDIA 2026 marks an important milestone, not only in terms of scale and participation, but also in its emphasis on responsibility and sustainability. Exhibitions are often measured by numbers, but it is encouraging to see a strong focus on recycling and other planned initiatives during the event."

"The plastics industry market is nearly Rs. 4 lakh crore and provides employment to lakhs of people. It is among the few sectors witnessing sustained growth, with significant opportunities. Gujarat offers a conducive environment for such growth, with assured policy support, investment safety, and long-term returns. The state provides access to raw materials, strong port connectivity, and industry-friendly policies. With Gujarat accounting for over 40% share of the plastics sector, I encourage industry players to consider integrated industrial parks in the state, where the government will extend all necessary support," he added. India's plastics sector has grown steadily over the past decade, expanding from approximately \$15 billion in 2010 to over \$37 billion in 2023. Exports currently stand at around \$10 billion and are projected to reach \$15 billion by 2026. The roadshow positioned PLASTINDIA 2026 as a key meeting ground for manufacturers, processors, technology providers, and buyers from India and overseas.

Speaking on the occasion, Ravish Kamath, President of the PlastIndia Foundation, said, "The Indian economy is on course to reach \$30 trillion by 2047. The plastics sector will be a primary engine of this growth. Gujarat, with its highly developed petrochemical infrastructure and processing capabilities in hubs like Rajkot, Halol, and Vapi, is uniquely positioned to capitalise on this expansion. PLASTINDIA 2026 is the gateway for Gujarat's manufacturers to secure global contracts and technology partnerships."

Alok Tibrewala, Chairman of the National Executive Council of PlastIndia Foundation, said, "The global supply chain is realigning, and the world is looking at India for reliable, high-quality manufacturing. With 2000+ exhibitors and over 6 lakh visitors, PLASTINDIA 2026 offers the scale to demonstrate that Indian manufacturers are ready to meet global demand. For Gujarat's industrialists, it is the place to be to transition from local dominance to global leadership."

The roadshow highlighted emerging demand across segments such as packaging, consumer products, infrastructure, and recycling. Sustainability and circular economy practices were discussed as areas of growing focus, particularly in light of India's expanding waste management and recycling markets, where Gujarat accounts for a significant share of national capacity.

PLASTINDIA 2026 is expected to host exhibitors and visitors from across the world, covering the full value chain of the plastics industry. The exhibition will feature machinery, raw materials, finished products, and processing solutions, alongside knowledge sessions and business interactions aimed at supporting trade, investment, and collaboration.

Flexible packaging material innovation: Creating a stronger recycling ecosystem

New flexible packaging films have a unique combination of performance, durability and easy scalability to help strengthen the broader recycling ecosystem, paving the way for stronger, cleaner closed-loop recycling.

Increasingly sophisticated, new-generation flexible packaging films have greatly advanced in recyclability.

New breakthroughs in material science and process engineering have advanced recyclability to make them a packaging option with enhanced recyclability and renewable content. This helps reduce permanent waste and strengthen closed-loop recycling systems.

However, with the abundance of films available, it's important to take a closer look at a product's entire lifecycle to ensure the packaging material helps improve recycling rates and strengthens the recycling ecosystem.

The material lifecycle: From sourcing to end-of-life management

As the accumulation of plastic pollution continues to drive demand for packaging with specific environmental attributes, such as biobased content and recyclability, quality material combined with technical innovation are essential factors to consider.

To boost the recycling ecosystem, it's important to understand a product's entire lifecycle from sourcing and design to end-of-life management.

Material sourcing: Consider biobased and postconsumer recycled content

To move away from traditional polyethylene (PE), which relies on fossil fuels, biobased plastic films quickly have become a favorable option with enhanced renewable content. Made from raw plant materials, including sugarcane, corn and potatoes, they have similar properties to traditional plastics, making them easy to incorporate.

Carbohydrate-based plants often are ideal because they are extremely renewable and cost-effective as opposed to finite fossil fuels. Replacing petroleum feedstocks with renewable options like sugarcane also directly cuts packaging's carbon footprint at the material level.

Braskem's published LCAs show its sugarcane-based PE delivers a net negative carbon footprint due to biogenic carbon uptake. The study found that its biobased high-density polyethylene (HDPE) provides a net benefit of -5 kg CO₂e per kg, EVA provides -4.5 kg CO₂e per kg and PE WAX provides -4.7 kg CO₂e per kg compared with fossil-based alternatives. Packaging products that contain more than 25 percent biobased content also can use the U.S. Department of Agriculture-certified biobased logo.

Packaging sourced from postconsumer recycled (PCR) content is also a consideration with improved recyclability and closed-loop potential. Sometimes, these are sourced from ocean bound plastic (OBP) to minimize material that would end up in a waterway and eventually in the ocean. OBP is abandoned plastic located within 50 kilometers from ocean shores where waste management is insufficient or unavailable. This process still helps lower a company's carbon footprint and can be combined with biobased resins.

Design approach: Consider monomaterial packaging for recycling ease

To significantly improve recycling rates, packaging must be designed with recyclability in mind, and the key is to work with current recycling infrastructures.

Historically, all films, not just biobased, were laminated to achieve performance, and biobased PE is relatively new to the market. Traditional PE products often had a weak protective barrier and were difficult to recycle due to the different materials. Mixed materials require a complicated separation system which often is too expensive or difficult for recycling centers to handle.

Furthermore, if materials remain mixed, they contaminate each other easily, lowering both the quality and value of the recycled material and often rendering it unusable. In turn, a significant amount of mixed-material packaging can end up in landfills, defeating the purpose of a closed-loop packaging solution.

To solve recycling contamination issues, monomaterial films became a breakthrough in material innovation for food pouches in 2016. Monomaterial is a product composed of only one type of resin, eliminating the need for a complicated sorting and separation process. Recycling monomaterial biobased films not only is efficient but also boasts an extraordinarily low carbon footprint. This leads to higher quality and recycling rates while significantly reducing the chances of products ending up in a landfill.

End-of-Life Management

Lastly, understanding how to handle flexible packaging after its primary use is essential to truly close the loop and create a stronger recycling ecosystem.

If packaging cannot be properly recycled or reused, it will add to the world's pollution problem. PE films typically are collected through store drop-offs since they are processed differently than curbside collected materials. Look for the How2Recycle label for guidance. It communicates preparation instructions along with location details and material components to make the process user friendly. Store drop-off enables films to be collected and sent to specific recycling facilities that specialize in processing flexible plastic films. Once received, they are cleaned, **melted** and turned into plastic resin pellets that are then used to manufacture roll stock in order to create new products.

Characteristics of new-generation store drop-off recyclable films

When looking to upgrade to a packaging option with enhanced recyclability and renewable content, opt for the latest material innovation advancements.

Pioneers in the biobased and recycled-content resin packaging industry like Sugar Land, Texas-based Accredo Packaging are leading the movement to help foster a stronger recycling ecosystem.

New, high-performing monomaterial flexible films are designed from the inside out, using optimized layer balance and compatibilizer placement to ensure the structure offers improved recyclability and biobased content without sacrificing performance or quality. Designs that encompass this material innovation integrate a barrier layer as a standard feature with a compatibilizer that enables the barrier film to remain processable with mainstream PE recycling streams. This chemistry improves polymer flow, dispersion and stability, resulting in increased toughness, **clarity** and runnability compared with other monomaterial films on the market.

When evaluating recycling capabilities, verify the product meets the Washington-based Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) design guidance. This ensures it meets the industry-accepted criteria that aligns with North American recycling systems and also helps avoid contamination from mixed materials and integrates seamlessly into existing recycling infrastructures.

Partner with an environmentally focused packaging provider

Upgrading flexible packaging films doesn't have to be an expensive process. Partner with a provider that can run new products efficiently on existing form-fill-seal and pouch-making lines. This enables brands to adopt packaging with closed-loop potential without new capital investment or slower line speeds.

Beyond material innovation, opt for a provider that operates their own processes with environmental responsibility in mind. Leaders in the industry analyze, **assess** and optimize all processes, from the procurement of materials to energy usage and waste management, to reduce their own environmental impact. As a result, the entire packaging process has a greatly reduced carbon footprint, even when manufactured to the same specifications as conventional plants.

New-generation flexible packaging films have a unique combination of barrier performance, durability and easy scalability to help strengthen the broader recycling ecosystem. This advancement in material innovation is paving the way for a stronger, cleaner and truly closed-loop recycling ecosystem.

(Source: Recycling Today; 27th November, 2025)

Amcor lends support to Danish plastic recycling project

Participants say the project has the potential to contribute significantly to the implementation of a circular plastic economy in Denmark.

Global packaging producer Amcor PLC, Zurich, recently announced its support of a three-year plastic recycling project led by the **Danish Technological Institute**.

The co-funded partnership, Circular Recycling Innovation for Sustainable Packaging (CRISP) aims to establish the full-scale circular recycling of food packaging in polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP) rigid plastics from household collection. **Amcor** says it will be joined by major food manufacturers and waste management specialists on the project.

Amcor says it will bring recycling and technical expertise from its **CleanStream** facility in Leamington Spa, United Kingdom, and its packaging production facility in Randers, Denmark, using its abilities to design and produce food packaging with recycled content.

The CRISP partnership has the potential to significantly contribute to the implementation of a circular plastic economy in Denmark, Amcor says, adding that the project aligns with the European Union's target of a 55 percent plastic recycling rate by 2030. The packaging producer notes that the EU's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (**PPWR**) stipulates that by the same year, the majority of plastic packaging must be designed for recyclability.

"Sustainable challenges require industry collaboration, and this partnership will demonstrate what can be done when the supply chain comes together," says Christian Bruno, R&D director for Northeast Europe at Amcor. "We are proud to be part of a project that could potentially have a significant environmental impact in Denmark and set new standards worldwide."

Amcor anticipates the CRISP partnership will help develop and mature a systemic solution to deliver food-grade packaging from postconsumer sources. The company says collaboration is the driver for this change and focus also will be applied to the documented traceability of food-contact materials in the recycling loop. The goal is to create a new, fully circular market for packaging made with recycled high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and PP.

The project also aligns with Denmark's extended producer responsibility program, Amcor says. The scheme obligates producers to pay for the packaging they place on the market while also offering financial incentives for more sustainable product design and material selection.

"The long-term goal is to establish circular loops for food plastic packaging aligned with the design guidelines from the PPWR," Bruno says. "The EU's goals are driving this industry to greater highs; the project will make a strong business case for the entire value chain, with improved traceability of food-contact materials in the recycling system."

According to Amcor, its proprietary CleanStream technology mechanically recycles domestically recovered household materials into high-purity recycled plastic and can operate within existing waste management infrastructures. In the U.K., Amcor's Leamington Spa facility has the capacity to recycle nearly 40 percent of all U.K. PP scrap collected from domestic recycling bins, the company claims.

(Source: Recycling Today; 23rd December, 2025)

Plastics market turbulence could continue in new year

Recyclers weathered competition from imports and virgin oversupply in 2025, in addition to the closure of several large PET processors. Markets could continue to face difficulties in the early months of 2026.

Plastics recyclers encountered volatile markets last year as they competed against the oversupply of virgin resins and a steady stream of low-cost imports, as well as frequently changing United States trade policies that gave buyers pause.

Those looking for measures of relief in the early months of this year are unlikely to find it.

According to Andrea Bassetti, Americas team lead, Recycled Plastics, at London-based commodities consulting firm **ICIS**, 2025 was marked by an abundance of supply and weak demand for most resin types, and that could continue into the first quarter of this year.

“There was a lot of unexpected volatility [last year] that made it quite difficult for any stakeholders to make decisions past the month that was right in front of them with tariffs,” she says, adding that virgin and recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET), for example, were initially exempt from the Trump administration’s reciprocal tariff regimen **before a change in September**.

“Along with not being able to plan out effectively, I think that introduced a level of uncertainty in an already struggling market where demand was softer than expected and supply was pretty ample. That was sort of the cherry on top that caused a lot of cascading impacts that have brought us where we are today and where we might go in 2026, which is probably another soft year on the demand side with pretty heavy supply.”

Based on trade data compiled by the U.S. government, Bassetti notes that imports of polyethylene and PET decreased in September—the last month data was published—but whether it has become a trend is not yet known.

“Our expectation is some of those trade numbers are going to decrease a little bit, maybe in the 10-20 percent range” she says. “However, imported material still provides some advantages to some domestic material. For example, on the PET side, the quality of imported material seems to be a lot higher for a pretty comparable price, so it’s still a very attractive option.”

Seasonality also will affect markets in the early months of this year, as MRFs destock toward the end of the year and collection slows in winter months.

“I think we’ll see some price increases, but I wouldn’t say it’s a show of stronger demand,” Bassetti says. “If anything, I’d say it’s a show of supply being a little tighter as you start the new year.”

Market volatility also has been acknowledged by the National Association of PET Container Resources (NAPCOR), which **released its “2024 PET Recycling Report”** in December. In the annual report, the Middleton, Wisconsin-based organization notes the PET bottle recycling rate decreased to 30.2 percent in 2024 from 32.5 percent the year before.

Additionally, NAPCOR reports sales of rPET to U.S. and Canadian end markets declined 3 percent from 2023, while rPET imports reached an all-time high, accounting for 23 percent of total rPET supply. The average amount of rPET content in U.S. PET bottles measured 15.9 percent in 2024, down slightly from 2023 due to increased volumes of virgin PET in the market.

There also was encouraging news. The report says total reclaimer inputs of postconsumer PET bottles increased 1 percent, while PET thermoform recovery rose 52 percent over 2023 to 264 million pounds.

The report claims a rise in recycling system efficiency in the U.S. and Canada, noting that the ratio of recovered outputs from PET reclamation to incoming material increased from 81.5 percent in 2023 to 85.2 percent in 2024.

“Despite ongoing market pressures, the 2024 PET recycling rate reflects the resilience of North America’s domestic reclaimers,” says Tom Busard, NAPCOR board chair, chief polymers and recycling officer for Plastipak Packaging Inc., and president of Plastipak recycling affiliate Clean Tech. “The data also underscore the importance of strengthening domestic recycling infrastructure, expanding recovery of all PET packaging formats and ensuring policies that support reliable end markets for recycled material.”

Improving markets would be a welcome sight this year, particularly when it comes to rPET. In 2025, four major recyclers of the material closed their doors, the most recent being Bowling Green, Ohio-based Phoenix Technologies International LLC, **which closed one of its two facilities** in the Northwest Ohio city Nov. 20, laying off seven. At full capacity, the reclaimer had the ability to process 140 million pounds of PET per year.

In a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification filed with the state in November, Phoenix says it took measures to avoid the closure, including cost reductions with suppliers and vendors, negotiating better pricing and reducing expenses and overhead costs.

Phoenix began manufacturing rPET pellets from postconsumer flake in 1992 and expanded its operations in 2015 to include flake production. In 2019, the company was purchased by Taiwan-based plastics producer Far Eastern New Century Corp and completed a major capacity upgrade in 2023.

(Source: Recycling Today; 26th December, 2025)

Commentary | Recycling: An equation of supply and demand

EPR without recycled content commitments does not close the demand gap that plagues some recyclables.

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) often is described as a cornerstone of the circular economy. And it is. By shifting the financial and operational responsibility for packaging waste to producers, EPR helps fund collection systems and improves material recovery. That's real progress.

But here's the hard truth. If we do not make sure there are end markets to turn all that old stuff into new stuff, EPR alone will not deliver a circular system.

Why? Because supply without demand is a broken equation.

The demand gap: The missing piece in circularity

Across the U.S. and globally, policymakers and industry leaders are investing heavily in systems to collect and process recyclables. That investment matters. But it's only half the story. If we don't simultaneously create strong, consistent demand for recycled content, we risk building a supply chain with nowhere for those materials to go.

Think of it this way: We can collect every box, can, bottle, tub and even flexible film. But if packaging producers and brands aren't buying recycled content at scale, ensuring those materials are put back into the marketplace, those materials pile up, prices dip and recycling infrastructure falters. When that happens, public trust erodes and the entire system becomes more fragile.

California's recent EPR legislation acknowledges this reality. While it sets ambitious recycling targets, it also underscores the need for end-market development. Without clear signals from brands and manufacturers that they will purchase recycled content, the system stalls, and the promise of EPR remains unfulfilled.

Lessons from Europe the U.S. doesn't need to repeat

Europe is facing the same challenge under its new Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). The regulation, which went into force in February 2025, mandates that all packaging be recyclable by 2030 and sets binding recycled content targets. These include 30 percent recycled plastic in single-use beverage bottles by 2030 and up to 65 percent by 2040. It also requires minimum recycled content for other plastic packaging types, ranging from 10-30 percent by 2030, with higher thresholds by 2040.

These measures are designed to accelerate circularity, but they also expose a critical vulnerability. Europe's recycling system already is showing what happens when demand falters. According to Plastics Recyclers Europe, nearly 1 million tons of recycling capacity have shut down since 2023, with seven facilities closing in the Netherlands alone. Without strong and reliable end-market demand for recycled materials, compliance becomes nearly impossible. When virgin plastic prices drop, recyclers struggle to compete. The PPWR makes it clear: Supply-side measures alone won't close the loop. Without clear demand signals from brands, backed by procurement commitments and collaborative purchasing strategies, these policies cannot succeed in practice.

Why EPR is only half of the story

EPR is designed to fund collection and processing, and those are essential pieces to a healthier system. But EPR does not necessarily guarantee demand. And demand is what makes recycling economically viable. When recycled resin must compete with virgin plastic that often is cheaper and more predictable, processors struggle to justify investment. The result? A fragile system vulnerable to market swings. We've seen this before. When oil prices drop, virgin resin floods the market, and recycled material demand collapses. Without consistent demand, the system remains unstable.

Policy can help fix the equation

To close the demand gap, we need a combination of smart policy and bold corporate leadership.

On the policy side, governments must do more than fund collection systems. While some EPR programs include demand mechanisms, many do not. Policies must actively stimulate demand, and we must explore new policy structures. That means incorporating demand elements into EPR laws, setting minimum recycled content mandates to guarantee a baseline

market, offering incentives for brands that go above and beyond and enforcing penalties for noncompliance to ensure a level playing field for responsible actors.

But policy alone won't get us there. This is where sustainability leaders at major brands play a critical role. Driving demand for recycled content isn't just a procurement decision. It isn't just about meeting targets. Embedding recycled content into the DNA of packaging design and purchasing decisions is a strategic business decision. By committing to this path, brands send a powerful message to the market: We will buy what you produce.

Scale matters here. When companies aggregate demand, they stabilize pricing and send a clear signal that the market for recycled materials is real, reliable and growing. It gives recyclers confidence to expand capacity. It attracts capital to innovation in sorting, processing and advanced recycling. And it creates the virtuous cycle that benefits people and planet alike.

What happens next?

We don't have to imagine the consequences of a demand gap in the U.S. recycling system. We are already seeing the signs. The **temporary closure of WM's Natura facility** for film and flexible plastics in Texas and the shutdowns of **rPlanet Earth's polyethylene terephthalate operations** in California and **Phoenix Technologies in Ohio** are clear market signals. Demand for recycled content was not strong or reliable enough to sustain them.

Collection without end markets simply doesn't solve. Every dollar invested in recycling infrastructure without a corresponding commitment to demand puts the entire system at risk.

Now consider what happens if we get this right. A healthy market for postconsumer recyclables can anchor resilient North American supply chains, support skilled American jobs, stabilize manufacturing costs and keep critical materials circulating at home. That is how we move from fragile progress to a durable circular economy, and why strong demand signals are not optional. It is the foundation of the future we say we want.

To those concerned about building solid supply chains: This is your moment. Circularity only works when recycled materials are consistently valued, purchased and used. That's how we solve the equation and move from aspiration to reality.

(Source: Recycling Today; 24th December, 2025)

Austria's DRS on track for 80% collection in first year

In the first year of its deposit return scheme (DRS), Austria has collected more than 1.2 billion PET bottles and aluminum cans by the end of November, amid strong public support, according to the program administrator.

Austria was the 17th country in Europe to adopt a DRS for single-use beverage containers, to help improve collection rates in line with the EU's Single-Use Plastics Directive. The country aims to hit a return rate of at least 90% – around 2.2 billion beverage containers – by 2027, two years earlier than the EU directive mandates.

The Recycling Pfand Österreich organization, which administers the DRS, is owned by Trägerverein Einwegpfand (EWP), an industry association composed of beverage producers and retailers. EWP expects to meet the country's 80% return-rate target by the end of 2025 and to release the final yearly figures in January, according to a press release.

Looking ahead, EWP plans to clarify consumer guidance by highlighting the difference between previous recycling efforts and the DRS, which offers verifiable recycling outcomes. In addition, the association plans to add more manual collection points to support smaller retailers and increase accessibility, introduce drop-off points that direct the returned deposit to charitable organizations, and explore the possibility of public container-return points.

The Austrian scheme, implemented Jan. 1, 2025, accepts PET beverage bottles and aluminum cans from 0.1 liters to 3 liters (about 3 to 100 fluid ounces). Consumers pay a €0.25 (about \$0.30) deposit per container, which is refunded upon return.

Continental DRS programs drive high collection

The deposit amount in other European countries with DRS varies from about 10 to 25 cents, with Sweden implementing the first program, in 1984.

NEWS IN BRIEF

India, Oman trade pact likely to be operationalised within 3 months: Piyush Goyal

India and Oman will endeavour to implement the India-Oman free trade agreement, signed on December 18, within the next three months, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday.

Under the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), Oman has offered zero-duty access on over 98% of its tariff lines or product categories, covering 99.38 percent of India's exports to the Gulf country.

All major labour-intensive sectors, including gems and jewellery, textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and automobiles, will attract nil duty.

These goods, at present, attract import duties in the range of 5-100 percent in Oman.

On the other hand, India is offering duty concessions on 77.79 percent of its total tariff lines (12,556), which covers 94.81 percent of India's imports from Oman by value.

The Oman-US trade deal was finalised in 2006, but was implemented in January 2009. "The Oman minister and I have discussed that this agreement, we will try to operationalise within three months," Goyal told reporters here.

When asked about the areas where Indian businesses can invest in Oman, the minister said sectors like steel, energy, education, and healthcare hold huge potential.

"Those which require natural resources will be the ones (where Indian firms would like to invest). A large steel investment is coming up for producing green steel," he said, adding that there is a lot of interest in Oman to collaborate with India because they have large land banks.

One can explore investment in the energy sector, where energy can be converted into green hydrogen

or green ammonia and exported to the rest of the world, which will provide Indians an opportunity for exports and create jobs for Indian people, he pointed out.

"There is a huge amount of potential for processing of large volumes of marble...huge amounts of investment interests in education, healthcare...some people are also looking at battery manufacturing in Oman," Goyal said.

Oman's businesses, too, are very excited about collaborating with Indian businesses, the minister said.

"Already, we have received interest from an Omani dairy to have a joint venture with Amul," he said, adding that he has invited Omani firms and the Sovereign Wealth Fund to invest in India.

(Source: The Economic Times; 19th December, 2025)

What a year of trade data tells us about India's economic priorities

India's upcoming Union Budget 2026 is expected to place trade policy at the heart of its economic strategy. A widening merchandise trade deficit, shrinking exports to key markets, and rising geopolitical pressures are converging to shape what may become one of the most trade-sensitive budgets in recent years.

Trade in numbers

According to the latest Commerce Ministry data, India's merchandise trade deficit hit an all-time monthly high of \$41.68 billion in October 2025, driven by a double blow of falling exports and rising imports. For April–October 2025, the deficit widened to \$196.82 billion, sharply higher than \$171.40 billion in the same period last year.

Exports in October dropped 11.8% to \$34.38 billion, while imports grew 16.6% to \$76.06 billion.

The most striking weakness is visible in India's largest export market. Shipments to the US slipped to about \$6.3 billion in October 2025, down from \$6.9 billion a year ago — a nearly 9% decline, largely due to steep tariffs imposed by Washington.

The deterioration comes amid escalating trade tensions with the United States. Frustrated by India's continued imports of discounted Russian oil, the Trump administration imposed a 25% tariff on Indian goods on August 1, later doubling it to 50% from August 27, while also warning of potential secondary sanctions.

The paradox

India's export performance in October 2025 presents a striking paradox. On the surface, electronics exports surged 19%, buoyed by a strong \$2.4 billion in smartphone shipments, with Apple alone contributing \$1.6 billion.

But beneath this bright spot lies deeper fragility: almost every other major export sector shrank, pointing to broad-based stress in India's external trade engine.

Trade analysts warn that a combination of global tariff shocks and intensifying Chinese competition is squeezing India's export potential, threatening long-standing manufacturing sectors.

Electronics were the only major category to record growth in October, rising 19.05% to \$4.08 billion. Smartphones accounted for nearly 60% of the shipments. But analysts caution the surge masks deep declines elsewhere. Without electronics, October's export story would have been significantly worse.

For the first time in several years, all of India's top ten merchandise export categories contracted in a single month.

Ministry data shows:

- Engineering goods: down 16.7% to \$9.37 bn
- Petroleum products: down 10.5% to \$3.95 bn
- Drugs & pharmaceuticals: down 5.2% to \$2.49 bn
- Gems & jewellery: down 29.5% to \$2.29 bn
- Organic & inorganic chemicals: down 21% to \$2.14 bn
- Readymade garments: down 12.9%
- Cotton yarn, fabrics & handloom: down 13.3%
- Rice: down 16.5%
- Plastics & linoleum: down 21.6%

Collectively, the top ten categories shrank from \$31.8 billion in October 2024 to \$27.8 billion — a steep

12.6% drop. Overall merchandise exports fell from \$38.98 billion to \$34.38 billion.

China's expanding footprint

India's challenges are compounded by China's aggressive, below-cost export strategy. According to CNN, Chinese firms are flooding global markets with dumped products, eroding India's competitiveness in key destinations.

Indian exports weakened not only to the US, but also to the UAE, Italy, the UK, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, and South Korea.

Month-on-month data shows China strengthening its footprint across Europe, Australia, Africa and Southeast Asia, even as its shipments to the US fell nearly 18% amid strategic diversification.

China's targeted regional push includes:

- Southeast Asia: machinery, auto components, computer parts
- Africa: construction machinery, green tech
- Latin America: electric vehicles, fertilisers, electronics

This strategy is raising fears of industrial hollowing in several countries. As Diego Rodriguez of Americas Market Intelligence warned, "For some Latin American countries, 'deindustrialization is a big problem when Chinese companies start to invest ... because they bring just the assembly, they don't do technology and knowledge transfer.'"

Tariff shifts tilt the balance

A recent US move to halve fentanyl-related tariffs on Chinese goods — from 20% to 10% — may indirectly weaken India's position in electronics. While finished devices remain exempt, many components still face duties, giving China an advantage in upstream supply chains.

India's gains in smartphones could come under pressure without timely policy support.

India's short-term shield

Electronics remain India's fastest-growing export segment for April–October 2025, rising 37.82% to \$26.28 billion from \$19.07 billion a year earlier.

The traditional gap between electronics and petroleum — India's second-largest export category — has

narrowed dramatically from \$21.99 billion to \$8.08 billion. At this pace, electronics could become India's second-largest export basket within a couple of years.

But the momentum is not guaranteed. Smartphone exports dipped in August and September amid strong domestic festive-season demand, even though year-on-year growth remained robust.

How these trends will shape Budget 2026

With these pressures mounting, Budget 2026 is likely to take a more interventionist approach — balancing export promotion with measures aimed at reducing import dependence.

Industry groups have already begun lobbying for targeted support. The Seamless Tube Manufacturers' Association of India (STMAI), for instance, has urged the government to introduce a PLI scheme covering at least 10% of export volume for seamless pipes, alongside higher customs duties — a reflection of the broader push for import substitution.

Budget 2026 may therefore emerge as a pivotal moment for India to recalibrate its trade strategy. A carefully designed mix of incentives, protections and structural reforms will be critical to navigating near-term volatility and building longterm resilience.

(Source: The Economic Times; 19th December, 2025)

India's export to Australia grows 8% over 3 years of Ind-Aus ECTA: Piyush Goyal

India and Australia marked the third anniversary of their Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), showing a significant rise in trade between the two nations.

The trade deal, which started three years ago, led to an 8 per cent growth in Indian exports to Australia during the 2024-25 financial year. This growth helped improve the overall trade balance for India.

A major change is also expected to take place from January 1, 2026, as 100 per cent of Australian tariff lines will become zero-duty for Indian exports. This means Indian goods can enter Australia without extra taxes, creating new chances for sectors that employ many workers.

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, on Monday, shared the details on X. He stated that the agreement “translated intent into impact” over the last three years. “Over the past three years, the Agreement has delivered sustained export growth, deeper market access, and stronger supply-chain resilience, benefiting Indian exporters, MSMEs, farmers, and workers alike,” he said.

Goyal noted that the trade agreement brought strong gains to many different industries. These included manufacturing, chemicals, textiles, plastics, and pharmaceuticals. Petroleum products and the gems and jewellery sector also saw a rise in business. Specifically, exports for gems and jewellery increased by 16 per cent between April and November 2025.

Agricultural products from India have also found more buyers in Australia. There was broad growth in the sale of fruits, vegetables, marine products, and spices. Coffee exports showed especially high growth during this period. To make trading easier, both countries signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for organic products. This step allows for smoother trade and reduces the costs that exporters have to pay to follow rules.

“As Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) negotiations advance, Ind-Aus ECTA continues to anchor India's economic engagement in the Indo-Pacific, aligned with Make in India and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. Together, India and Australia are building a future of shared prosperity and trusted trade,” Goyal noted.

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

नया साल 2026 लाया बड़े नीतिगत बदलाव, कर सुधार और नई आर्थिक व्यवस्थाएं

सरकार ने मार्च 2026 तक श्रमिकों से सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवरेज को मौजूदा 94 करोड़ से बढ़ाकर 100 करोड़ श्रमिकों तक विस्तारित करने का लक्ष्य रखा है।

नया साल 2026 तमाम नए सुधार, समय सीमा, नीति और कराधान व्यवस्था में बदलाव लेकर आ रहा है। इसमें जीडीपी की गणना के लिए आधार वर्ष में बदलाव, आईआईपी से लेकर कार्बन बॉर्डर एडजेस्टमेंट मैकेनिज्म

(सीबीएएम) लागू होना है। साथ ही नई श्रम संहिता और कर सुधार पूरी तरह से लागू हो जाएंगे।

जीडीपी की नई श्रृंखला 27 फरवरी, 2026 को जारी होनी है, जिसमें आधार वर्ष 2011-12 से बदलकर 2022-23 हो जाएगा। वहीं 2012 आधार की जगह 2024 आधार वर्ष वाली सीपीआई की नई सीरीज लागू होगी, जो 12 फरवरी, 2026 को जारी होनी है। इसके अलावा 2022-23 आधार वर्ष वाली आईआईपी की नई सीरीज मौजूदा 2011-12 आधार वाली सीरीज की जगह लेगी। आधार वर्ष में बदलाव से ज्यादा सटीक आर्थिक आंकड़े मिलने की उम्मीद है, जो वैश्विक मानकों के करीब होंगे।

भारत में 2026 से महत्वपूर्ण कर सुधार लागू होंगे। एक अप्रैल, 2026 से आयकर अधिनियम, 2025 लागू होगा, जो 1961 के कानून की जगह लेने जा रहा है। प्रावधानों को सरल कर एक एकल 'टैक्स ईयर' (अप्रैल-मार्च) पेश किया गया है। साथ ही एकीकृत तालिकाओं के साथ टीडीएस/टीसीएस नियमों को युक्तिसंगत बनाया गया है। इसमें डिजिटल अनुपालन को बढ़ाया गया है और संशोधित स्लैब के साथ दोनों कर व्यवस्थाओं को बरकरार रखा गया है।

2025 के अंत में पेश और 22 सितंबर 2025 से लागू जीएसटी-02 सुधार के लिए 2026 पूर्ण कैलेंडर वर्ष होगा। इस व्यवस्था के तहत 12 प्रतिशत और 28 प्रतिशत कर ढांचे को समाप्त कर अधिकांश वस्तुओं और सेवाओं को 5 प्रतिशत या 18 प्रतिशत कर के दायरे में ला दिया गया है।

इसमें एफएमसीजी, घरेलू इस्तेमाल की वस्तुओं, आवश्यक वस्तुओं पर कर कम रखा गया है, जबकि सिगरेट और पानमसाला जैसी हानिकारक वस्तुओं पर उत्पाद शुल्क और उपकर लगाकर खपत कम करने की कवायद की गई है।

कार्बन लीकेज को रोकने के लिए यूरोपीय संघ (ईयू) का सीबीएएम जनवरी 2026 से लागू होगा। इसके तहत सीमेंट, लोहा और इस्पात, एल्युमीनियम, उर्वरक, बिजली और हाइड्रोजन के 50 टन से अधिक के आयात के लिए आयात के समय अथराइजेशन की जरूरत होगी। संक्रमणकालीन चरण 1 अक्टूबर, 2023 से शुरू हो गया था। हालांकि यह नियम सिर्फ भारत के लिए नहीं है, सभी देशों पर लागू होगा।

21 नवंबर को लागू 4 नई श्रम संहिताएं 1 अप्रैल, 2026 से पूरी तरह लागू की जानी है। केंद्रीय ट्रेड यूनियनों और क्षेत्रीय महासंघों और संघों के एक संयुक्त प्लेटफॉर्म ने नई श्रम संहिता के विरोध में 12 फरवरी, 2026 को आम हड़ताल का आह्वान किया है।

सरकार ने मार्च 2026 तक श्रमिकों से सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवरेज को मौजूदा 94 करोड़ से बढ़ाकर 100 करोड़ श्रमिकों तक विस्तारित करने का लक्ष्य रखा है।

कर्मचारी नामांकन योजना के तहत स्वैच्छिक नामांकन के लिए 30 अप्रैल, 2026 की समय सीमा होगी, जिसकी घोषणा अक्टूबर 2025 में की गई थी।

(Source: Business Standard; January 1, 2026)

NEW MEMBERS ENROLLED

Sr. No.	Name of Unit / Company & Names of Representatives	Manufacturers / Traders & Contact Numbers	Introduced by
LIFE MEMBER			
1	L-821. INNO COLOR AND COMPOUNDS PVT LTD F-49, Site-C, UPSIDC, Industrial Area, Surajpur, Greater Noida-201306, U.P. Rep : Shri Sarvesh Gupta	Mobile : +91-9810158238 E-mail : sarveshgupta@innocolor.in Web : www.innocolors.com	SHRI MANISH MITTAL M/S PRIYA CABLES
2	L-822. WONDER WORX NH-2, Ground floor, C-Block, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi-110028 Rep : Shri Jagdeep Bhalla Shri Pradeep Chawla	Office No. 011-47064669 Mobile No.8800694674 E-mail: info@wonderworx.com Web : wonderworx.co.in	Shri Devinder Pal Singh M/s JK Paras Polycoats Ltd

Photographs of 43rd Annual General Body Meeting of AIPIA on 18th December, 2025



Devinder Pal Singh, President
Extending Opening Remarks



Brijesh Bhutani,
Hony. General Secretary
Presenting Annual Report 2024-25



Bhupesh Ralli,
Hony. Joint Secretary
Presenting Audit Report



Rohit Sarna,
Hony. Joint Secretary
Resolutions



Ravi Kumar Aggarwal, Patron
Interacting Industry Related Issue



Tarun Bansal
Interacting Industry
Related Issue



Vipin Gupta
Interacting Industry
Related Issue



Dinesh Gupta
Interacting Industry
Related Issue



Inderjeet Singh
Interacting Industry Related Issue



Saddam Khan, Plastasia



S.N. Mittal, Election Officer



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