



Watering of the plant (L to R) Sanjay Goenka, Committee Member, MCCI, Shyam Lal Agarwal, Committee Member, MCCI & Hony. Secretary, Indian Plastics Federation, Lalit Agrawal, President, Indian Plastics Federation, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IPS, Member Secretary & Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Md. Ghulam Rabbani, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Government of West Bengal, Namit Bajoria, President, MCCI, Abhishek Kumar Agarwal, Chairman & Avishek Himatsingka, Co-Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCI, Debarshi Duttagupta, Chairman, Eastern Region, Indian Chemical Council and Rajesh Kumar Sonthalia, Committee Member, MCCI



MERCHANTS' CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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MCCI CONCLAVE ON PLASTICS & CHEMICALS

“Sustainable Growth Opportunities for Plastics & Chemicals Sectors in West Bengal”

on 15 July 2024 at The Park Hotel, Kolkata

MD. GHULAM RABBANI
Minister-in-Charge
Department of Environment
Government of West Bengal



মহঃ গোলাম রব্বানী

ভারপ্রাপ্ত মন্ত্রী
পরিবেশ দপ্তর, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সরকার

محمد غلام ربابانی
کابینه وزیر

محکمہ ماحولیات، حکومت مغربی بنگال

No. 172/MIC/ ENV

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MESSAGE

I had a wonderful experience at the MCCI Conclave on Plastics & Chemicals. The emphasis on sustainable growth in these sectors is particularly relevant in today's context, where balancing economic development with environmental responsibility is crucial.

The opportunity to attract industrialists to West Bengal for the Plastics & Chemicals sectors is promising, especially considering the potential for income generation and job creation. It's encouraging to see that the discussions were centered around not only growth but also sustainability, which is essential for the long-term health of both the industry and the environment.

The initiative by MCCI to publish a booklet summarizing the Conclave's key points is an excellent idea. It will serve as a valuable resource for stakeholders and help disseminate the insights gained during the discussions, fostering further collaboration and innovation in the sector.

The organiser's efforts is commendable, as it highlights the importance of bringing together diverse perspectives for meaningful dialogue. Overall, it seems like a significant step forward for the Plastics & Chemicals sectors in West Bengal, and I hope it leads to impactful initiatives in the future. If there are any specific insights or outcomes from the Conclave that you found particularly noteworthy, I would love to hear more about them

(Md. Ghulam Rabbani)

MD. GHULAM RABBANI
Minister-in-charge
Department of Environment
Government of West Bengal

Shri Namit Bajoria
President
Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry
15B, Hemanta Basu Sarani
Kolkata-700001



(R) Namit Bajoria, President, MCCI presenting a memento to Md. Ghulam Rabbani, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Government of West Bengal

Mr. Namit Bajoria, President, MCCI said that India's Plastics and Chemicals sectors have been instrumental in shaping the country's economic landscape. With a combined GDP contribution of over 4.5%, these industries have created employment opportunities, driven exports, and fuelled economic growth, besides driving innovation and development.

There is no denying the fact that sustainability and growth are intricately linked. As we strive for economic progress, we must also acknowledge the pressing need for eco-friendly practices, resource efficiency, and waste management. Industries have a significant impact on the environment and it is our responsibility to mitigate any adverse effects.

Mr. Bajoria requested all members of MCCI, the Indian Plastics Federation and the Indian Chemical Council to take the initiative in planting 5,000 trees over the next few months.

Mr. Abhishek Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCI said that the Plastics Industry has a long history of being



(R) Abhishek Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCI presenting a memento to Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, WBPCB

a dominant contributor to the Indian economy, providing more than 4 million people with employment and covering more than 30,000 companies in operation. The market size of plastics is close to Rs. 3.6 lakh crore and it can grow to Rs. 5.7 lakh crore by 2030, with both demand and consumption growing at two times the GDP growth rate. On the other hand, Chemicals contribute 7% of India's GDP with an industry size of Rs. 25 lakh crores.

Mr. Agarwal pointed out that complying with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), reducing Scope 1, Scope 2 & Scope 3 emissions, and becoming carbon neutral by 2050 is the direction towards which the industry is headed. **West Bengal, the sweetest spot on the map of India has been a dominant player in both the Plastics & Chemicals industries over the past many decades.**

Md. Ghulam Rabbani, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Government of West Bengal stated that as per a report, West Bengal has the least pollution among states in India. The State is already focusing on biodegradable and recyclable plastics. Industries in West Bengal should ensure regulatory compliance and adopt green technology in production. To achieve the sustainable goal, we need collaboration between Government, Industry and Civil Society.

West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) has developed the most intensive air quality monitoring network in the country. Air quality is regularly monitored at 83 locations. Department



(L to R) Abhishek Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCCI, Lalit Agrawal, President, Indian Plastics Federation, Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, WBPCB, Md. Ghulam Rabbani, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Government of West Bengal, Namit Bajoria, President, MCCCI, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IPS, Member Secretary, WBPCB, Debarshi Duttagupta, Chairman, ER, Indian Chemical Council and Avishek Himatsingka, Co-Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCCI

of Environment has also set up 4,000 smokeless 'chulhas' around the State.

Md. Rabbani informed that West Bengal has the sixth largest economy in India. The size of the West Bengal economy, measured in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at current prices has expanded by nearly four times, from Rs. 4,60,959 crores in 2010-11 to Rs. 17,00,939 crores in 2023-24.

The State provides huge opportunities for industries, especially in Plastics and Chemicals. Also, the State offers a conducive business environment with adequate infrastructure and skilled labour. West Bengal has consistently focused on sound economic planning and financial discipline and it has steadily moved on a path of growth.

Kolkata is the safest city in India. Under the leadership of Ms Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister, businesses will become the backbone of the State and the Government is here to serve them. **Md. Rabbani said that 'Bengal means Business' and the Hon'ble Chief Minister has a vision for the State. At the same time, we should preserve the environment for**



Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, WBPCB

future generations.

Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, WBPCB said that this is the era of plastics. Plastics are water-resistant & lightweight and plastics can be converted into different shapes. However, he expressed his concern that 85% of tap water in Europe and Australia contains microplastics. As per the report, every year in Europe, people consume 2.5 grams of microplastics through water and air.

Dr. Rudra mentioned that the Government of India has already announced that 131 cities face air pollution (i.e., Non-Attainment Cities where air is unfit for breathing) and 300 rivers are polluted in India. Plastic waste remains in the soil for 1,000 years.

West Bengal generates more than three lakh tons of plastic waste per year, however, one lakh tons of plastic waste is now recycled. Kolkata generates 4,000 tons of waste each day including plastic waste, electronic waste, medical waste, etc.

The current mode of use of plastics is not sustainable and we are exploiting our natural capital stock of air, water, and soil. Plastics are entering our food chain. Plastic waste should be used as a resource and only then it can be sustainable. The Chairman of WBPCB said that the **State has 107 landfill sites like Dhapa and in some of these sites, the work to produce Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) has already started. RDF is produced from plastic waste and RDF pallets are used for producing, plastic chairs, tables, toys, etc. CSIR-CMERI in Durgapur is successfully implementing a project to generate RDF from plastic waste.**



Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IPS, Member Secretary, WBPCB

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IPS, Member Secretary, WBPCB said that the longevity of plastic waste is 1,000 years. Plastics are not bad. The irresponsible use of plastics has made it a menace. More than 1.27 million tons of plastics enter the ocean every year. Species are contaminated with plastics. By 2050, there will be more plastics than fish by weight.

The Polymers industry plays a pivotal role in the economy. To ensure the sustainability of the environment, **WBPCB is procuring a machine capable of converting mixed domestic waste, including plastic waste, into Refuse Derived**

Fuel (RDF) which can be used to produce electricity by power plants. Member Secretary said that WBPCB has planned to set up RDF plants in four places including Kolkata and Bidhannagar. If the RDF project is successful, it will further spread. The respective urban local bodies will oversee the operation of these plants.

Dr. Kumar further mentioned that WBPCB has encouraged the use of biodegradable plastics. The WBPCB also promotes jute bags and it has set up vending machines for cotton bags in several markets. He requested the audience to use jute and cotton bags instead of plastic bags. Dr. Kumar suggested attaching a minor price tag to plastic milk bags that are returned after use. Recycling will take place if a price tag is attached to plastic items such as empty shampoo bottles.

He further informed that SEBI has mandated the top 1,000 companies to submit ESG compliance reports. ESG compliance helps to build trust with stakeholders and contributes to a more sustainable and ethical business landscape.



Mr. Debarshi Duttagupta, Chairman, Eastern Region, Indian Chemical Council said that ICC is an apex body representing all chemical companies including pharma. ICC works for responsible core initiatives. It is the focal point of contact for the Ministry.

Mr. Duttagupta said that it is the responsibility of industry to work for greater sustainability and environmental causes. The industry needs to ensure compliance.

Mr. Lalit Agrawal, President, Indian Plastics Federation said that India produced 22 million tons of polymers in 2021. Indian plastics industry



provided 5% of worldwide consumption and the polymer industry contributed about Rs. 3.5 lakh crore to India's GDP

While speaking of West Bengal, he mentioned that in West Bengal, 5,500 polymer-producing units are providing 10% of India's plastics needs. The polymer sector contributes Rs. 35,000 crores to the State's GDP and more than six lakh people are working in this sector.

Mr. Agrawal said that the per-capita consumption of plastics is 15 kg per year in India whereas the per-capita consumption of plastics is 6 kg per year in West Bengal. Globally, per capita consumption of plastics stands at 28 kg per year.

Mr. Avishek Himatsingka, Co-Chairman, Council on Plastics & Chemicals, MCCI offered a hearty Vote of Thanks. He said that the Conclave brought prominent Policy Makers & Industry Captains together to facilitate meaningful discussions & deliberations on sustainable and environment-friendly opportunities for Plastics & Chemical Sectors in West Bengal.

Key Take Aways:

The central idea of the MCCI Conclave on Plastics & Chemicals was prioritising environmental sustainability and growth opportunities for the Plastics and Chemicals sectors in West Bengal. The experts explained how businesses can expand their presence in the Plastics and Chemicals sectors without harming the environment.

The Conclave deliberated on the following key issues:

- MCCI has taken a pledge to plant 5,000 trees over the next few months.
- Sustainable initiatives of the public sector, private sector & civil society can contribute to the overall well-being of mankind.
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) metrics help to determine the sustainability and ethics of an organisation.
- Plastics & Chemicals play a pivotal role in the Indian business landscape.
- In India, including West Bengal, both the Plastics & Chemicals sectors generate adequate employment opportunities.
- West Bengal offers a conducive business environment for the Plastics and Chemicals sectors with adequate infrastructure and skilled labour.
- The only way to achieve sustainability in these sectors is to reuse the waste as a resource.
- Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) pallet which is produced from Plastics waste is used for producing plastic chairs, tables, toys, etc.
- The government of West Bengal has decided to produce RDF in landfill sites.
- WBPCB is procuring a machine capable of converting mixed domestic waste, including plastic waste, into RDF which can be used to produce electricity by power plants.
- WBPCB has planned to set up RDF plants in four places including Kolkata and Bidhannagar.
- West Bengal has the least pollution among states in India.
- Government of West Bengal encourages the use of jute and cotton bags instead of plastic bags.
- The Department of Environment has also set up 4,000 smokeless 'chulhas' around the State.

West Bengal govt provides clean atmosphere for industrial growth: Ghulam Rabbani

West Bengal govt provides clean atmosphere for industrial growth: Ghulam Rabbani. Minister Ghulam Rabbani, minister of environment, government of West Bengal has announced that the state government provides ample opportunities to the entrepreneurs to flourish in West Bengal. He was interacting at Plastic and Chemical Conclave organized by Merchants Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

‘পশ্চিমবঙ্গে প্লাস্টিক এবং রাসায়নিক সেক্টরের জন্য বৃদ্ধির সুযোগ’



প্লাস্টিক এবং রাসায়নিক সেক্টরের জন্য বৃদ্ধির সুযোগ. পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সরকারের পরিবেশ, কল্যাণ ও পরিষ্কার মন্ত্রণালয়ের সচিব ড. কল্যাণ কুমার (কেন্দ্রে) এবং মন্ত্রিসভার অন্য সদস্যরা একটি সভায় অংশ নিয়েছেন।

The Telegraph Kolkata flags single-use plastic items

Our state produces 3.13,250 tonnes of plastic waste every year, out of which about 1,87,180 tonnes are segregated and processed. Kalyan Rudra, the chairperson of the state PCB, said on the sidelines of a conclave that discussed sustainable growth opportunities for the plastic and chemical sectors in the state. "The plastic items that are thrown away disintegrate into microplastics. We consume microplastics from the air and water," Rudra said in his speech at the conclave, organised by the Merchants Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "The single-use plastic items are not recycled. They remain in the environment and break down into microplastics and nanoplastics over the years," Biswas, who did not attend the conclave, told M... Microplastic par... "Microplastic par... air, water, soil, food and... Biswas said... of humans to these p... ubiquitous," the Wor... Organisation had i... 2022 publication. "Ingestion of MI (microplastic)... reported in a varie... and beverages, inc... and seafood pro... sugar, honey, ric... drinking-water" Rudra... Biswas said... contains carcin... cles and nano... been found to... the human b... stream. "The m... All the s... microplastic... conclude sal... of the great... the modern wor... it has been use... into a menace. Manufacturers of plastic products and experts said a huge volume of plastic waste generated every day comes...

বর্জ্যকে অর্থকরী করে তুলে উদ্যোগ দূষণ নিয়ন্ত্রণ পর্ষদ

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কলিকাতা, শুক্রবার 19.07.2024

সিটি বাইন্স



পরিবেশ রক্ষা কো সবকী মাগীদারী জরুরী

পরিবেশ রক্ষা কো সবকী মাগীদারী জরুরী. Anandabazar Patrika Tuesday 16 July 2024

এক নজরে

বিশেষ জ্ঞানানি

পরিবেশের কথা মাথায় রেখে প্লাস্টিকের বর্জ্য থেকে বিশেষ জ্ঞানানি (আরভিএফ) তৈরির জন্য রাজ্যে চারটি মিল্লড গয়েস্ট প্রসেসিং ইউনিট তৈরির পরিকল্পনা করা হয়েছে বলে জ্ঞানালেন দূষণ নিয়ন্ত্রণ পর্ষদের চেয়ারম্যান কল্যাণ কুমার। তিনি জানান, এটি মূলত সিমেন্ট উৎপাদনে এবং প্লাস্টিকের পণ্য তৈরিতে ব্যবহৃত হয়। সোমবার সার্ভেইস চেম্বারের এক অনুষ্ঠানে পর্ষদের সচিব রাজেশ্বর কুমার বলেন, "প্রথম পর্যায়ে কলকাতা, বিধাননগর-সহ মোট চারটি জায়গায় এই কারখানা তৈরি হবে।" প্লাস্টিক বর্জ্য বিক্রি করার জন্য একটি বোঝাইল অ্যাপ আনার কথাও জানাচ্ছে রাজ্য।

এক মঞ্চ পর জুটে উদ্যমী, অফিসর और मंत्री



এই সময়

রাজ্যে মিল্লড ওয়েস্ট প্রসেসিং ফেসিলিটি

এই সময়: পরিবেশের কথা মাথায় রেখে কলকাতা, সপ্টসেক-সহ রাজ্যে চারটি জায়গায় মিল্লড ওয়েস্ট প্রসেসিং ফেসিলিটি তৈরি হবে। পাইলট ভিত্তিতে এই চারটি প্রসেসিং গবেষণা করে উত্তর পর সেখানে বিভিন্ন ধরনের কঠিন বর্জ্য থেকে নামাযিত্ব করা হবে।

4 mixed waste processing units in Bengal soon



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কো সাইম করণী পূজা

কো সাইম করণী পূজা. Anandabazar Patrika Tuesday 16 July 2024

পরিবেশ রক্ষা কো সবকী মাগীদারী জরুরী

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