

ALL INDIA PLASTICS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

MEETING ON 28TH JULY IN MUMBAI

AIPMA had organized the meeting of all associations from all states of India. Ms Aparna Sharma, Joint Secretary, Dept of Chemicals and Petrochemicals was present for the meeting. Representative of Maharashtra Govt was also present during the discussions.

Presentations were given from AIPMA on effect on industries due to the Ban on Plastics in Maharashtra. They also highlighted the usefulness of plastics in the society at large. They presented data on plastic waste and the practices followed in different countries to tackle the issue. Effective waste collection, segregation and treatment by the municipal bodies was suggested as the way forward. Plastic industry employs sizable amounts of investments and manpower. The unilateral ban can be harmful to the industry and to society.

Following were the major points discussed:

1.) Need for uniform laws across all states:

Every state seems to have different state laws. Need for uniform laws across India (like one nation one GST) are advocated. Plastic bags/films, above 50 micron and usage of multilayer films are useful for various industries and should not be unilaterally banned.

2.) Definition of single use plastic :

Govt is proposing to ban / restrict single use plastics. However, definition of single use plastic is not clear. The definition of single use plastic should be drafted carefully.

3.) Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR):

- **Govt is certain to implement EPR.** However, there is no clarification on EPR mechanism. Maharashtra Govt will clarify the framework in next 3 to 4 weeks.
- EPR may cover, Packaging Manufacturers, Brand owners, Distributors and Retailers.
- AIPMA has done a pilot on ERP which they presented. They have tied up with waste collectors, waste banks, waste sorters and processors for final recycle into energy conversion, road fillers, polymer pellets, etc. The entire model is given in details on their sight www.EPRIndia.com AIPMA is ready to roll out the model in different locations and can act as aggregators for the EPR. The EPR contribution can be worked out on the basis on weight of the collected waste and the cost of the entire process.
- **NEPRA Waste Management company**, is an organization who is providing the EPR platform in Gujarat on commercial terms. They gave presentation of their model. They claim to have patronage from companies like Abbott, Godrej, Kellogs, Dabur etc.
- There is also another company under the name **Rudra environmental Solutions** in Pune who provide the similar platform.

The meeting ended with Govt officials promising to take up the industry issues to the concerned people in the ministries. They agreed to consider various suggestion presented by the members.