



83rd ANNUAL REPORT

2023 2024

Full Member of



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MESSAGE FROM ICC LEADERSHIP



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Managing Director & CEO
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VICE PRESIDENT
MR. RAJEN MARIWALA
Managing Director
ETERNIS FINE CHEMICALS LTD.



ADDITIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
MR. KARTIK BHARAT RAM
Joint Managing Director
SRF LTD.

Dear Esteemed Members of ICC !

It is with immense pride that we address you in our Annual General Meeting (AGM). This gathering represents a momentous occasion for us to reflect upon the remarkable accomplishments of our Council over the past year.

As Indian Chemical Council moves into the 85th year in 2023, its role has significantly grown, focussing on Indian Chemical Industry and our collective journey in pursuit of excellence has yielded very good results, and it is only fitting that we come together to recollect the dedication, commitment, and hard work that have brought us this far.

It's our pleasure to share some of the key achievements that have defined our council's success.

As the **Full member of International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)** we are now represented in the Board and the Associations Round Table (Steering Committee) of ICCA. Our members along with the ICC secretariat are actively engaged in the various Leadership Groups, cross-cutting groups and task forces adding value and to be in sync with global leaders on the latest global developments concerning the chemical industry.

We have witnessed a significant growth in membership, adding 46 members, a testament to the trust and value we offer to the Chemical Industry. This growth strengthens our collective voice and impact.

Our programs and initiatives have multiplied in numbers and have grown further in stature, providing our members with valuable resources, networking opportunities, and skill development.

The 16th **Annual India Chemical Industry Outlook Conference & Exhibition**, the signature event of ICC held in March 2023 with McKinsey & Co. as the Knowledge Partner and supported by Government of India, has evolved as the biggest and most sought-after event of the Chemical Industry in India. This conference witnessed the presence of Mr. Arun Baroka, the then Secretary – Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India; Dr. Srikar Reddy, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India; Mr. Nikhil R. Meswani, Executive Director, Reliance Industries Ltd.; Mr. Erik Fyrwald, Global CEO, Syngenta; Mr. Chris Musso, Sr. Partner, Denver - Rocky Mountains, McKinsey & Company, USA and Mr. Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India as the Key Speakers and Mr. Nadir Godrej, CMD of Godrej Industries Ltd and Mr. R Mukundan, MD & CEO of Tata Chemicals for the Exclusive Chat. The whitepaper titled '**India: The Next Chemicals Manufacturing Hub**' prepared by McKinsey & Company which was launched during this event has created immense interest globally, in India as an investment destination for the Chemical Industry.

The Council's 4th Edition of the **Sustainability Conclave** with ERM as the Knowledge Partner and supported by UNEP and ICCA, was successfully organised in November 2022 at New Delhi with massive engagement of the industry. More than 250 attendees attended the conclave, where more than 50 experts presented their views on various topics. Members will be pleased to know that this event has now been adopted as an official Event of Government of India.

The 57th **Annual ICC Awards Presentation function** held in September 2022, and the 13th **Seminar on Recognising Excellence of Performance in various facets of Chemical Industry** attracted the highest number of nominations and delegates and it was an outstanding success. In this regard, it will be our pleasure to place on record, our sincere

MESSAGE FROM ICC LEADERSHIP

appreciation and gratitude to **Deepak Nitrite Ltd, Alkyl Amines Ltd., Vinati Organics Ltd. Evonik, J B Joshi Research Foundation, Excel Industries and Epsilon Carbon** for their generous support in Co-Branding the ICC awards. Mr. Arun Baroka, the then Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India was the Chief Guest and Dr. (Ms.) Ilham Kadri, CEO, Solvay S.A. was the Chief Guest representing Global Chemical Industry for the Awards Presentation Function and Mr. Susanta Kumar Purohit, Jt. Secretary - Chemicals, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India was the Chief Guest at the seminar.

The second edition of **NG Log Next 2023** conducted in July 2023 was attended by international experts, business leaders, and government officials. The event has gained importance in stature in the field of Chemical Logistics.

The 11th Edition of **India International Phosgene Safety Conference** by ICC's Gujarat Chapter, **Refresher Courses on Chemical Engineering for Plant Personnel** at Mumbai, four **Basic Courses on Chemical Laboratory Safety Practices** and 10 **webinars on important subjects by eminent speakers** were some of the other important events which were organised for the benefit of our members. Large number of delegates attended these programs.

We are happy to note that ICC-Southern Region took the initiative to launch a new flagship event for ICC, the **"Industry Institution Partnership Summit"** at Chennai. The event was organized in association with Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and M/s Avalon Consulting. The theme of the summit was to envision a roadmap for strengthening Industry- Academia linkages for transforming the chemical industries. The event was attended by large number of delegates and was well covered in the media.

Indian Chemical Council, with the support of National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC), Cabinet Secretariat, Govt. of India, had also organised **'Fourteen Awareness Programmes on Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)'** as per our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NACWC.

We are glad to inform you that Indian Chemical Council (ICC) in association with Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai under the guidance of Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals (DCPC) has developed **two courses i.e., on 'Safety and Environment for the benefit of the Chemical Industry'** especially MSMEs. The certification course is now being offered in both online and physical modes. Five physical programs have been planned at Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Kolkata and in Northern Region.

It is our pleasure to inform the members that the R&D sub-committee of ICC has curated a **new Certification Course on 'Essentials of Chemical Process Transfer from Laboratory to Pilot Plant'** held virtually which was attended by more than 120 participants.

ICC has successfully advocated for policies and reforms that benefit our industry. Granting RoDTEP rates for the chemical industry and our relentless efforts to introduce PLI, reforms in FTAs... to name a few. ICC has also represented various issues of its members to the Government in terms of FTAs, Policies, Regulatory and Environmental matters.

We have constituted two new Expert Committees namely **Product Stewardship Advocacy Committee** and **Industry Academia Expert Committee** during the year for the betterment of Indian Chemical Industry and are happy to announce that ICC has signed **MoUs with leading Academic Institutions** such as Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, Foundation of Innovation and Technology Transfer, IIT Delhi (FITT) and Manipal University, Jaipur for furthering the industry academia collaboration. One of the important milestones was that ICC has signed a MoU with GeM Portal (Government e- Marketplace), National Public Procurement portal for procurement of goods and services by the government departments

As you are aware, ICC is the nodal agency for Responsible care in India. We work very closely with ICCA in implementing key projects beneficial for the industry.

Given that warehouses in India are often multi-user facilities storing a wide variety of chemicals with different hazard classifications, it is imperative to address this area with focused attention. To that end, ICC has developed benchmarks for Responsible Care and the **RC-Warehousing Manual** being developed will mitigate risks to human health and the environment within chemical warehouse facilities.

Another key initiative launched during the year is on the development of **RC KPI Webtool**. RC-KPI Webtool developed with the support of ICCA was launched in June. This innovative webtool will revolutionize how we collect, measure, and report Environment, Health, Safety, and Security data.

It is also our pleasure to inform that ICC ERO has organised the **21st Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray Lecture in Kolkata, to pay homage to Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray**, its Founder-President. The first lecture was delivered by **Prof. Man Mohan Sharma, Emeritus Professor of Eminence**, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, Padma Bhushan (1987) and Padma Vibhushan (2001)

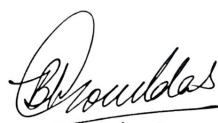
MESSAGE FROM ICC LEADERSHIP

Awardee on 'MILESTONES IN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY' and the second one was addressed by **Prof. Souvik Bhattacharyya**, Senior Vice President, TCG Centres for Research and Education in Science and Technology (CREST), Kolkata on 'Corporate Engagement In Higher Education: Industry Immersion For Students | Education For Working Professionals'.

As we gather for the AGM, let us also look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. Your input, feedback, and aspirations are invaluable to shaping the future of our Council. I encourage each one of you to actively participate in the discussions, share your insights, and contribute your ideas.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our council. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones, and we have every confidence that our future holds even greater promise.

Warm regards,



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Managing Director & CEO
DMCC SPECIALITY CHEMICAL LTD



VICE PRESIDENT
MR. RAJEN MARIWALA
Managing Director
ETERNIS FINE CHEMICALS LTD.



ADDITIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
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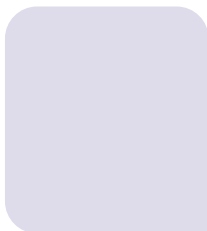
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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FLAGSHIP EVENTS OF ICC

September 2023 – August 2024

PRESENTATION OF ICC AWARDS AND SEMINAR

REPORT OF THE 14TH ANNUAL SEMINAR ON RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE OF PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS FACETS OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY:

As a prelude to the During the ICC Awards Presentation Function, a Seminar is being organised every year on the same day at the same venue. The award winning companies showcase their exceptional performances in respective fields for which they have been considered as the ICC Award Winners. In this regard The Fourteenth Annual Seminar in the series for "Recognizing Excellence of Performance in Various Facets of Chemical Industry" was organised on 15th September 2023 at Mumbai.



THE INAUGURAL LINE UP AT THE SEMINAR

The event witnessed active participation of more than 250 delegates including leaders of the chemical industry, Government officials, Eminent Scientists from Academic and research Institutions in India.

The Seminar started with a warm Welcome Address by the outgoing President, Mr. Bimal Goculdas. In his address he spoke about the relevance of the ICC seminar on recognising excellence in various facets of the industry. Mr. Goculdas hoped that the presentations which will be made by the award winners during the day will help share best practices amongst industry peers.



MR BIMAL GOCULDAS DELIVERING THE WELCOME ADDRESS

"By sharing best practices, the firms are allowing it to be seen and emulated by others. The entire industry benefits if it becomes

safer, more sustainable, and more environmentally responsible," he added.

Mr Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary-Chemicals, DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India was the Chief Guest for the Seminar. While addressing the gathering Mr. Purohit said that "India, the fifth largest global economy, is on its way to become the third-largest and the chemical sector has to play a very important role in this growth journey. He further said that the industry is already growing at about 9-10% and the foreign direct investment (FDI) in the sector is one of the highest among all the industries with 91% year-over-year growth in FY2022-23. Incidentally, the second largest sector which is attracting the highest FDI is pharma, an important sub-segment of the chemicals sector.



MR SUSANTA KUMAR PUROHIT DELIVERING HIS ADDRESS AS THE CHIEF GUEST

Mr. Purohit mentioned about recent review undertaken by the government on PCPIRs (Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Regions), it was found that there is huge investment potential in the chemical and petrochemical sector in states like Gujarat, Orissa Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, and more than Rs. 6 lakh crores of investment is in the pipeline. He also said that in order to better understand the needs of the industry, the DCPC has also been having stakeholder interactions with various Industry Associations including ICC.

Professor Aniruddha B Pandit, Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) delivered Key Note Address. He said that "Excellence is a very difficult concept to define and the definition of excellence keeps on improving when more learning happens, and the criteria gets added to it. The only way to recognise excellence is by excellence itself. You cannot hand over the judgment of assessing excellence to mediocre people.



PROFESSOR ANIRUDDHA B. PANDIT DELIVERING THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Professor Pandit also underlined the need to share best practices and celebrate excellence. "Whether you win or not, participation is more important, as it will teach you to keep improving. Excellence is a path and a passage, and never a goal," he stressed.

During the Inaugural Session, Responsible Care Logos were presented to Anshul Speciality Molecules Pvt Ltd, Best Value Chem Pvt Ltd, Deepak Nitrite Ltd and Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd from the hands of the Chief Guest.

Dr. Vishal Choudhary, Dy. Industrial Advisor, DCPC, Government of India delivered special address on "International Conventions and Chemical Industry". He spoke about the various international conventions pertaining to the chemical industry to which the Indian government is a signatory and which the industry is required to comply.



DR VISHAL CHOUDHARY MAKING THE PRESENTATION

The Inaugural Session ended with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. D. Sothi Selvam, Director General, ICC. He profusely thanked all the companies who participated in the Awards process by sending their nominations for various categories of Awards.

After the Inaugural Session, presentations were made by the Award Winning companies where representatives of the Award Winning companies highlighted the various initiatives they have taken in respect of their achievements which prompted ICC to confer on them the Awards.

58TH ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION FUNCTION

The 58th Annual Awards Presentation Function of ICC was organised in the evening on 15 September 2023 at Mumbai. More than 300 invited dignitaries attended the Awards function and cheered the Awards winners in the glittering ceremony.

Mr Bhagwanth Khuba, Hon'ble Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India (attended virtually) addressed the gathering. Mr Sameer S. Bharadwaj, Chief Executive Officer, Orbia Advance Corporation, S.A.B. de C.V was the Chief Guest representing Global Chemical Industry and Mr Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary, DCPC-Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India was the Guest of Honour.

The ceremony started with the formal Welcome Address by the outgoing President Mr. Bimal L. Goculdas.

Mr Goculdas in his Welcome Address stated that the ICC has signed MoUs with research institutions, including ICT-Mumbai and IIT-Delhi and with some others are in the pipeline, where the objective is to give access to world-class research to the large number of MSMEs in the chemical sector. He said that ICC is focussing on developing training programmes for SMEs. He also highlighted the need to work on changing the image of the industry.



MR BIMAL GOCULDAS DELIVERING THE WELCOME ADDRESS

Mr. Rajen K. Mariwala, Incoming President of ICC introduced the Chief Guest. In his address, Mr Mariwala opined that "Given

the large number of nominations and the huge support from the industry, the awards function has become a flagship event of ICC."



MR RAJEN K MARIWALA ADDRESSING THE GATHERING

Speaking about recent ICC initiatives, he informed that an industry-academia summit organised by ICC Chennai Chapter in association with IIT-Madras and Avalon Consulting has now become an annual event and from this year ICT-Mumbai will also be associating with this programme.

He said, a key focus this year for ICC will be to activate a subcommittee on skill development, and emulate the success achieved with the safety training programme, which had a successful beginning this year. ICC has also added a few other programmes this year including a Certification Course on essentials of chemical process transfer from laboratory to pilot plant and basic course on chemical lab safety.

Mr. Bhagwanth Khuba, Hon'ble Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers, in his virtual address underlined the pivotal role played by the chemicals and petrochemicals industry in India's economy. He informed that the government has taken various initiatives to reduce dependence on imports by way of creating better infrastructure, ease of doing business, and a PLI Scheme for chemicals, which is in the advanced stage. He also said that the government is committed to make domestic manufacturing globally competitive, create global champions in chemical manufacturing, boost exports and create jobs.



MR BHAGWANTH KHUBA, HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS, GOVT OF INDIA ADDRESSING THE AUDIENCE (VIRTUALLY)

He further said that the chemical industry is currently valued at \$210-bn and it is expected to grow at an accelerated pace to reach \$300-bn by 2025. He also said that the chemicals

and petrochemical sector can transform India into a global manufacturing hub in synchronisation with our Prime Minister's vision of 'Make in India and Made for the World'."

INVESTMENT DESTINATION: US-BASED ORBIA EYES "EXPONENTIAL GROWTH" IN INDIA

Mr. Sameer S. Bharadwaj, Chief Executive Officer of the Boston-headquartered diversified chemicals company, Orbia Advance Corporation, S.A.B. de C.V; was the Chief Guest at Awards function, representing the Global Chemical Industry. He said that he is full of hope that the industry will grow exponentially in India over the coming years.



MR SAMEER BHARADWAJ DELIVERING ADDRESS AS CHIEF GUEST

Speaking about his own company Mr Bharadwaj said that Orbia, formerly Mexichem, is among the world's leading raw material suppliers for polyvinylchloride (PVC) specialties, speciality polymer compounds and additives for PVC formulations including stabilizers, plasticizers and colorants. "About 37% of our business is in North America, 32% in Europe and 20% in South America. India is currently a small business but hope to grow exponentially in India over the years," he said.

"At present we have a relatively small presence through our precision agriculture business (Netafim). We have recently made a couple of acquisitions in the compounds business and we are re-establishing our building & infrastructure business' (Wavin's) footprint in India. We have a fair amount of trading activity for our other businesses. Today, Orbia is probably around Rs. 3,000-3,500 crores, but the potential is for exponential growth. We are absolutely committed to investing significantly in India," Mr. Bharadwaj added.

"India has so much gone for it – the country is blessed with a young & vibrant demographic and tremendous talent. I'm really happy to see the work the government has done to develop the infrastructure and encourage business activity that drives exponential growth. I've been observing India over the last two decades, and things have gotten a lot easier, thanks to the initiatives and efforts taken by the government. It's not easy to do business here, but it is possible to do business here with the highest standards of ethics and compliance. We've been able to operate successfully in India with that mindset," he said.



A PART VIEW OF THE AUGUST AUDIENCE

Addressing the august gathering, **Mr Susanta Kumar Purohit**, Joint Secretary-DCPC, Govt of India highlighted the need for active engagement among all stakeholders in working towards expeditiously increasing domestic capacities & capabilities to cater to rising demand and tackle growing imports.



MR SUSANTA KUMAR PUROHIT ADDRESSING THE GATHERING

After the inaugural addresses, the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour together presented the prestigious Awards to the following Award Winners:

1. ICC – K. V. MARIWALA AWARD FOR EFFECTIVE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY - ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP
→ **Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd in collaboration with Institute of Chemical Technology Mumbai**
2. "ICC-DEEPAK NITRITE" ACHARYA P. C. RAY AWARD FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGY".
→ **Excel Industries Ltd.**
3. "ICC – ALKYL AMINES" PROF. M. M. SHARMA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROCESS DESIGN & ENGINEERING
--- (No Winner)---
4. "ICC – VINATI ORGANICS" AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH & SAFETY:
CATEGORY I : Companies having annual sales revenue above Rs. 1000 crores:
→ **Chemplast Sanmar Ltd., Plant II, Mettur Dam, Salem Dist. Tamilnadu**

5. ICC AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH & SAFETY:

CATEGORY II: Companies having annual sales revenue below Rs. 1000 crores:

→ **DMCC Speciality Chemicals Ltd., Roha, Maharashtra**

6. "ICC-EVONIK" AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

CATEGORY I : Companies having annual sales revenue above Rs. 1000 crores:

→ **Epsilon Carbon Pvt. Ltd., Bellary, Karnataka**

7. I.C.C. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENT:

CATEGORY II : Companies having annual sales revenue below Rs. 1000 crores:

→ **Tagros Chemicals India Pvt. Ltd., Cuddalore, Tamilnadu**

8. I.C.C. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT:

CATEGORY I : Companies having annual sales revenue above Rs. 1000 crores:

→ **Grasim Industries Ltd., Indian Rayon, Veraval, Gujarat**

9. "ICC-EXCEL INDUSTRIES" AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Category – II (Companies having Annual Sales Revenue below Rs.1000 Crores)".

→ **Cetex Petrochemicals Ltd., Manali**

10. I.C.C. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY:

CATEGORY I : Companies having annual sales revenue above Rs. 1000 crores :

→ **Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd.**

CATEGORY II : Companies having annual sales revenue below Rs. 1000 crores :

--- (No Winner)---

11. ICC ADITYA BIRLA AWARD FOR THE BEST RESPONSIBLE CARE COMMITTED COMPANY

→ **BASF India Ltd.**

12. "ICC-EPSILON CARBON" Certificate of Merit for Best Compliant Company for the Codes under Responsible Care

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR CODES:

1. Code : Process Safety

→ **Bayer Vapi Pvt. Ltd.**

→ **Gulbrandsen Pvt. Ltd.**

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|---|---|
| <p>2. Code : Employee Health & Safety
→ Tagros Chemicals India Pvt. Ltd.</p> <p>3. Code: Pollution Prevention
→ Gulbrandsen Technologies (India) Pvt. Ltd.</p> <p>4. Code : Emergency Response
→ Deepak Phenolics Ltd.</p> <p>5. Code : Distribution
→ Godrej Industries Ltd., Ambernath</p> <p>6. Code : Product Safety & Stewardship Code
→ Clariant India Ltd.</p> <p>7. Code : Security
→ Excel Industries Ltd. &
→ Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd.</p> <p>13. ICC AWARD FOR BEST NICER GLOBE USER COMPANY
→ Alkyl Amines Chemical Ltd.</p> <p>14. ICC AWARD FOR BEST LOGISTICS SERVICE PROVIDER (LSP)
→ Dhanvarsha Roadways
→ Rahul Roadlines Trans Logistics Pvt. Ltd.</p> | <p>15. AWARDS FOR BEST DRIVERS UNDER NICER GLOBE</p> <p>1. Mr. Piran Pawar - KP Transports</p> <p>2. Mr. Firoz Mohammed Ali - Samir Roadlines</p> <p>3. Mr. Ashok Kumar Mahavir Singh - BM Roadlines</p> <p>4. Mr. Shanmugam R, MOC Logistics</p> <p>5. Mr. Kanagarajan K., MOC Logistics</p> <p>16. ICC LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
→ Mr. N. B. Godrej, Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej Industries Limited</p> <p>17. ICC D. M. TRIVEDI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
→ Management of industry

Dr. Prakash Trivedi, Head – SBU Polymers, Gharda Chemicals Ltd.

→ Education & Research

Dr. Amol A. Kulkarni, Scientist, Chem. Eng. Proc. Dev. Division, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune</p> |
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Mr. Nadir B. Godrej, Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej Industries Limited winner of **ICC LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**, gave his Acceptance Speech in the form of a verse.



MR N. B. GODREJ, DR. PRAKASH TRIVEDI & DR AMOL KULKARNI DELIVERING THE ACCEPTNCE SPEECHES AFTER RECEIVING THE AWARD

Dr. Prakash Trivedi, Head-SBU Polymers, Gharda Chemicals Ltd winner of ICC D. M. Trivedi Lifetime Achievement Award for Contribution to Indian Chemical Industry for Management of Industry in his acceptance speech reminisced about his joining with Dr. K. H. Gharda in Gharda Chemicals, and the period from 1995 to 2006, when he was involved in the development of “many new thermoplastics, particularly speciality thermoplastics, some - all for the first time in India, some for the first time in Asia, and some even for the first time in the world”.

Dr. Amol A. Kulkarni, Chief Scientist in the Chemical Engineering & Process Development Division of the CSIR-National Laboratory Ltd, Pune winner of “ICC D. M. Trivedi Lifetime Achievement Award For Contribution To Indian Chemical Industry for Education & Research” in his address made a case for moving from batch to continuous transformation of chemicals. He urged the industry to tap niche areas in chemicals like electronic chemicals, thermochromic dyes, electrochromic dyes, high value functional nanomaterials, performance coating on lenses, etc.

THE PROJECT “WeCHEMIE”

We are very well all aware that the percentage of women in the chemical industry globally is very less. On the other hand, many companies are working on improving their diversity quotient. This will not be possible if this issue is not addressed and if the pipeline is not built. The project “WeChemie” led by BASF India Limited, implemented by Somaiya Vidyavihar University (affiliate of Somaiya Vidyavihar) and supported by Indian Chemical Council (and its affiliate, Suschem Welfare Foundation) in cooperation with Indian Chemical Council.



MR SAMIR SOMAIYA, VICE CHANCELLOR, SOMAIYA VIDYAVIHAR UNIVERSITY SIGNING THE LETTER OF INTENT



“Letter of Intent” was signed by ICC (and its affiliate, Suschem Welfare Foundation), BASF India Limited and Somaiya Vidyavihar University. Ms. Sunita Sule, Mr. Samir Somaiya and Mr. Rajen Mariwala exchanged the “Letter of Intent”.

NEW PRESIDENT TAKES OVER

The other highlights of the evening was the baton change. It has been a tradition of ICC to handover the baton from the outgoing President to incoming President. Accordingly, Mr. Bimal Goculdas,

outgoing President, ICC handed over the baton to **Mr. Rajen K. Mariwala** and extended full support and cooperation to the new President and his team.

Mr. Bimal Goculdas, outgoing President handed over the baton to the new president and extended full support and cooperation to the new team. Mr Rajen Mariwala and **Mr. Kartik Bharat Ram**, incoming Vice President-ICC also addressed the gathering and sought the cooperation of all concerned to take the ICC into new heights.



MR BIMAL GOCULDAS GREETS THE INCOMING PRESIDENT MR RAJEN MARIWALA AFTER HANDING OVER THE BATON OF PRESIDENCY

To conclude the function, Mr. D. Sothi Selvam, the vibrant and energetic Director General of ICC proposed a customary Vote of Thanks. He thanked one and all and especially the companies who has participated in the Award nomination process which ICC received a record 131 nominations for various awards this time. He accorded special thanks to all member-companies who supported generously to make the function – the seminar and the Awards ceremony a grand success.



MR. D. SOTHI SELVAM, DIRECTOR GENERAL – ICC, PROPOSING THE VOTE OF THANKS

5TH ICC SUSTAINABILITY CONCLAVE 2023

The 5th edition of the ICC “Sustainability Conclave” was organised on 2-3 November 2023 at New Delhi. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India has recognized the Sustainability Conclave as a Departmental Event. The theme of the conference was “Integrating Sustainability & Business Strategy for the Chemical Industry- Addressing Challenges and Opportunities”. Environment Resource Management (ERM) a globally renowned entity in the sector was the Knowledge Partner for the Conclave. The Conclave received support from the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India and was collaboratively organized in association with the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC), American Chemistry Council (ACC), Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC) and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The state of Odisha, UNEP and a large number of corporates supported the event. The Knowledge report themed “Sustainability in Business Strategy Addressing Challenges and Opportunities” was released during the Conclave.



Shri Bhagwanth Khuba, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, and New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest with his virtual address and Shri Pratap Keshari Deb, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Energy, and MSME of the Government of Odisha delivered the Special Guest Address.

Ms. Nivedita Shukla Verma IAS, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Govt. of India, Shri Salil Singhal, Chairman Emeritus, PI Industries Ltd, Shri Mukhmeet S. Bhatia, IAS Chairperson, National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC), Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary, DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India were the Guests of Honour of the event.

Mr. Rajen Mariwala, President, ICC & Managing Director, Eternis Fine Chemicals Ltd, Mr. Ravi Kapoor, Chairman, ICC Sustainability Expert Committee & MD, Heubach Colour Pvt Ltd, and Mr. Kartik Bharat Ram, Vice President, ICC & Jt. Managing Director, SRF Ltd and Mr Bimal Goculdas immediate Past President, ICC and Managing Director DMCC Speciality Chemicals Ltd, were the other dignitaries present in the conclave.

The two-day event adopted by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India as the departmental event, hosted senior representatives from Indian and Global companies, government officials, multilateral organizations, chemical industry bodies, and academic experts to discuss trending issues and opportunities, including ESG strategies, de-carbonization, net-zero transition, digital transformation, green growth, cleaner energy, safety promotion, and product stewardship beyond regulations.

The Knowledge report themed “Sustainability in Business Strategy Addressing Challenges and Opportunities” was released during the Conclave.

At the **CEO Roundtable** organized in the evening on 2nd November, substantive dialogue with distinguished CEOs of the industry. The objective of the deliberations was to dissect pertinent issues and collectively seek pragmatic solutions that would foster sustainability within the chemical industry. This endeavour was underpinned by the notion of forging a symbiotic partnership, wherein governmental support and guidance harmonized seamlessly with industry stakeholders.



Given India's global commitments to mitigate climate change, reduce carbon footprints, enhance the use of renewable energy, and promote sustainable corporate operations, the Sustainability Conclave held great significance.

During the Conclave, **Indian Chemical Council (ICC)** and the **India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)** signed an **MOU** with the objective to strengthen the Indian chemical industry and enhance global semiconductor manufacturing.



This alliance covers areas like insights on manufacturing, participating in annual events, facilitating meetings among member companies, organizing events on semiconductor-grade chemicals, sharing policy information, and exploring further collaborations.

SECOND EDITION OF “INDUSTRY INSTITUTIONS PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT”

The second edition of the “Industry Institutions Partnership Summit” was organized in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai and supported by M/s Avalon Consulting as the Knowledge Partner on 10th January 2024 at Chennai. The Summit was organised under the guidance of Mrs Ramya Bharathram, Additional Vice President, ICC and MD & CFO of Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd. The theme of the summit was

“Building Sustainable Partnerships between Industry and Academia to Transform the Indian Chemical Industry” to address the critical challenges facing the industry in the areas of Systems & Processes, Capacity building and Quality up-gradation.



The summit attracted eminent speakers such as Padma Bhushan Prof. J. B. Joshi; Prof. A. B. Pandit - Vice Chancellor (President), ICT, Mumbai; Prof. Ravi Krishna, HOD, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT-Madras; Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Vice Chancellor, Pondicherry University; Prof. Rajnish Kumar, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Madras; Mr. Rajen Mariwala, President, Indian Chemical Council; Dr. Prakash Trivedi, Head-SBU Polymers, Gharda Chemicals Ltd; Prof. Rahul Nabar, Adjunct Professor, IIT, Bombay; Mr. Suresh Ramachandran, Country Head & Managing Director, Arkema India; Mr Kartik Bharat Ram, Vice President-ICC & Jt. Managing Director, SRF Ltd and Mr Bimal Goculdas, MD & CEO, DMCC Speciality Chemicals Ltd.



The summit's primary objective was to promote Industry-Academia linkage and to facilitate partnerships and collaborations. India faces acute shortage of employable manpower or skilled people though it brings out qualified personnel from various educational institutions in large numbers.

It is estimated that only a very small proportion of the workforce in the country has undergone formal training for desired skills, compared with those of South Korea (96%), Japan (80%), Germany (75%), UK (68%), USA (52%). Industry-academia linkage is only 4.7 out of 10 in India according to the recent study titled '**Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research**' conducted by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry with support from DSIR, Ministry of Science and Technology. The study revealed that there is a need for a strong collaboration between the Institutions and industries to come up with innovative ideas in research along with higher investments in R & D.

The study cites constraints in research capacity, innovation and low enrolment in PhD programmes, along with few opportunities for interdisciplinary working because of a weak innovation ecosystem in academia. For instance, India has 7.8 scientists per 1000 people compared to 180.7 in Canada, 53.1 in South Korea and 21.2 in the USA. Some states are good in Industry Academia Linkages and others are found to have moderate to weak Linkages.



With the strong macroeconomic fundamentals coupled with effective policy measures of the government, India is expected to grow at a higher trajectory in the coming times. The Chemical industry from the present size of 220 billion USD is expected to touch the USD 1 Trillion mark, by 2040. To reach this high level, it is essential to develop leadership in innovation, science and technology to compete in this global knowledge economy. Hence, it becomes imperative to develop strong Industry- Academia Collaborations in the country to accelerate innovations in various spheres which will contribute to the growth of all sectors of the economy.



Growth of research and development through successful collaboration between Institutions and industries more often leads to development of new products and solutions which promote economic growth in the long run.

There are some good Industry Academia collaborations of the industry with leading educational institutions but in the field of Chemicals such collaborations are very small in number. Chemical Industry is a knowledge-based industry and strong linkages between Industry and Academia can create import substitution of the much-needed technology and value-based solutions.

Readers will be pleased to know that ICC has formed an Expert Committee on "Industry-Academia Collaboration" and this committee now headed by Mr Dinesh Chopra has signed MoUs between ICC and leading Educational Institutions such as ICT Mumbai, Manipal University, Jaipur, Delhi technical University, Shiv Nadar University and Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, for creating "Centres of Excellence" towards furthering the "Industry Academia Collaboration".

Recently ICC also signed an MOU with BASF and Somaiya Vidya Vihar University on a project titled WeChemie to "Equip 200 women from underprivileged backgrounds to pursue careers in the chemical industry". This initiative is spearheaded by Dr Achala Danait former Managing Director of Clariant & Dean of Strategy and Industry Partnerships of Somaiya Vidyavihar University. It is also worthy to note that CSDC (Chemical Skill Development Centre) an initiative of ICC with CIA and MIA in Southern Region is running very successful.

17TH ANNUAL INDIA CHEMICAL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

The 17th Annual India Chemical Industry Outlook Conference & Exhibition was held on 29th February & 1st March 2024 at Mumbai. More than 650 delegates participated in the Conference. The event was specifically marked for active participation of Great Britain (as Country Partner; Government of Odisha as State Partner; Siemens Limited as Digitization Partner; Kakinada SEZ Limited as Infrastructure Partner; GPC (Global Product Compliance) as Regulatory Knowledge Partner; PIP (Arete Group) as Chemical Park Partner; Rockwell Automation as Technology Partner; and MogliX as Procurement Partner. Apart from the above, a galaxy of more than 40 companies supported this mega event being the partners mobilising their resources and manpower to make the event a Grand Success.

Chemical Weekly, Chemical Industry Digest, Mazda Publications, PolymerUpdate, S&P Global, GreenChemisTree Foundation were the media Partners and ET Now Channel was the Telecast Partner.

Participation of large delegation from UK, UAE, Japan and Flanders & Port of Antwerp from Belgium added special flavour to the 2-day event. Mr Deepak Mishra, IFOs, Joint Secretary – Department of Petrochemicals, Government of India; Mr. Liam Condon, CEO, Johnson Matthey; Mr Harjinder Kang, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner (HMTc) for South Asia, British Deputy High Commission; His Excellency Mr Abdulla Al Shamsi, Ministry of Industry & Advance Technology, United Arab Emirates (UAE); Mr Nob Tabata, Executive Officer & COO and Mr Ken Fukui, General Manager, Chemicals Division, Energy & Chemicals Company, Itochu Corporation Japan; Dr. Ulrich Weihe, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company, Frankfurt, Mr Bhupendra Singh Poonia I.A.S., Managing Director-IPICOL & Addl Secretary-Industries Dept., Govt of Odisha and Mr N. Yuvraj I.A.S., Secretary, Dept. of Industries and Commerce, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh were the dignitaries who addressed the large audience.

The Inaugural Session commenced with the opening remarks by Mr Kamal P. Nanavaty, Chairman, Conference and Exhibitions Committee of ICC & President – Strategy Development, Reliance Industries Ltd. He said that "India is now the new buzzword and said that India's next decade would resemble the journey of China in the period from 2007 to 2011. "India is on a take off stage, and it will open up many great opportunities for the chemical industry," he pointed out quoting the Morgan Stanley Report of October 2022.

Mr. Nanavaty noted that the shift in income distribution and the rise in consumption in the country forecast to grow 2.5 times between 2022 and 2032 would lead to demand for a variety of chemical products. He observed that in the past 17 years, the chemical demand has grown almost three times.



MR. KAMAL P. NANAVATY, CHAIRMAN- CONFERENCE & EXHIBITIONS, ICC, MAKING THE OPENING REMARKS AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION

Mr. Nanavaty highlighted the growing imports of chemicals and petrochemicals – one of the largest categories of the nation's imports. "For Chapters 28 to 40 HS codes of all chemicals and petrochemicals, the annual import value is \$101-bn. This represents a huge opportunity to create domestic capacity and create capacity in neighbouring countries (because India has entered into free trade agreements with many neighbouring countries), and service the rising demand," he said.

Comparing India's chemical industry with that of China, he said the huge gap presents an ideal opportunity waiting to be tapped in a range of chemicals like methanol, propylene oxide, acetic acid, propylene glycol, TDI, phenol, cumen, toluene, etc. "China is several folds ahead of us. Therefore, India is the right place to capture this opportunity by building capacities here or in neighbouring countries, etc," noted Mr. Nanavaty.

Mr Rajen Mariwala, President, ICC in his Welcome Address has remarked that the VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity) world has manifested itself in the true sense in the past three to four years, given the major geopolitical disruptions and subsequent impact on energy, food, commodities, and supply chains.

MR RAJEN MARIWALA, PRESIDENT-ICC DELIVERING THE WELCOME ADDRESS

"These critical factors and their impacts need to be built into business strategies, along with the disruption of climate change, sustainability and artificial intelligence. Chemical industry will

have to be on the forefront of adapting to these disruptions and we need to be ahead of the curve in some of these areas,” Mr Mariwala said.

Mr. Liam Condon, CEO, Johnson Matthey, UK, while delivering the First Key Note Address of the Session shared his excitement about the future for India. “I never cease to be amazed at the progress and the speed of progress in India. With India’s GDP expected to exceed \$4 trillion already this year and economic growth estimated at over 6%, India will remain the fastest growing economy in the world for the foreseeable future. India’s chemical industry, already one of the largest in the world, is growing even faster,” he said.

MR LIAM CONDON, CEO, JOHNSON MATTHEY DELIVERING THE 1ST KEY NOTE ADDRESS

The growth will be fuelled by domestic consumption, changes in consumer preferences towards more bio-friendly products and a global shift in supply chains as companies seek supply resilience in an increasingly volatile global environment, he added.

Mr. Condon also noted the opportunity to increase domestic production considering the expected rise in the sector’s trade deficit from around \$10-bn in 2021 to \$40-bn in 2040.

“India has most of the right enablers for growth, including a competitive labour force and relatively low capital costs. India is rapidly developing research and development talents and is working to secure the supply - either imported or locally produced - of certain feed-stocks, such as methanol, but overall, because of the many competitive advantages, Indian chemical companies consistently outperform global peers in terms of profitability,” Mr Condon asserted. Speaking about the global chemical industry, Mr. Condon said despite some stiff short-term headwinds, the medium- and long-term outlook for the industry is highly favourable. This was attributed to the global energy transition and chemical industry being a critical enabler in achieving global net zero targets.

“The global journey to net zero is creating new markets and huge investment opportunities. To stay on the climate trajectory defined in the Paris agreements, annual clean energy investment worldwide will need to be more than tripled by 2030 to round \$4 trillion. The countries and regions that win the race to decarbonise will be those with ready access to renewable energy and the technology to decarbonise ahead of others. They will attract the most global investment, build new markets and eventually reduce costs. I am absolutely convinced that India will be a world leader in enabling decarbonisation across the globe,” he said.

India’s plentiful resources of renewable energy, especially solar, would act as a catalyst for the transformation of the Indian power sector and also help India become a green hydrogen champion. “Beyond the numerous domestic applications such as decarbonisation of heavy industry, feedstock for decarbonised chemicals and mobility, the potential for export is considerable. Green hydrogen has a key role to play globally in decarbonising energy, mobility, as well as hard-to-abate sectors such as chemicals and steel. In all these areas the chemical sector has a unique role to play in enabling the transition to net zero. By improving process efficiency, catalysing the shift to decarbonised feedstocks, enabling the production of decarbonised fuels such as biofuels and e-fuels, and by encouraging circularity,” he observed.

Mr. Condon said Johnson Matthey and many other British companies with cutting edge technologies are seeking to partner with Indian firms to address the energy transition together. “The future of our industry depends on our ability to develop and deploy the most advanced technologies to help the world achieve net zero,” he concluded.

UK-India trade relationship

Mr. Harjinder Kang, His Majesty’s Trade Commissioner (HMTC) for South Asia, British Deputy High Commission while delivering the Second Key Note address at the Session thanked ICC for choosing UK as the Country Partner for this conference. He said that the chemical sector is one of the key industries that has been in the forefront of deepening the UK-India trade relationship.

MR HARJINDER KANG MAKING THE 2ND KEY NOTE ADDRESS

Mr Kang provided details about UK-India trade and efforts to enhance it through the UK-India Enhanced Trade Partnership, of which the free trade agreement (FTA) is a key component. Speaking about the UK chemicals sector, he said the sector is looking to transform itself in terms of positive environmental impact and aligning it with economic growth. The UK government is pioneering initiatives for transitioning towards a circular economy, developing sustainable materials, and creating green technologies – areas which present partnership opportunities with India, he noted. The collaboration in this sector is very strong. Both countries share the common commitment to advance environmentally responsible practices & technologies and to address the common challenges in seizing that opportunity.

"UK companies can tap into India's cost competitive manufacturing base, access raw materials, and strategic geographic locations to expand market presence, optimise production processes and drive cost efficiency. Likewise, Indian companies stand to benefit from collaborating with UK companies and institutions, by gaining access to cutting edge research and development, innovative ecosystems, government support & incentives and established distribution networks in the Western world," said Mr. Kang.

UAE-India partnership opportunities

His Excellency Mr. Abdulla Al Shamsi from the Ministry of Industry & Advance Technology, United Arab Emirates (UAE) while delivering the third Key-Note Address showcased the burgeoning trade between India and UAE.

"India's proximity to the United Arab Emirates makes our two countries natural trading partners. The strong trade ties reached a key milestone in 2022 with the signing of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)," he said.

Non-oil trade between the nations grew 4% year-on-year in 2023 to reach \$53-bn. India is the world's leading destination for the UAE's non-oil exports with a share of 11% of the country's total exports. "In the chemical sector, trade between the countries was more than \$3-bn last year and our plan is to make it more than double this number by 2027," said Mr. Al Shamsi.

HIS EXCELLENCY MR ABDULLA AL SHAMSI DELIVERING THE KEY NOTE ADDRESS ON "UAE-INDIA PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY"

Meanwhile, UAE's direct investments in India were around \$17-bn by the end of September 2023, making it the seventh largest global investor in India. "Most of this investment is being channelled into renewable energy, food processing, healthcare sectors, but we are determined to expand to priority sectors like the chemical sector," he said.

"More and more companies are coming to the UAE to leverage the country's competitive advantage, which include competitive land, infrastructure & utilities, attractive financing solutions and support to increase bilateral trade. After we signed the CEPA, we've seen this especially between UAE and Indian companies. It's our role to accelerate these partnerships in the chemical sector specifically," His Excellency stressed.

Japan Petrochemicals Sector

Mr. Nob Tabata, Executive Officer & Chief Operating Officer, Chemicals Division, Energy & Chemicals Company and **Mr. Ken Fukui**, General Manager, Chemicals Division, Energy & Chemicals Company of Itochu Corporation delivered the Fourth Key Note Address on Road Map for Japan-India Partnership: Petrochemicals" at the session. They presented the scenario in the Japanese petrochemicals industry and collaboration opportunities for the two nations.



MR NOB TABATA OF ITOCHHU CHEMICAL CORPORATION, JAPAN, DELIVERING THE KEY NOTE ADDRESS

Mr. Fukui pointed out that the refining capacity in Japan will keep coming down with declining population and this would continue until rationalisation till 2026.

"The biggest headache the Japanese petrochemical industry is now facing with regard to olefins. We now have 12 naphtha crackers with capacity of 6 million tonnes. Japan's net demand for ethylene is now 3.5 million tonnes, so we can shut down 5 out of the 12 naphtha crackers immediately and this rationalisation will keep going on," he noted.

In the near future, the Japanese petrochemical industry will have to deal with two issues simultaneously - decarbonisation and SDGs (sustainable development goals).

The petrochemical industry accounts for 5% of the entire CO2 emission in Japan. Decarbonisation and producing green chemical are the key priorities for the industry.

Mr. Fukui described the impact of the integrated refinery-petchem units in China that are running at over 110% utilisation rates. He said the expansion activities in China will likely continue till at least 2027-28.

Speaking about collaboration with India, Mr Fukui highlighted opportunities in upstream trading for olefins and derivatives including the aromatics. "Japan can be very helpful for the fine chemicals sector in India. We have a bunch of fine chemical producers and products which can find applications in the electronics, batteries, automobiles and construction. This is probably going to be the focus areas for cooperation among the two countries," he opined.

Global Trends

Dr. Ulrich Weihe, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company, Frankfurt delivered the Fifth Key Note Address on “Lens into the Future – Business Trends Shaping Chemical Industry Over Next Decade”. He said the global chemical industry, from a capital market perspective, has outperformed other sectors consistently over the last 20 years, albeit not so in the last two or three years.



MR ULRICH WEIHE, SENIOR PARTNER, MCKINSEY & COMPANY DELIVERING THE 5TH KEY NOTE ADDRESS

Speaking about the global disruptions of concern to the chemical industry, he listed the overall slowdown of demand & consumer spendings, the slump in exports to China due to lower demand and self-sufficiency efforts, and growing regional imbalances driven by geopolitical uncertainties. “We are seeing oversupply situations in certain value chains due to the demand challenges and also due to the incentives provided in certain regions to build capacities,” he informed.

This scenario has been ideal for the re-emergence of M&As. “In the last couple of years, it had been very quiet on the M&A front, due to high multiples, uncertainty and lack of available capital. We’re seeing a trend reversal in the last quarter 2023 and beginning of this year. We see significant increase of M&A opportunities and significant cleaning up of legacy portfolios of diversified chemical companies. The consolidation in certain segments will drive the ability to build leadership positions, and therefore will be beneficial for the competitiveness of chemical companies in these segments,” Dr. Weihe remarked. He highlighted the critical role for chemical industry in energy transition. “Humankind is facing massive challenges in decarbonisation and going to net zero without the chemical industry is not going to work. The commitments being made by downstream industries in terms of sustainability transition and decarbonisation would not be fulfilled without the chemical industry providing the green chemicals, whether it is through recycling, carbon capture & storage, biotechnology, etc,” Dr Weihe stressed.

The role of artificial intelligence in enabling massive improvements of productivity, efficiency and basically all functions of the chemical industry was also covered by Dr. Weihe. “In the chemical industry, beyond application technology, there’s been relatively little blockbuster innovation in the last 50 years. We see that artificial intelligence can drive innovation massively,” he added.

Scope for Growth

Mr. Deepak Mishra IFoS, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, who was the **Guest of Honour**, noted that being a deregulated sector, the chemical industry does not require the government’s nod to make investment decisions and the fact that there is very less compliance burden for setting up plants, except for mandatory ones like environmental regulations.

MR DEEPAK MISHRA, IFoS, JT. SECRETARY, DEPT OF PETROCHEMICALS, GOVT OF INDIA, DELIVERING HIS ADDRESS.

“There are no requirements to take licenses or permissions to import raw materials unless covered by some international conventions. Our basic customs duties are very reasonable and we don’t have many non-tariff barriers. So, if somebody wants to integrate their units into the global value chain, one can do that easily in the country,” he said.

Mr. Mishra said the chemical industry has been thriving on domestic demand, which is set to increase in the years to come. “Even to meet our present domestic demand, we have a large business opportunity in the country. We can set up a world-scale facility that can totally cater to the Indian market,” he said. The Joint Secretary highlighted opportunities for the downstream industry in C6 products like benzene, in which India has a net surplus.

He called for a shift in focus from manufacturing commodity chemicals to speciality chemicals that are being currently imported into the country. Given the growing consumer preference for greener products, Mr. Mishra urged the industry to opt for more sustainable production and create world-class green chemicals capacities that would also provide a huge export advantage.

This shift would also require a big thrust on R&D and developing human resource capabilities. “India is very good in technical education and the government has done its bit over the years by setting up organisations of international standards. But there is a disconnect between the industry and the research organisations,” he said, and urged for better synergies and communication between the industry and established research institutions.

Pitching for Chemical Investments

Government representatives from Odisha and Andhra Pradesh made presentations pitching for investments in the chemical value chain.



MR BHUPENDRA SINGH ADDRESSING THE DELEGATES

Mr Bhupendra Singh Poonia I.A.S., Mg. Director – IPICOL & Addl. Secretary – Industries Dept., Government of Odisha, pointed out that Odisha is strategically located on the eastern seaboard with three major functional ports and many potential sites to develop ports, a vital requirement for the chemical industry. The state is seeking to diversify from its existing strong positions in minerals & metals and petrochemical sector is one of the first sectors where the state offers the maximum incentives, he said. He underlined the key advantages offered by State in terms of industrial-grade land available near ports, water and power available at competitive rates, existence of the Paradeep PCPIR and Gopalpur port, among others.

In his pitch for Andhra Pradesh, **Mr. N. Yuvraj**, Secretary, Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Andhra Pradesh, showcased the presence of three industrial corridors running across the state, six operational ports & four greenfield ports being developed, existence of public-funded and privately owned industrial parks.

In his recorded address, Mr Yuvraj also noted that Andhra Pradesh is one of the three states which has been notified under the PCPIR policy of the central government.

LAUNCH OF THE WHITE PAPER:



A White Paper on **“Securing Competitiveness in India’s Chemical Industry”** prepared by McKinsey & Company was formally launched by Mr Deepakk Mishra, IFoS, Jt. Secretary – Department of Petrochemicals, Govt. of India during the inaugural function.

Mr. Kartik Bharat Ram, Vice President, ICC and Joint Managing Director, SRF Ltd, concluding the Inaugural Session of the 2-day event noted that the chemical industry is expected to grow at a CAGR of about 11 to 12% over the next five years and reach a value of \$300-bn by 2027.



MR KARTIK BHARAT RAM, VICE PRESIDENT – ICC MAKING THE CONCLUDING REMARKS AND VOTE OF THANKS AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION

“There are several factors driving this growth, including increasing demand for chemicals from a variety of end-use sectors and the growing middle class in India, which is driving up the demand for consumer goods,” he said and highlighted the key role being played by the government in enabling the growth of the industry by launched various initiatives including the ‘Make in India’ programme.

Inauguration of the Exhibition



**MR DEEPAK MISHRA ALONG WITH OTHER DIGNITARIES
FORMALLY INAUGURATES THE EXHIBITION.**

11TH INDIA INTERNATIONAL PHOSGENE SAFETY CONFERENCE

Indian Chemical Council - Gujarat Chapter organized the "11th India International Phosgene Safety Conference" on 31st August 2023 in Vadodara. The conference was attended by more than 100 participants from all over India. It boasts an extensive participant profile, encompassing everyone across the Phosgene Value Chain. The chief guest of the inaugural session was **Mr. Prakash Raman**, Managing Director, Silox India Pvt. Ltd.

The welcome address was delivered by **Mr. Ravi Kapoor**, Chairman – Sustainability Expert Committee of ICC and MD, Heubach Colour Pvt. Ltd.



MR. RAVI KAPOOR DELIVERING THE WELCOME ADDRESS.

Mr. Kapoor explained the history and genesis of the India International Phosgene Safety Conference and also applauded the momentum as it has maintained resiliently for so many years.

He also threw light on the importance of this event. Mr. Kapoor explained that even if a small mishap occurs anywhere in the world, it affects the Chemical industry, its image, and business.

Mr. Prakash Raman in his address mentioned that, the chemical industry is growing and is expected to grow 4 to 5 times by 2040, which makes it a significant component of the growth of the country in the coming years. At the same time, the biggest concern is that all the chemical businesses should have a fundamental plan on how are we going to treat safety and the environment in this growth. We don't have any defined solution on how are we going to manage it. Particularly to the SMEs, it should be explained why safety is fundamentally important. The bigger companies should handhold the smaller companies in this regard. He appreciated that conferences like this are extremely important to learn new techniques. He urged the participants to gain knowledge from the experts of the day and translate it to the shop floor team.



**MR. PRAKASH RAMAN, CHIEF GUEST, ADDRESSING THE
DELEGATES**

Mr. Stefan Drees, Covestro, Germany and Head of Global Phosgene Steering Group presented on "Phosgene Industry Developments - Global Updates". He covered the following points in his presentation.



MR. STEFAN DREES, DELIVERING HIS ADDRESS

- The Safe Use of Phosgene depends on a multi-layer Safety Concept
 - Primary Measures (Prevention)
 - Secondary Measures (Mitigation)
- Phosgene Fatalities in Chemical Industry
- Registered Emissions of Phosgene
- Fatal Accident in Hungary, 2022

- Development Status of Phosgene Industry Practices (PSP) by Country/Region
- Global Use of Medical Badges well-established
- Medical doctors' video training
- Phosgene Exposure Identification Card
- Medical App/Website
- Feb 2023: Ohio Train Wreck involving Vinylchlorid
- Phosgene and Triphosgene
- Use of phosgene stable - major challenges remain
- Global Phosgene Industry's Perspective
- Phosgene-based Processes - Outlook & Vision
- Challenges and Strategy

Mr. Bavanji Vekariya, Chairman IPC and Site Head - Ankleshwar, Covestro India presented the "Indian Phosgene Council (IPC) – Update and Way Forward." He covered the following points in his presentation.

- Indian Phosgene Council – Organization
- Vision & Mission
- Objectives of the Council
- Achievements of IPC 2022-2023
- Topics of interest
- Global Industry Recommendations for India
- Proposed 2023 road map



MR. BAVANJI VEKARIYA MAKING HIS PRESENTATION

Mr Vekaria appreciated the Indian Chemical Council playing the role of a catalyst and streamlining the whole of the activities. He also remembered Dr. Kurt Meurer and welcomed Mr. Steffan Drees to the conference.

Mr. Vikram Singhal, President & MD, Gulbrandsen Technologies (India) Pvt. Ltd. proposed the vote of thanks. He appreciated that there were no fatalities in the Phosgene industry in the last few years. But India has many areas where we need to improve. We should unlearn the mentality of not caring about our own safety. We need to inculcate safe habits and follow the processes strictly. He explained and urged the participants to adopt Nicer Globe, the way forward to Safe Transportation of Dangerous

Goods. He also applauded the work and continuity of IPC with the request to do more, create more sensitization and ways to prevent the incidents.



MR. VIKRAM SINGHAL PROPOSING VOTE OF THANKS.

Technical Presentations:

Mr. Prakash Dhimmar, Manager, GNFC Ltd. presented on the topic "Operational Safety Features of Phosgene Plant at GNFC, Bharuch". He explained on Physical Properties of Phosgene, reactions, phosgene plant flow diagram, flow diagram of dmw, closed cooling circuit system, safety features in phosgene plant, safe practices being followed and emergency response crew.

Mr. Barkath Udmman, Vice-President, Atul Ltd. made presentation on the topic on "Process Safety Incident Classification – API 754" covering topics like purpose of incident classification, what is psi? classification of psi as per api 754 standard, api-754 : classification of process safety incidents, psi classification – api 754, other types of tier 3 events and incident rate calculations.

Mr. Ramakrishnan Iyer, Head Manufacturing, Paushak Ltd. spoke on "Enhanced Safety Features". The following points were covered in his presentation. He discussed about Paushak, achievements, recent developments at paushak, enhanced safety features, additional safety and environmental protections, joint mock drill with ndrf - rescue mock drill, 2nd joint chlorine offsite mock drill, awareness of chlorine tonner emergency handling to NDRF team and 52nd national safety day celebration – 2023.

"Phosgene Management at UPL - Dahej" was the theme of **Mr. Sanjeev Bishnoi's** (Site Head - OHS, UPL Ltd.) presentation. He covered the following topics like Safety Sharing, preface-commissioned phosgene & mpp plants and pro-active measures. While, in pro-active measures, he covered various topics like engineering control, engineering control (in dcs), engineering control (in field), administrative control and activities performed with positive pressure suit (ppes control). In mitigative measures, he covered about medical treatment plan for phosgene exposure, medical facilities at site, wardroom area of ohc -1, ohc-2, availability of icu on wheels ambulances, facilities available in the ambulances, hospital tie-ups and multipurpose fire tender.

Mr. Yogeshkumar Prajapati, Asst. Manager – EHS, BASF presented on “Safety Culture Development” and covered the following points. He started with an introduction of Dahej Site. Then focused on explaining about the A-PMA Plants, Dahej, developing safety culture, E-Yellow card and BBSO system, training identification > training plan, plant area identification, plant area inspection plan, incident investigation and root cause analysis, risk identification and risk assessment, substance inventory, material safety data form and confined space checklist and marked up.



A PART VIEW OF THE DELEGATES

The technical session by the international experts commenced with an online presentation by **Dr. Marc Vosskaemper**, Global Head, Emergency Response & Medical Affairs, Covestro, Brunsbüttel, Germany. He delivered a presentation on “Medical Awareness and Improved Rescue Chain” covering the following topics.

He illustrated on Rescue Chain 2.0 – facing two challenges, ideal phosgene-specific rescue chain, medical awareness, medical awareness & site medical provisions for a qualified crisis response and recent global medical information.

He also screened a very useful and informative medical video. **The PSG Medical Film.**

Dr. Christian Lange, Plant & Process Safety, Covestro Deutschland AG, Leverkusen, Germany presented on “Best Practice Sharing: Flange Management.”

He started with an Introduction and Basics - Pipe Classes and Flanges, Gaskets, Bolting and Torquing – generals & introduction, Torquing Procedure – generals, basic requirements, staff requirements, flange tightness – generals, preparation work – details and torquing – practical implementation & quality control.



Dr. Christian Lange also shared incidences - Phosgene Release during Maintenance Activity & Phosgene Release during Unit Start-up. In these presentations He explained the details of the incidents, Lessons learned from the investigation and What should be done to prevent it?

Dr. Tejas Prajapati, Consultant in Toxicology, gave presentation on “Phosgene Exposure Management Overview”. He shared informative and helpful details on the topic.

Dr. Patrick Plehiers, III presented online from Germany on “PPE use in phosgene areas: A summary of III member company practices.” He spoke on Phosgene Badges and gave examples of protective gear, leak response, entry of restricted areas and maintenance work.

Dr. Thomas Geller, Phosgene Steering Group, Bayer AG, Dormagen, Germany also gave a virtual presentation on “Phosgene – Business & Safety” wherein he explained the participants about the Phosgene industry, Phosgene incidents, Byer principles and supplier guideline: qualification criteria & requirements

A parallel session among the present medical doctors took place. More than 10 doctors from the Phosgene facilities participated.

Dr. Vivek Yadav, Covestro India discussed general facts about Phosgene, rescue procedures in case of phosgene exposure, assessment of phosgene exposure and general treatment protocols.

Dr. Milan Thakar, Paushak Ltd. discussed detailed treatment protocols and his personal experiences while dealing with phosgene cases and basic treatments that can be instituted at primary level.

Other doctors also shared their experiences and doubts regarding phosgene exposure. The session was very interactive and interesting with open discussions based upon old experiences and medical knowledge.

OTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

TRADE RELATED ISSUES

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT:

- ICC received notification from Narcotics Commissioner on the Voluntary Code of Conduct with regard to 06 chemicals i.e., Acetone, Ethyl Ether, Hydrochloric Acid, Piperidine, Sulphuric Acid, Toluene on 1st September 2023. In this regard, ICC had requested members to adopt voluntary practice with regard to import and export of these 06 chemicals in order to obviate any difficulties in global trade of these chemicals.
- On 26th September 2023, one of the member companies brought to our attention that a notification from Indian Commerce Ministry requesting recommendations from the Indian Exporters on Tariff Concessions that India should seek from EU on India's exports to EU Member Countries. ICC shared the notification and format with the member companies for their inputs / suggestions.
- On 4th October 2023, ICC received a notification from Ministry of Finance with reference to the Circular No. 15/2023-Customs dated 07.06.2023 on mandatory additional qualifiers in import / export declarations in respect of certain products. The due date for implementation of Circular No. 15/2023-Customs dated 07.06.2023 was extended from 01.07.2023 to 01.10.2023 vide Circular no. 18/2023-Customs dated 30.06.2023. The same was circulated to member-companies of ICC.
- ICC received a notification on 6th October 2023 regarding formulation of proposals for the Union Budget 2024-25, which involves the review of the Central Customs & Goods and Service Tax (GST) in respect of Chemical sector. The notification of Budget Proposal and Format for Pre- Budget Proposal for year 2024-25 was circulated to member companies for their inputs / suggestions.
- On 22nd November 2023, ICC received a notification from DCPC requesting inputs regarding Preparation of India's Offer List for Peru under Trade in Goods Chapter for negotiations for the India-Peru Trade Agreement. The said notification along with excel sheet provided by DCPC was circulated to member-companies for their inputs / comments.
- On 8th December 2023, ICC had received notification from Department of Commerce regarding Review of Rules of Origin (RoO) under India-ASEAN FTA. The said notification was circulated to member-companies for their inputs / comments.
- ICC received an email from the DCPC requesting information pertaining to Technical Grade Urea manufacturers and UF Resin producers. In this regard, Notification received from the department was circulated to member companies for their inputs / comments. The responses received from members was shared with the department on 11th December 2023.
- On 10th January 2024, ICC received an email from Department of Commerce requesting inputs / Comments regarding Import Surge in India due to FTAs/PTAs. In this regard, The said notification was circulated to member-companies for their inputs / comments.
- ICC received Draft Notification for Amendment of Gas Cylinders Rules, 2016 (These rules may be called the Gas Cylinders (Amendment) Rules, 2024.) from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Government of India) and the said notification was circulated to member-companies to examine the document and share comments or suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification) on 11th March 2024.
- Notification on Petroleum (Amendment) Rules, 2024 (Draft of the Petroleum (Amendment) Rules, 2023, has undergone the necessary publication process as mandated by sub-sections (2) and (3) of section 29 of the Petroleum Act, 1934 (30 of 1934). The said notification was circulated to member-companies for their information on 12 March 2024.
- ICC circulated notification received from Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals on 26th April 2024 requesting inputs regarding Research & Development and Technology Upgradation in Chemical and Petrochemical Sector. In this regard, ICC requested its member companies to submit their inputs on thematic areas of Research & Development (R&D) and technology upgradation, potential thrust areas for Chemicals & Petrochemicals Sector, technology gaps, and opportunities for advancement within the chemical and petrochemical industry in the format given below.

Sr. no.	TRL Levels	Details of Projects	Total anticipated Financial Outlay (in Rs. Cr.)	Expected support from Gol	Segment (Agrochemicals, Dyes, Flavours and Fragrances, Polymer etc.)	Proposed duration of projects
1	1-9					
2	1-4					
3	5-9					

Subsequently, ICC through its own sources sent a representation with consolidated data to the department on 01 May 2024 containing company-wise in-house R&D expenditure on various Chemicals/ Pharmaceutical companies for the year 2022-23

- On 26th April 2024 ICC received a notification from DCPC requesting members to provide information regarding the top exported Chemicals from India those falling under the "Others" category as mentioned by department in their email. The said notification was circulated to member-companies for their inputs / comments and inputs received from members was submitted to the department subsequently.
- On 15th May 2024, ICC circulated notification received from the Export Promotion council for EOUs and SEZs (Set up by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India) regarding the Renewal / Apply new of Registration Cum Membership Certificate for the financial Year 2024-25. Members were requested to get their Registration-Cum Membership Certificate renewed / applied at the earliest as per the fee structure in para 9, approved by the Central Governing Council.
- India - Sri Lanka Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) negotiations have resumed. Product Specific Rules (PSRs) on all tariff lines are being negotiated as part of this agreement. ICC circulated the information to its member-companies and inputs are requested on PSR proposals for all the tariff lines pertaining to Petrochemicals.
- DCPC has sought seeking relevant issues of the Industry related to Argentinian and Brazilian bilateral trade and Investment opportunities in India in Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector. ICC circulated the information to member-companies seeking issues for submitting the same to DCPC.
- Notification of QCOs (Quality Control Orders) for 5 Chemicals viz. (a) Ethylene Oxide (b) Monocrotophos (c) Alumina Calcined (d) Sodium Cyanide (e) Toluene Di-isocyanate (TDI-80) is under active consideration of the DCPC. In this regard, data related to (i) Installed Capacity (MT), (ii) Production (MT), (iii) Consumption/Demand (MT) with respect to above mentioned 5 Chemicals were required. ICC circulated the same to member-companies for requesting necessary information to enable to send a consolidated reply to DCPC.
- Gazette Notification regarding extension of enforcement date of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for 03 Chemicals viz. (i) Acetic Acid (ii) Methanol (iii) Aniline was circulated to member-companies for information.
- The Ortho Phosphoric Acid (Quality Control) Order, 2021, has been amended. Gazette Notification was circulated to ICC members for information.
Key Highlights of the Amendment were:
 1. This Order shall be called the Ortho Phosphoric Acid (Quality Control) Second Amendment Order, 2024. It shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.
 2. Nothing in this Order shall apply to the Ortho Phosphoric Acid when used as raw material in the production of fertilizers.
- 3. After the date of commencement of the QCO, no person shall manufacture, import, distribute, sell, hire, lease, store, or exhibit for sale any product(s) covered under the QCO without a Standard Mark except under a valid Licence or CoC from BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards).
- DCPC has requested inputs / comments on the European Union's Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulations (ESPR), Regulation on Shipment of Waste and OECD Decision of the Council on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Wastes Destined for Recovery. ICC circulated the same to its member companies requesting inputs / comments.
- The Finance Ministry has slashed Customs Duty on Lab Chemicals, excluding Undenatured Ethyl Alcohol, to 10 percent from 150 per cent as per the 2024-25 Budget. The basic customs duty on Lab chemicals (excluding Undenatured Ethyl Alcohol of any alcoholic strength) for use in laboratories and for Research & Development purposes has been reduced to 10 percent, according to a notification by the Customs Department. As a trade facilitation measure, the Customs Department had earlier imposed a 10 percent import duty for lab chemicals imported in packings not exceeding 500 ml or 500 gm and meant for use solely as laboratory chemicals. However, to address the concerns of genuine users, the basic customs duty on Lab chemicals, excluding Undenatured Ethyl Alcohol of any alcoholic strength, for use in laboratories and for Research and Development purposes has been reduced to 10 percent effective August 1, 2024.
- DCPC is seeking inputs on an important agenda point under the e-Parinam task, which is being monitored by the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has requested to assess the requirements for tankages for storing chemicals and petrochemicals. Additionally, DPIIT has requested to explore the development of tank facilities at ports like DIGHI Port to facilitate the import and export of chemicals and petrochemicals. In this regard inputs / suggestions are requested on following which will be instrumental in formulating effective policies and strategies :
 - Current tankage capacity in the industry and its adequacy
 - Identification of critical in tankage infrastructure
 - Feasibility of developing tank facilities at DIGHI port
 - Potential benefits and challenges of such a facility
 - Any other relevant suggestions
- ICC circulated to member-companies information required by DCPC seeking inputs from industries on the following items :
 - Total Number of Sulphur manufacturing entities in India.

- Percentage/number of entities manufacturing Sulphur from Crude Oil.
- Percentage/number of entities manufacturing Sulphur from sources other than Crude Oil.

REPRESENTATIONS SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT:

- ICC delegation attended a meeting under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India on 12th December 2023. This was in continuation of the email communication from the DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India requesting State-wise information on Existing production capacity with expansions in last 3 years and new capacity/expansion of existing capacities planned in near future. In this regard, ICC shared notification and format with member companies for their inputs / suggestions. The response received from member companies was submitted to the department on 12th December 2023.
- ICC shared with member-companies the notification requesting views/ inputs from the Indian Exporters on Tariff Concessions that India should seek from EU on India's exports to EU Member Countries. The responses received from member companies have been consolidated and the representation was submitted to DCPC on 08 January 2023.
- ICC sent a representation to DCPC on 29 December 2023 requesting support for the Indian Chemicals & Petrochemicals Sector against imports from China followed by another representation on 06 January 2024, regarding Dumping of Chemicals from China into the Indian market.
- A stakeholder meeting was conducted on 4th January 2024 regarding logistics crisis caused by the Red Sea issue. The discussion was based on chemical industry being extremely dependent on transcontinental trade and logistics. Based on the responses received from member-companies, ICC sent a representation to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade; Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals; Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of External Affairs on 08 January 2023 requesting support from the Government departments for the said issue.
- On 8th January 2024, ICC submitted a revised report with Incentives Offered by Various States to industries including Chemicals & Petrochemicals industry to DCPC.
- ICC sent a representation to Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India on 17 February 2024 on India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) upgrade negotiations. The representation consisted of key concerns with respect to India Korea CEPA raised by industry stakeholders.
- ICC sent a representation to Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India on 17 February 2024 on India – ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (AITiGA). The representation

consisted issues of concern relating to the India – ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (AITiGA).

- Submission to DGFT requesting for rectification in the Error in Declaration of Controlled substances under Montreal Protocol.

The Export Policy 2018 had put certain conditions on some of the products falling under Ch 2903 that were declared as "Controlled Substances" under Montreal Protocol, while all other items under Ch 2903 were classified as Freely Exportable. This was perfectly in line with the List of Controlled substances under Montreal Protocol as published by the Ozone Cell, MoEF, GoI

However, the Trade Notice 60 of 2023 issued on 13th February 2024 has put the conditions applicable on export of all items falling under Ch 2903 – i.e. even on items that are not falling under Montreal Protocol. We presume this is an inadvertent error.

Even though Trade Notice 38 of 2023-24 issued on 16th February 2024 clarified that Trade Notice 60 is only a simplification exercise and is in no way an amendment to Export Policy 2018, the effect of this inadvertent error is actually an unintended amendment of Export Policy 2018 in so far as items under Ch 2903 that do not fall under Controlled Substances of Montreal Protocol are concerned.

Therefore, it was requested to DGFT for an urgent rectification of the error in Declaration of Controlled substances under Montreal Protocol as the Notification has put Exporters of all items under Ch 2903 in a quandary.

- ICC delegation attended the meeting to provide inputs for India's PSR (Product Specific Rules) positions for India-Australia CECA on 20 March 2024 and inputs received from members regarding CTSH 3910.00 (Silicones in Primary Forms) were submitted to the department.
- ICC sent a representation to Directorate General of Foreign Trade on 19th April 2024 regarding the issue on restricting the exemption of importing non-BIS certified Butyl Acrylate Monomer in SEZ Units No.: 71/2023 Dated 11-03-2024 and the Public Notice No.50/2023 Dated 11-03-2024 being faced by one of our member companies. ICC requested the DGFT to intervene in addressing this issue and amending the exemption list to include the Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals (DCPC).
- ICC made a detailed presentation covering the industry requirements focusing on the core issues, highlighting the major areas of concern, and outlining the recommendations regarding the tax issues in the Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector. India has several global scale competitive manufacturing facilities comparable with the best in the world and with the consistent policy support and handholding by the Government India can become the largest producer and exporter of Chemicals and achieve our honourable Prime Minister's vision of "Atmanirbhar Bharat". The industry will keenly be looking forward to the budget 2024-25 to see how the government's financial roadmap will impact their Chemical and Petrochemical industry.

A notification regarding recent implementation (from 01.04.2024) of new clause (h) in Section 43B of the Income Tax Act, 1961 received from DCPC was circulated to members.

- On 4th June 2024, ICC sent a representation to Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Central Board for Indirect Taxes & Customs, Ministry of Finance, National Committee for Trade Facilitation regarding overview of issues faced by industry while importing chemical products required for business utilization and requested department to intervene and take necessary action on the said issue.
- ICC made a representation to DCPC on 25th June 2024 requesting following points:-
 - Proposal 1 – Exemption of Acetic Acid from BIS requirement
 - Proposal 2 –
 - BIS implementation timelines to be extended by 2 years for Acetic acid meant for domestic consumption
 - BIS exemption for Acetic acid import under AA and EOU
- ICC sent a representation to DCPC on 28 June 2024 regarding Research & Development and Technology Upgradation in Chemical and Petrochemical Sector. The representation covered following points:-
 - Recommended the general views regarding the status of R&D in the sector including the priority areas which department has identified
 - Shared inputs on thematic areas of Research & Development (R&D) and technology upgradation, potential thrust areas for Chemicals & Petrochemicals Sector, technology gaps, and opportunities for advancement within the chemical and petrochemical industry in the format provide by department.

MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

- The ICC-NRO team organized a meeting with Shri Vijay Kumar, Joint Director, Department of Commerce, Govt of India along with industry members on Issues related to India's EU Trade in Chemicals and allied products and Issues pertaining to technical regulations.
- A meeting regarding a discussion on Mandatory additional qualifiers in import/export declarations in respect of certain products was held on 20th September 2023. The meeting was chaired by the Joint Secretary (Chemicals) at New Delhi. ICC NRO along with members participated in the discussion. A detailed circular, providing clarity and guidelines along with the Minutes of Meeting was also issued by DCPC.
- A meeting regarding the proposal for the addition of Dipropylamine to the list of Chemical Weapons Precursors was held in DCPC on 21st September 2023 under the

chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Chemicals, DCPC. ICC NRO with its members and other associations and stakeholders participated in the meeting.

- On 4th October 2023, ICC received notification from DCPC informing about meeting to be held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) in hybrid mode on 5 October 2023 at New Delhi with the industry representatives / stakeholders to discuss about the India-Australia CECA Negotiations on tariff lines (Chapters 28, 29, 32 and 38.08). The said communication received from department was shared with member companies for their information. ICC NRO attended this meeting held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals), DCPC along with representatives / stakeholders.
- ICC NRO, representatives from the Indian Bromine Platform along with Avalon Consulting convened a meeting with Shri Aditya Narayan, Under Secretary, Department of Commerce, and Shri Ajay Sahai, CEO of the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) to discuss the issue of fire safety regulations spanning across diverse global regions such as Europe, America, and China and how Indian consumers can benefit by strengthening of fire safety standards in India.
- A meeting to discuss the Pre-Budget Proposals for the Year 2024-25 was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) on 09 November 2023 at DCPC office. DCPC has requested associations and the industry to share their inputs / suggestions regarding the same.
- ICC had received a notification from the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals requesting comments / suggestions from the industry for formulation of proposals for the Union Budget 2024-25, which involves review of the indirect tax structure in the chemicals and petrochemicals sector on 7th November 2023. The said notification along with format for submitting comments / suggestions was shared with members. In this regard, ICC delegation participated in a meeting held on 9th November 2023 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. On the basis of responses received from member companies, ICC submitted its pre-budget proposal to DCPC on 1st December 2023.
- The industry stakeholder meeting was held under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary Chemicals on 30th November 2023 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, ICC delegation participated in the meeting to share the detailed representation related to issues industry is facing. Mr. K. K. Srivastva, Director, DCPC; Mr. Vedprakash Mishra IRS, Director MoEF & CC, Mr. Dinabandhu Gouda, Director HSMD - CPCB, Mr. Vinod Babu (Scientist- F), Chief Vigilance Officer, CPCB & Ms. Deepti Kapil, Scientist- D, CPCB had represented ministries.
- A stakeholder consultation meeting about Polyethylene Materials for Moulding and Extrusion (Quality Control) was conducted on 6th December 2023 at DCPC under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Petrochemicals, DCPC. The associations and Industry stakeholders have been asked to submit their inputs / recommendations to DCPC within the stipulated time.

A Stakeholder consultation meeting on Toluene (IS 537:2011) and n-Butyl Acrylate (IS 14709:1999) was also organized by DCPC on 6th December 2023. The meeting was chaired by Joint Secretary, Petrochemicals, DCPC.

- ICC NRO participated in an online meeting on the India-Peru Trade Agreement Stakeholder Consultation for Chemical Products, hosted by the LAC Division. Co-chaired by Shri Vipul Bansal, Joint Secretary from the Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals on 27th Dec 2023, the meeting aimed to gather stakeholder input on the trade agreement and requested associations, and industry stakeholders to share their inputs.
- A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) on 7th December 2023 at DCPC with the industry representatives/stakeholders to discuss India-Oman FTA negotiations on tariff lines (Chapters 28, 29, 32 and 38.08) and India's PSR position for the same and additional 388 Tariff lines.
- Ministry of MSME informed regarding negotiations on Tariff lines with Peru. During the 7th Round of India-Peru Trade Agreement negotiations, it was broadly agreed that both sides will exchange goods offered in HS 2022 nomenclature with effective duty as on 01 January 2024. The inputs/comments on Tariff Lines may be categorized in the following modalities:
 - Tariff Elimination Immediate (TEI) – Immediate tariff elimination of 100% on effective duty from the date of entry into force of this agreement.
 - Tariff Reduction Immediate (TR) – Immediate tariff reduction of 50% on effective duty from the date of entry into force of this agreement.
 - Phased Elimination - Phased elimination of 100% on effective duty for the period of 5 years or 10 years from the date of entry into force of this agreement.
 - Phased Reduction - Phased reduction of 50% on effective duty for the period of 5 years or 10 years from the date of entry into force of this agreement.
- ICC delegation attended a stakeholders meeting held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) on 15th January 2024 at New Delhi to discuss about India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) upgrade negotiations on Tariff concessions to be granted to Korea as per the enclosed annexures pertaining to Chapters 28, 29, 32 and 38.08 received from Department of Commerce. In this regard list shared by the department was shared with member-companies for their comments / inputs.
- A stakeholder meeting was conducted on 18 January 2024 regarding Review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) pertaining to TLs under Chapters 28, 29, 32 and 38.08. In this regard ICC delegation attended the said meeting and ICC sent an email communication to member-companies for their inputs / comments.
- ICC NRO attended the National Conference on "Strategic Trade Controls (NCSTS)" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 30th January 2024 organized by DGFT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), and other Government Agencies. The Conference focused on India's Strategic Trade Control related to Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment, and Technologies (SCOMET) and Export Controls] system and its International Best Practices, for ensuring compliance related to the export of dual-use (industrial and military) goods, software, and technologies.
- A meeting on the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) concerning Rules of Origin led by the Joint Secretary (Chemicals) was held on 30th January 2024. The discussions revolved around the EU's preference for a "co-equal rule" system, involving Tariff Shift or Value Addition and Chemical Process Rules.
- The matter of the India-UK FTA on UK's request for improvement in Goods Market Access on the certain product category /tariff lines was also organized on 31st January 2024 at DCPC under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Chemicals.
- ICC NRO attended a Stakeholder's Consultation Meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary Chemicals on 12th February 2024 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss extension/enforcement of QCOs of 6 Chemicals Pyridine, Gamma Picoline, Beta Picoline, Potassium Carbonate, Acetone and Sodium Triphosphosphate.
- ICC NRO attended a meeting organized under the Chairmanship of Shri M Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, GoI on 11th March 2024 regarding the promotion of Coal/Lignite gasification projects in India. The Ministry of Coal is spearheading various initiatives to incentivize the establishment of such plants, including offering a 50% rebate in revenue share for future commercial coal block auctions dedicated to coal gasification projects.
- ICC NRO attended a Stakeholder's Consultation Meeting chaired by Mr. Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary (Petrochemicals), at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi on 12th March 2024. The meeting focused on the implementation of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for eight chemicals, Ethylene Oxide, Monocrotophos, Captafol (technical grade), Anhydrous Ammonia, Alumina Calcined, Sodium Cyanide, Toluene Diisocyanate (TDI-80), Industrial Grade Urea (Technical grade Urea).
- ICC delegation attended meeting organized by DCPC on "India Korea CEPA Review Korea's PSR Proposal on Tariff Lines" on 15 March 2024. In this regard, excel sheet shared by department was circulated with member companies for their inputs / comments
- ICC delegation attended meeting held on 15 March 2024 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (C&PC), DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers Government of India to take the view of all stakeholders on subject "the long-term Road Map for Chemical & Petrochemical Sector.

- ICC NRO attended a Stakeholders meeting on 18th March 2024 organized by DCPC under the chairmanship of Shri Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary, DCPC. The meeting centered on policy amendment to exempt inputs imported by Advance Authorization holders and EOU, from mandatory QCOs to prevent unauthorized diversion of imported inputs into the domestic market.
- ICC NRO attended a meeting under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary Petrochemicals on 20 March 2024 with the industry representative/stakeholders to discuss and seek inputs on India's PSR position for DCPC lines for India-Australia CECA for the specific lines belonging to chapter 28, 29, 32 and 38.
- A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PC) with the industry representatives/stakeholders on 20 March 2024 to discuss and seek inputs on India's PSR positions for DCPC lines for India-Australia CECA for the specific lines belonging to Chapters 28, 29, 32, and 38. In this regard, document shared by department was circulated to member-companies for their inputs / comments
- The meeting was organized on 20 March 2024 for seeking views from industry on import of duty free inputs under Advance Authorization scheme for the chemical and petrochemical products having mandatory QCOs, so as to prevent unauthorized diversion of imported inputs into domestic market, as the products derived from duty free imported inputs are meant only for export purpose, applicable only for that specific product/ Products mentioned in the advance authorization application and approved by the competent authority.
- ICC NRO took part in the stakeholder's consultation meeting organized by DCPC under the chairmanship of Mr. Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemical & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India. The meeting aimed to gather input from industry stakeholders regarding the import of duty-free materials under the Advance Authorization scheme for chemical and petrochemical products. The goal was to ensure that these materials, meant solely for export, aren't unlawfully diverted into the domestic market.
- ICC NRO had a meeting with Shri Manish Chadha, Joint Secretary of the Department of Commerce, and Ministry of Commerce & Industry on 10th April 2024. The discussion centered on the export policy for Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertilizer and other fertilizers fortified with Boron and Zinc.
- ICC NRO organised a virtual meeting with ICC members on 22nd April 2024. The meeting aimed to discuss the Customs duty issue on imported Ethanol and the resulting demand for differential duty and penalties. Several ethanol importers have been facing issues with differential customs duty, which was applicable for a certain period but is now zero. The meeting was organized to discuss the matter jointly and decide on the appropriate way forward.
- On 23rd April 2024, ICC sent a representation to Directorate General of Foreign Trade on behalf of one of its member-companies seeking exemption of QCO requirement for Acetic Acid that is imported under advance authorization or meant for manufacturing of products that will be exported. ICC requested department to intervene in addressing this issue
- ICC NRO officials met Mr. S. B. S. Reddy, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on 24th April regarding the revalidation request of Restricted license for Denatured Alcohol. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss the critical matter of the revalidation of the restricted license to companies including India Glycols Ltd. DGFT has granted the required extension on the restricted license to India Glycols.
- ICC delegation attended the India - EU FTA meeting regarding Rules of Origin-PSRs for Ch-27 to 39 (Chemicals & petrochemicals) held on 1 May 2024 and circulated the document received from the department to member companies and requested them to share their inputs / comments.
- ICC attended a meeting on Making India self-reliant in the chemical and petrochemical sector on 7th May 2024 organized by DCPC under the chairmanship of Shri Deepanker Aron IRS, Joint Secretary, Chemicals. The meeting was organized to seek valuable inputs from the industry stakeholders on making India self-reliant in the chemical and petrochemical sector and a holistic approach to promoting Indian Chemical Industries.

The discussions centered around Research & Development & Technology upgradation; Modalities required to develop a web-based platform for industry-academia/technological institutions and cluster/hub-based approach for the development of the chemical industry.
- ICC delegation attended meeting regarding Stakeholders' Consultations to discuss the proposal for policy amendment to exempt inputs imported by Advance Authorization holders, EOU and SEZ from mandatory QCOs which was held on 14 May 2024. ICC requested its members to share their views / inputs / comments etc. regarding the said subject and inputs received from members were submitted to DCPC.
- ICC NRO attended a meeting on 14th May 2024 organized by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals (DCPC), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India under the chairmanship of Shri Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary, DCPC. The meeting was convened to discuss the proposal for policy amendment to exempt inputs imported by Advance Authorisation holders, EOU, and SEZ from mandatory QCOs.
- ICC NRO attended a stakeholder consultation meeting organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC) on 2nd July 2024 to develop pathway for meeting national commitments on Net Zero and to propose strategies and interventions for achieving the

same. Shri Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary (Petrochemicals), who chaired the meeting, focused on developing strategies to enhance data collection, analysis and reporting systems. Additionally, the discussions aimed to identify mechanisms to promote a circular economy as part of India's efforts to fulfill its climate change commitments.

→ For the forthcoming Budget 2024-25, a combined meeting with the Chemical / Petrochemical associations was held on 19th June 2024 in New Delhi under the chairpersonship of Chairman (CBIC), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India to discuss suggestions/recommendations in respect of tax issues pertaining to different sectors.

→ A meeting about Coal/lignite gasification projects was held on 5th June, 2024 at 11.00 AM under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Petrochemicals. ICC secretariat and members attended the said meeting. The following was discussed in the said meeting:

- List of eligible products under Scheme
- Key Terms and Conditions (Change in Control & Transfer, Security Provisions, End Product Utilization, Performance Security, Compliance Conditions for selected bidder, Conditions Precedent to first Installment, Conditions Precedent to Second Installment, Miscellaneous)
- Selections Criteria
- Illustration of bid calculation
- Evaluation criteria

→ ICC Delegation attended a Stakeholder Consultation meeting which was chaired by Shri Siddharth Mahajan, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce on 6th June 2024 at New Delhi for discussion on tariff liberalisation to be sought in Chemical product sector from ASEAN countries and other related issues.

→ The Ministry of Finance, Government of India has provisionally imposed anti-dumping duties on imports of Polyvinyl Chloride Paste Resin (PVC Paste) originating from China PR, Korea RP, Malaysia, Norway, Taiwan, and Thailand. The DGTR, in its preliminary findings dated April 26, 2024, concluded that PVC Paste from the countries is being imported into India at prices below its normal value, resulting in dumping and causing material injury to the domestic industry. The Ministry of Finance has accepted the DGTR's recommendation and imposed provisional anti-dumping duties through Customs Notification 09/2024-Customs (ADD) dated June 13, 2024.

1. Products Affected: Polyvinyl Chloride Paste Resin, also known as emulsion PVC resin, classified under the following tariff items:

- 3904 10 10
- 3904 10 20
- 3904 10 90
- 3904 21 00

- 3904 22 00
- 3904 30 10
- 3904 30 90
- 3904 90 00
- 3904 40 00
- 3904 90 90

2. Following are the countries from which if Polyvinyl Chloride Paste Resin is imported, the ADD is levied:

- China PR
- Korea RP
- Malaysia
- Norway
- Taiwan
- Thailand

3. The duties are specified based on the country of origin and specific producers/exporters:

- o From China PR (Formosa Industries, Shenyang Chemical Company, and other producers): USD 546 per metric ton.
- o From Korea RP (Hanwha Solutions Corporation): Zero to USD 41 per metric ton depending on the producer.
- o From Malaysia (Kaneka Paste Polymer Sdn. Bhd.): USD 317 to USD 375 per metric ton depending on the producer.
- o From Taiwan (Formosa Plastics Corporation): USD 118 to USD 168 per metric ton depending on the producer.
- o From Thailand (TPC Paste Resin Company Limited): USD 195 to USD 252 per metric ton depending on the producer.
- o From Norway (all producers): USD 328 per metric ton.

4. The following products are exempt from the anti-dumping duties:

- PVC Paste Resin with a K value less than 60.
- PVC Blending Resin.
- Co-polymers of PVC Paste Resin.
- Battery Separator Resin.
- Brand "BioGen" produced by Innovyn Europe Limited.

The duties are effective as of June 13, 2024, as per Customs Notification 09/2024-Customs (ADD).

→ Stakeholders Consultation meeting was held on 2nd July 2024 at 3.00 PM through VC under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PC), Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, to discuss the development of modalities for the data collection on Inter-ministerial Working Groups to develop pathway for meeting national commitments on Net Zero and to propose strategies and interventions for achieving the same.

- A stakeholders meeting was held to Review of the ASEAN – India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITiGA) on 9th July 2024 under the chairmanship of Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary, Petrochemicals, and Ms Vandana, Director Petrochemical. Stakeholders have raised issues relating to their specific products under the India – ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (AITiGA). It was directed to all the stakeholders to share the consolidated representation.
- ICC NRO officials attended the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting, organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals chaired by the Sh. Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary (Petrochemicals) on 11th July 2024 with Industry / associations, consumers and producers to discuss and analyze domestic availability/non-availability of Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) homopolymers (IS 17658:2021) Quality Control Order. The Ministry has requested inputs from the industry on PVC.
- The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industries conducted a stakeholders meeting on 11th July 2024. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Taruna Doliya, Deputy Secretary, Dept of Commerce to discuss the India-EU FTA: Rules of Origin - PSRs of Chapter 29 & 39. The Ministry of Commerce and Industries is taking several initiatives to help Indian Industries achieve alignment with the EU side's approach while addressing domestic concerns. ICC NRO attended the meeting with stakeholders and was directed by Ms. Taruna Doliya to submit the recommendations mentioning the Product line, value chain, Manufacturing process, and PSRs requirement.
- DCPC is in the process of formulating Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the chemical sector. For this purpose, the Department has identified the following chemicals to be supported under PLI scheme: -

Segment	Chemicals
1. Agrochemical Intermediate	1) 1,2,4 Triazinone
	2) 1-Methyle-3- (Trifluoromethyl)-1H-Pyrazole-5-ol
	3) 2-Chloror-5-Chloror Methyl- Thiazole (CCMT)
	4) 5-Amino-3-Cyano-1 (2,6-Dichloro-4 Trifluoromethyl-Phenyl) -1-H-Pyrazole
	5) Bifenthrin Alcohol
	6) Lambda Cyhalothric Acid
2. Dyes & Pigments	7) Aniline
3. Multiple Uses	8) 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-4-Dimethyl-3-Pentanone/ 14Cp44Dm3-Pentanone
	9) 1,4 Butanediol
	10) 2-VinylPyridine
	11) Anthraquinone
	12) Maleic Anhydride
	13) Resorcinol
	14) Salicylic Acid
	15) Tetrahydrofuran (THF)
	16) Titanium Dioxide
	17) Tobias Acid
4. Pharmaceutical Intermediate	18) (4r-Cis)-1,1-Dimethylethyl-6-Cyanomethyl-2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-Dioxane-4-Acetate (ATS-8)
	19) 10 MethoxyIminostilbene (MISB)
	20) 2- CYNO-4 Methyl Biphenyl (OTBN)
	21) 2-Mercapto Benzothiazolyl (z)-2-aminothiazol-4-yl-(2-methoxyimino acetate (MAEM)
	22) 4- Bromomethyl-2-cyanobiphenyl (BROTBN)
	23) Adenine
	24) Diethyl P-toluene Sulfonyloxy Methyl Phosphonate (DESMF)
	25) Ethoxy Methylene Malonate, Diethyl Malonate
	26) S-2- benzothiazolyl (Z) -2-(2-aminothiazole-4-yl)-2-methoxy-carbonylmethio acetate (MICA ESTER)

ICC circulated the information is to member-companies requesting inputs on details of the disability in producing the above chemicals in India V/s the imports from country like China PR, the quantum of disability in terms of per unit (in Kg or MT) as well as % of landed price of the imports viz a viz actual (in case the chemical is being produced) or expected Cost of Production along with the breakup of cost and justification and also details of any subsidy provided by the exporting country for exports to India with relevant documents. Members were requested to respond.

- India-EU FTA negotiations are ongoing since May 2022 wherein EU has introduced a new specific chapter on Energy and Raw Materials. Though this is a new chapter for India, EU has ensured this chapter's presence in all its FTAs since 2015.

ICC was requested to furnish inputs / comments on the following points:

- Whether the raw materials proposed by the EU in Annex-I of chapter are to be included as part of this chapter?
 - Going forward should India take binding commitments for the provisions of this chapter or limit the commitment to cooperation-based provisions.
 - Whether any chapter/raw materials contained in Annexure 1 needs to be deleted or added keeping in view of India's offensive and defensive interest.
- DCPC desires intensive collaborative efforts between industry and academia in fostering innovation and sustainable growth within the chemical and petrochemical sectors, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals intends to establish a specialized electronic (web based) platform facilitating interactions, partnerships, and technology matchmaking between these stakeholders.
- In this regard, the Department has requested esteemed members of ICC to nominate a nodal officer from their organizations for handling Industry and Academia collaboration for Chemical and Petrochemical sector.
- ICC NRO official attended a stakeholder consultation meeting, organized by the DCPC chaired by the Sh. Deepak Mishra, Joint Secretary (Petrochemicals) on 16th July 2024 with Industry/associations, consumers, and producers to discuss and analyze domestic availability/non-availability of Polypropylene (PP) Quality Control Order. The Department has requested inputs from the industry and associations on Polypropylene.

- ICC NRO attended a Stakeholder's Consultation Meeting on 7th August, 2024 conducted by DCPC, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers Government of India under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Chemicals) regarding implementation of following 06 Quality Control Orders (QCOs), which is going to get enforced on 24.10.2024.

- Lauric Acid
- Acid Oil
- Palm Fatty Acids
- Rice Bran Fatty Acids
- Coconut Fatty Acids
- Hydrogenated Rice Bran Fatty Acids

BIS ISSUES

Notification Received From BIS

- ICC has received an email communication from BIS regarding the Indian Standard(s) / Amendment(s) issued into Wide Circulation of CHD 08 (23595) WC, CHD 34 (22987) WC, CHD 34 (22988) WC, CHD 34 (22989) WC, CHD 34 (22990) WC, CHD 34 (22991) WC, CHD 34 (22993) WC, CHD 34 (22994) WC, CHD 34 (23019) WC on 29th September 2023 for comments. The list of the various Chemicals and their Products as well as the link of portal for downloading the documents and sending the comments on these chemicals as shared by BIS was circulated to the members for their inputs.
- ICC received communication from BIS regarding the Indian Standard(s)/ Amendment(s) issued into Wide Circulation of CHD 07 (23929) WC, CHD 07 (23932) WC, CHD 07 (23934) WC, CHD 19 (23944) WC, CHD 36 (23938) WC, CHD 19 (23941) WC, CHD 35 (19220) WC, ETD 19 (23933) WC, ETD 19 (23935) WC, ETD 19 (23936) WC, MHD 09 (23937) WC, MTD 19 (23922) WC, PCD 09 (23563) WC, PCD 09 (23939) WC, PCD 25 (23946) WC, PCD 09 (21797) WC, SSD 03 (23837) WC, SSD 03 (23838) WC, SSD 03 (23839) WC, TED 18 (23917) WC and CHD 17 (23950) WC on 26 October 2023 for comments. The list of the various Chemicals and their Products as well as the link of portal for downloading the documents and sending the comments on these chemicals as shared by BIS was circulated to the members for their inputs.
- Gazette Notification for extension of enforcement date of QCOs for 06 Chemicals viz. (i) Lauric Acid (ii) Acid Oil (iii) Palm Fatty Acids (iv) Rice Bran Fatty Acids (v) Coconut Fatty Acids (vi) Hydrogenated Rice Bran Fatty Acids. (vii) Maleic Anhydride, (viii) Ethylene Vinyl Acetate Copolymers (ix) Polyethylene Material for Moulding and Extrusion was shared. Extensive follow-up actions were undertaken by ICC NRO.
- On 29th May 2024, a notification received from DCPC regarding Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India), Order 2017 was circulated to members for their information.
- ICC circulated notification received from BIS CHD 35 regarding 17th Meeting of Air Quality Sectional Committee and the amendment published on the below mentioned standards:
- IS 15206:2002/ISO 8760:1990 - Work - Place air - Determination of mass concentration of carbon monoxide - Method using detector tubes for short-term sampling with direct indication
 - IS 15209: 2002 /ISO 8761: 1989 - Work - Place air - Determination of mass concentration of nitrogen dioxide - Method using detector tubes for short term sampling with direct indication

ICC requested its member-companies to submit their inputs and feedback on whether these amendments should be adopted by India or not.

- Bureau of Indian Standards communicated regarding **Interior air of road vehicles — Part 9: Determination of the emissions of volatile organic compounds from vehicle interior parts — Large bag method** seeking Ballot comment's or answers end date on **the Portal for providing appropriate comment/s**.

Webinars / Workshops

- ICC Representatives attended the 28th Meeting of Inorganic Chemicals Sectional Committee, CHD 1 on 21st November 2023. The meeting was attended by the Chairperson, BIS, and members. Topics discussed during the meeting were Methods of sampling and testing (Physical and Chemical) for water and wastewater, Methods of sampling and microbiological examination or water etc.
- One-Day "Reinforcement Training for the Standardization Cell was organized by BIS on 15th and 29th December 2023 in Noida which was attended by ICC NRO officials. The program was organized to enhance capabilities through experience sharing with fellow organizations and to address any difficulties or bottlenecks that one may be or can encounter in the functioning of standardization cells. The discussion covered gap areas in standardization, challenges in implementing standards, and capacity-building needs for effective participation in standards development.
- ICC officials attended the Consultative Webinar on 13th February 2024 with Industry Associations and BIS Licensees for Framing Rolling Annual Action Plan 2024-25 in the Field of Chemicals. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is actively engaged in the development of the Rolling Annual Action Plan for the Chemical Sector for the period 2024-25. This initiative aims to identify new subject areas for standardization, prioritize the review of existing standards, and strategically align these efforts with national priorities.
- On March 14, 2024 the ICC in collaboration with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) organised conducted a webinar on "Awareness and Implementation Webinar on Chemical & Petrochemicals Sector". The inaugural address was delivered by Smt Meenal Passi, Senior Director and Head (PCD), BIS.

Ms. Pallavi Thakur, Secretary-NRO, ICC, extended a warm welcome, marking the commencement of the webinar. The overview of the standardization process and insights into the BIS portal were presented by Ms. Aditi Choudhary, Scientist B/Assistant Director at PCD, BIS, shedding light on crucial aspects of regulatory frameworks and their digital interfaces. Mr. Sharad Kumar Verma from the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India, provided valuable insights into the status of Quality Control Orders (QCO) and their effective implementation within the Chemical and Petrochemical sector, emphasizing the importance of adherence to quality standards.

Mr. Amit Chaudhary, Scientist D/Joint Director at CMD-II, BIS, delving into the Conformity Assessment Scheme of BIS for domestic manufacturers, the procedural details and the significance of compliance for industry stakeholders. Additionally, Shri Abhijeet Singh, Scientist B/ Assistant Director at FMCD, BIS, highlighted the Conformity Assessment Scheme tailored for foreign manufacturers, emphasizing harmonization efforts for global trade.

An open house discussion with exchange of ideas and addressing queries from participants, followed by Vote of Thanks concluded the webinar.

- ICC NRO participated in a webinar highlighting "Indian Standards and Latest Technology in the Field of Chemical Engineering Plants". The webinar focused on topics ranging from the pivotal role of standards in Chemical Engineering Plants to emerging issues and advancements in control valves and mechanical equipment utilized within the chemical engineering domain.
- ICC NRO Officials attended a Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on 14th May 2024 organized by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals (DCPC), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India under the Chairmanship of Mr. Deepankar Aron, Joint Secretary (Chemicals). The purpose of the meeting was making BIS Standards as mandatory in respect of Chemicals H-Acid and Vinyl Sulphone.
- ICC delegation attended a Stakeholder's Consultation Meeting held on 14 May 2024 regarding making BIS Standards as mandatory in respect of Chemicals K- Acid, H-Acid and Vinyl Sulphone. In this regard, ICC requested its members to share their views on the said subject.
- ICC NRO along with industry experts had a meeting with BIS officials; Member Secretary TED 24, PCD 09, and Head CHD to discuss updates on IS 1260 and various other standards relevant to the Chemicals and Petrochemical sector.
- ICC delegation, along with industry members participated in a Stakeholder's Consultation Meeting organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India on 11th June 2024 under the Chairmanship of Mr Deepankar Aron, Joint Secretary Chemicals for making BIS Standard as mandatory in respect of Menthol and Synthetic Menthol. The associations/industry stakeholders were asked to submit inputs/recommendations regarding the subject, if any.
- ICC delegation attended the CHD 35-Air Quality meeting held on 13th June 2024 held at Bureau of Indian standards (BIS), New Delhi and updated its members on the activities of relevant technical committees within BIS.
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have launched new lecture series on "On the Road to Excellence" and the first Webinar was held on 10th July 2024. This series aims to provide insights into the process reforms being undertaken at BIS. The Webinar was attended by large number of delegates.

- ICC NRO officials attended the 32nd Meeting of Water Quality for Industrial Purposes Sectional Committee, CHD 13, which was chaired by Shri K. P. Bhattacharyya, BARC, Chairperson and Ms. Shubhanjali Umrao, Member Secretary, on 4 July 2024. The Indian Chemical Council consistently updates its members on the activities of relevant technical committees within BIS.
- ICC NRO official Mr. Dhruvil Soni attended a day-long Workshop-cum-Brainstorming Session for all Principal members of the CHD and PCD Technical Committee on 15th July 2024 at BIS NITS, Noida. The session was intended to deliberate upon emerging ideas and insights concerning the smooth and seamless transition to a new paradigm of standardization and to develop a shared understanding of the roadmap for the future. During the session, members were made aware of India's leading steps towards SMART standards and Online and Collaborative Authoring of Standards. There were hands-on demonstrations of essential online tools vital for our success. The session also explored the growing need to address sustainability during the development or revision of standards.
- ICC NRO had a meeting with BIS officials of PCD 09, CHD36, CHD 01 and PCD 26 to discuss the updates on the various committees and standards developed by BIS. ICC consistently updates its members on the activities of relevant technical committees within BIS.

REPRESENTATIONS SENT TO DCPC:

The following representations were sent to DCPC:

- On 11 January 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC regarding Mandatory BIS certification of Butyl Acrylate Monomer vide Order (F.No. PC-II- 46016/6/2020-Tech. CPC) dated 28th December 2021 issued by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) requesting 06 months extension.
- On 11 January 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC requesting extension of 180 days regarding enforcement date of Quality Control Order of 10 Chemicals during February and March, 2024
- On 12 January 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC requesting extension of 12 Months on enforcement date of Quality Control Order of 10 Chemicals during February and March, 2024
- On 11 January 2024, ICC sent a representation comprising of issues faced by one of its member companies regarding Quality Control Order of chemicals namely BIS 16112: 2013 for Beta Picoline & BIS: 16113-2013 for Gamma Picoline and requested Extension the time line of enforcement and put the existing BIS specification BIS 16112: 2013 for Beta Picoline and BIS: 16113-2013 for Gamma Picoline on hold.
- On 17 January 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC requesting for extension of deadline regarding mandatory BIS registration for manufacturers of Aniline.

- On 20 January 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC requesting for Inclusion of Sulphuric Acid in Quality Control Order (QCO) of BIS.
- On 01 May 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC requesting to support customs clearance for Import of Excipient Grade Acetone for use by Pharma customers as inactive pharmaceutical ingredient impacted by Acetone QCO
- On 1st May 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC regarding customs clearance for import of excipient grade chemical products used by the Pharmaceutical Industry which are impacted due to the Quality Control Orders. In this regard, one of our esteemed members has proposed a process for streamlining the authorization of excipient grade chemical products under BIS which are imported & used by Pharmaceutical Industry. The proposed process was circulated to members on 30th May 2024 for their inputs / comments.
- On 12 March 2024, ICC sent a representation to Bureau of Indian Standards regarding comments / suggestions for issuing amendment/ revision of the IS 1260 (Part 1) highlighting gaps between IS 1260 (Part 1) and GHS requirements which was raised by one of the member company.
- As per the Gazette Notification, the Department of Chemicals and Fertilizers has provided an extension of the below Quality Control Orders (QCO):

Sr. No.	Quality Control Order of Chemical	Date of entry into force of QCO
1	Beta Picoline	13 th March, 2025
2	Sodium Triphosphate	13 th March, 2025
3	Pyridine	13 th March, 2025
4	Ethylene Dichloride	12 th September, 2024
5	Polycarbonate	12 th September, 2024
6	Vinyl Chloride Monomer	12 th September, 2024
7	p-Xylene	19 th September, 2024
8	Polyurethanes	19 th September, 2024
9	Lauric Acid	24 th October, 2024
10	Acid Oil	24 th October, 2024
11	Palm Fatty Acids	24 th October, 2024
12	Rice Bran Fatty Acids	24 th October, 2024
13	Coconut Fatty Acids	24 th October, 2024
14	Hydrogenated Rice Bran Fatty Acids	24 th October, 2024
15	Ethylene Vinyl Acetate Copolymers	03 rd October 2024
16	Acrylonitrile	24 th October, 2024
17	Styrene (Vinyl Benzene)	24 th October, 2024
18	Maleic Anhydride	24 th October, 2024

- On 6th April 2024, ICC submitted a representation to Secretary, DCPC requesting the Department to intervene in expediting the BIS approval process for the suppliers of

Acetic Acid before the current deadline of 3 August 2024 for order to get implemented who have long made application for the same. Currently, only a few of the suppliers have received BIS certification, most suppliers (mainly from China) are still awaiting the inspection from the department of BIS. Acetic acid is an important raw material for the Indian down- stream Industry. Around 90% of the Acetic acid has to be imported and out of which Chinese suppliers account for over 50% (more than half) of India's acetic acid imports. Thus, it is very important that the BIS approval process for the suppliers of Acetic Acid need to be expedited.

- ICC officials met the Head - CHD and senior officials from PCD regarding the various committees of BIS under CHD and PCD departments and ICC involvement in each of these committees. BIS has assured its full support to ICC and its members.

ENVIRONMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES

NOTIFICATION:

The following notifications were shared with the member-companies of ICC:

- On 23rd August 2023, ICC received a notification from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) regarding the draft Green Credit Programme Implementation Rules 2023. The said notification was shared with the members of the Council for their valuable inputs / comments.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has issued a draft Notification emphasizing the significance of environmental audits for projects approved under various acts, including the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981; Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The said notification received from department was shared with its member companies for their inputs/ comments) on 27 February 2024.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change introduced amendments to the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, on March 8, 2024, focusing on three main areas Definition Update, Flexible Reporting Deadlines & EPR Certificate Exchange Platform. The said notification was shared with the members for their information.
- The Central Government, exercising powers under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, introduces amendments to the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016. Effective upon publication, except para 6 and para 7 of these rules with specific provisions commencing on April 1, 2024, the amendments encompass several significant alterations. The said notification was shared with members for their information
- In the exercise of the powers conferred sections 6, 8, and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), with sub-rule (4) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection)

Rules, 1986, the Central Government hereby makes the further amendment to the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022,;

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change introduced amendments to the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, on March 8, 2024, focusing on three main areas:

1. **Definition Update:** The term 'dismantler' now refers to individuals or organizations that dismantle used electrical and electronic equipment according to CPCB guidelines.
2. **Flexible Reporting Deadlines:** Rule 9A allows the Central Government to extend reporting deadlines for e-waste entities by up to nine months, based on public interest or rule implementation needs.
3. **EPR Certificate Exchange Platform:**
 - The government can establish platforms for EPR certificate trading, with CPCB guidelines.
 - These platforms will regulate transaction prices for EPR certificates, set between 30% and 100% of environmental compensation for unmet EPR obligations.

These amendments aim to improve e-waste management by clarifying roles, facilitating compliance, and establishing a regulated EPR certificate market to encourage recycling efforts. The said notification received from MoEF&CC was shared with the members for their information.

- The Bombay High Court has issued directives to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) to conduct immediate pollution audits of industries falling under the 'red' category due to their high toxicity potential. This action comes in response to broader public interest concerns regarding air pollution, which the court believes are largely attributed to human causes.

Industries such as thermal power plants, large chemical facilities, refineries, and asbestos manufacturing units primarily fall into this red category. According to MPCB data, there are over 25,000 industries in the MMR, with more than 7,200 falling into the red category. This circular has been issued on dated 12/03/2024 to carry out pollution audit of all the industries situated in the MMR area:

1. **Self-Audit Report:** Industry to submit the initial self-audit report of unit within one month from the date of this circular. This report should detail your industry's pollution levels, mitigation measures, and compliance with environmental regulations as per the format provided.
2. **Six-Monthly Self-Audit Report:** Subsequently, industries are required to submit six-monthly self-audit reports to the respective Regional Office of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

In view of the above companies are hereby directed to submit their 1st self-audit and six-monthly self-audit reports of their units to the respective Regional Office of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board within one month. Additionally, a copy of these reports was to be sent to the Office of the Joint Director (APC), Mumbai. This notification is applicable only to industries located within the jurisdiction of the Maharashtra State MPCB.

Draft Format of the Pollution Audit Report to be submitted to MPCB has already been circulated to members.

REPRESENTATIONS:

The following representations were sent to various Ministries:

- On 29th November 2023 a meeting was organized at SRF Limited's office at New Delhi hosted by Mr. Kartik Bharat Ram, Vice President, ICC. This meeting was attended by around 20 industry members representing ICC and CII. Mr. Pankaj Mehta had shared the presentation regarding the issues which industry is facing in the forum. These issues were taken up by Mr. Salil Singhal and final representation on "Ease of doing Business with the following and was submitted to Hon'ble Minister of MoEF & CC and MoC
 - Decriminalizing Provisions in the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
 - Utilisation of Hazardous and other wastes under Rule 9 of the hazardous and other wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016.
 - Revision of Effluent Discharge Norms in Deep-Sea:
 - Clarification on EIA Notification Dated 2nd March 2021 Regarding Product Mix Change
 - Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) Requirements Under Various Waste Management Rules:

- Streamline regulatory compliances related to environment:
- Create and strengthen common effluent treatment plants
- Subsidy/Financial Support CETPs
- Skills Upgradation

→ The industry stakeholder meeting was held under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary Chemicals on 30th November 2023 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, ICC delegation participated in the meeting to share the detailed representation related to issues industry is facing. Mr. K. K. Srivastva, Director, DCPC; Mr. Vedprakash Mishra IRS, Director MoEF & CC, Mr. Dinabandhu Gouda, Director HSMD - CPCB, Mr. Vinod Babu (Scientist- F), Chief Vigilance Officer, CPCB & Ms. Deepti Kapil, Scientist- D, CPCB had represented ministries.

→ On 15th December 2023, ICC sent a representation to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Industry suggestions with reference to MoEF & CC Draft Notification G.S.R. 753 (E) dated 17th October 2023 regarding Pesticide Industry Emission Standards. ICC requested department to withdraw the proposed standards because compliance with newly set standards is not practically achievable with the commercially viable technologies available for the effluents generated from the pesticide manufacturing process.

→ The Environmental Sustainability Forum titled "Innovative Green Solutions for Chemical and Pharma Industry" was organized on December 15, 2023, in Mumbai. Dr. Pranav Tripathi, Deputy Director - Sustainability, Environment, and Regulatory Issues of ICC delivered a presentation on 'Responsible Care: Chemical Industry Commitment to Sustainability'

ACTIVITIES OF SAFETY EXPERT COMMITTEE

- ICC sent a representation to DCPC and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 26th September 2023 requesting strengthening safety & security during handling of Ammonium Nitrate at port areas & during transportation from ports to warehouses.
- ICC in association with Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai, under the guidance of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India, organized ICC – ICT Certification Course on “Safety and Environment from Chemical Industry”. The primary goal of these training programs was to educate the key personnel of the chemical units, enabling them to operate safely, prevent accidents and adhere to environmental regulations.

Following five programs were held at various States of India:

→ Ankleshwar, Gujarat on 10th & 11th August 2023:

The first physical Training Program in this series was organised on 10th & 11th August 2023 at Ankleshwar, Gujarat. More than 200 delegates from the Chemical Industry attended the 2-day training program. At the end of the second day, the participants were awarded with the “ICC-ICT Certificate of Participation”.

→ Mumbai, Maharashtra on 5-6 October 2023:

The second physical Training Programme in this series was organized on 5-6 October 2023 at Mumbai. More than 100 delegates attended the participated in the 2-day training program.

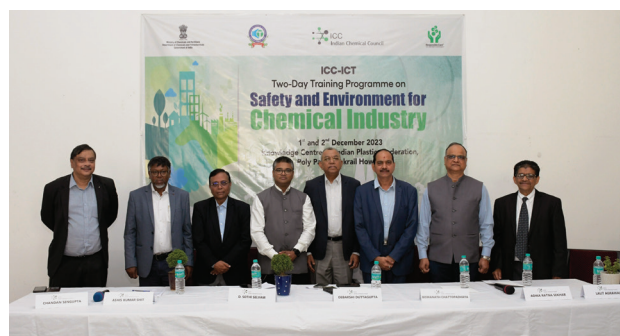
→ Cuddalore, Tamilnadu on 19th & 20th October 2023:

The third physical Training Programme in this series was organized on Cuddalore, Tamilnadu on 19th - 20th October 2023. Mrs. Ramya Bharathram, Additional Vice President, ICC & Managing Director and CFO, Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd gave the Opening Remark. Dr. M. Surianarayanan, Sr. Principal Scientist, CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. Mr. Suresh Ramachandran, Chairman, Safety Expert Committee, ICC & Managing Director, Arkema India Pvt. Ltd addressed on “Industry Perspective on Safety and Environment” and Mr R. Umayakunjaram, District Environmental Engineer, Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board participated and addressed the delegates. The Course was attended by nearly 100 industry delegates.

→ Howrah, West Bengal on 1st and 2nd December 2023

The fourth physical Training Programme in this series was organised on 1st and 2nd December 2023 at Howrah, West Bengal. The first such course in the Eastern Region, received

huge response not only within the State of West Bengal but also from Jharkhand and other adjoining States. Technical Sessions were chaired by Mr. Biswanath Chattopadhyay, Former Chairman-Eastern Region - Indian Chemical Council & CEO, IVL Dhunseri Petrochem Industries Limited and Mr. Chandan Sengupta, Immediate Past Chairman, ICC-ERO & Ex Senior Advisor- Head Marketing & Commodity Business, Haldia Petrochemicals Limited.



Mr. Debarshi Duttagupta, Chairman, Eastern Region - Indian Chemical Council & Managing Director, East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd, Mr. Lalit Agarwal, Vice-President, Indian Plastics Federation, Mr. Ashis Kumar Shit, Chief Inspector of Factories (CIF/Director), Directorate of Factories, Department of Labour, Government of West Bengal and Mr. Ratna Sekhar Adika Ratna Sekhar, Executive Committee Member, Indian Chemical Council & CMD, Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd took part in the inaugural session.



→ Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 6th and 7th March 2024 at

The fifth physical Training Programme in this series was organised 6th and 7th March 2024 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Topics covered included legal requirements, hazard identification, risk assessment, environmental control measures and waste management etc.

ACTIVITIES OF RESPONSIBLE CARE

- ICC in association with ICCA organized 2nd Workshop on "Responsible Care Manual Preparation For Chemical Warehousing Facilities" on 22nd, 23rd and 24th August 2023 at Mumbai. The workshop defined the criteria and wrote an outline of the Manual for Chemical Warehouse Facilities. The basic framework was developed during the first and the draft was developed over the course of six months by our experts. Succeeding the development of a draft for critical review warehouse draft manual, ICC hosted a three-day workshop. More than 45 delegates participated in the Workshop.
- Responsible Care Leadership Group (RCLG) one of the most important leadership groups of ICCA headed by Mr Jeff Kovacs of Exxon Mobil with representation from all the global Chemical Associations. Indian Chemical Council (ICC), the apex industry body representing the chemical industry in India is the nodal body pursuing the "Responsible Care Programme" in India. Dr Pranav Tripathi, Dy Director from the ICC secretariat drives the Responsible Care initiative with a competent team of ICC executives and reputed and highly experienced RC Auditors.

The RCLG meetings are held both in hybrid and F2F mode regularly throughout the year and ICC got the first opportunity to host the RCLG meeting in 2012 at Goa. In view of ICC's active participation, ICCA gave ICC the opportunity again to host the RCLG meeting on 17-18 October 2023 at Mumbai. Tata Chemicals and Excel Industries supported the event.



Mr. Ravi Kapoor, Chairman - Sustainability Expert Committee of ICC gave the opening remarks in the RCLG Meeting and Mr R Mukundan Managing Director of TATA Chemicals Ltd spoke on Sustainability & Circularity. Leading Chemical Associations representing USA, Japan, South Korea, GCC, Japan etc took part in the event.



In the evening of 17th October, Mr Rajen Mariwala, President, ICC and MD of Eternis Fine Chemicals Ltd released the RC Manual of Chemical Warehousing in the presence of Ms Tara Henriksen, Managing Director of Responsible Care in American Chemistry Council (ACC), Mr Bimal Goculdas, Immediate Past President of ICC, Mr Jeff Kovacs, Mr Ravi Kapoor, ICCA members and Indian CEOs.

- ICC in association with Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) & the U.S. Department of State's Chemical Security Program (CSP) organized the Know-Your-Customer KYC RA Training for Indian Chemical Distributors and Manufacturers Workshop - 13-15 December 2023.

The key objective for three-day workshop was to create an awareness of chemical weapons, biological weapons, a mastery of KYC best practices, and the resources to implement those KYC best practices at institutions. Also, Identification of chemicals for security concern and state-based threats who seek to acquire them, recognizing suspicious indicators that can lead to interrupting illicit procurement requests and KYC principles, best practices, and strategies for implementation.

- Readers are aware that ICC has already developed a RC KPI Webtool portal to feed the Key Performance Indicators (KPI). ICC has advised the RC companies to submit data for year 2022-23 for feeding in the portal. Since companies are facing some issues during the feeding of KPI data ICC organized a meeting on 30th January 2024. More than 200+ participants attended the virtual meeting.
- ICC in association with International Chemical Trade Association (ICTA) organized Workshop on "Improving Safety and Sustainability in the International Chemical Supply Chain" on 30th April 2024 at Taj Santacruz, Mumbai. The main objective of the Workshop was to show how to operationalize the Environment, Health, Safety, Security, and Sustainability in the Chemical Value Chain "Warehousing and Transportation" which will provide an overview of international regulatory developments and facilitate exchange with industry peers of practical solutions to common challenges. The Partners of the event were ICTA, Brenntag Ingredients (I) Pvt Ltd, Zodiac Tank Container Terminals Pvt. Ltd, Goodrich Maritime Pvt. Ltd, JWR logistics Pvt. Ltd. The Workshop was attended by 80 delegates.

ACTIVITIES OF NICER GLOBE

- Nicer Globe participated in following Events :
- ❖ Participated in Motor Vehicle Accident Conference – had presence of Academia, Government Authorities, NGOs : 14 – 16 February 2024
- ❖ Chloro Alkali Conference during Chemtech Event – Safety & Sustainability Conclave : 6 March 2024
- ❖ Safe Transportation of Dangerous Goods – NG – Building Capacities & Capabilities : 19 March 2024 – had participation of Government representatives, Corporates
- Mr. Ravi Kapoor, Chairman – Sustainability Expert Committee informed the members that M/s TechnoPurple has terminated their engagement with ICC as Service Provider. Therefore a new "Trademark License Agreement" is being signed with M/s LCS Services India Private Limited (LCS), Vadodara. It was informed by Mr. Kapoor that with this agreement with LCS, the Nicer Globe logo will be licensed to LCS by ICC for rendering services (both L1 & L3 services) to its member-companies under Nicer Globe Trade Mark to ICC.

TECHNOLOGY & ENERGY RELATED ACTIVITIES

- ICC under the auspices of the Technology & Energy Expert Committee organised following Refresher Course:
 - One-day Refresher Course on "Chemical Engineering for Plant Personnel" on 20th January 2024 at Bharuch, Gujarat. 86 delegates participated in the program. Mr. Pravin Gattani, Vice President, Gulbrandsen Technologies was the Chief Guest for the Refresher Course.
 - One-day Refresher Course on "Chemical Engineering For Plant Personnel" on 17 May 2024 Virtually. Around 120 participants including delegates from Egypt and Thailand actively participated in the said course.
- ICC under the auspices of the Technology & Energy Expert Committee, organized series of webinars where large number of participants attended the Webinars:
 - On 25 August 2023, Webinar on "Laser Dyes" by Prof. (Dr) G. S. Shankarling, Head - Dyestuff Technology Department, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai.
 - On 22nd September 2023, Webinar on "Responsible Care: A Foundation of Sustainability for Chemical Industry" was organized by Dr. Pranav Tripathi, Deputy Director - Sustainability, Environment, and Regulatory Issues, Indian Chemical Council (ICC).
 - On 24th November 2023, Webinar on "Energy & Carbon Sustainability under Circular Economy Framework" by Dr. Abhishek Sharma, Professor in Department of Chemical Engineering, School of Civil and Chemical Engineering, Manipal University, Jaipur.
 - On 29 December 2023, Webinar on "Biphasic Catalysis" by Prof. (Dr.) Bhalchandra M. Bhanage, Head Department of Chemistry, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mum
 - On 20th January 2024, Webinar on "Plasma Engineering for Chemical Process Industries" by Dr. D. S. Patil, Adjunct Professor - Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.
 - On 29 March 2024, Webinar on "Phase Transfer Catalysis" by Prof. (Dr) G. D. Yadav, Emeritus Professor of Eminence at Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai.
 - On 28 June 2024, Webinar on "Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Growth of Indian Vegetable Oil and Oleochemical Industry for Future Needs" by Dr. R B N Prasad, Former Chief Scientist & Head, Centre for Lipid Research, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad
 - On 26 July 2024, Webinar on "Cyber Security in Chemical Plant" by Mr. Vivek Roy, Business Segment Head – Digital Connectivity & Power, Siemens India
 - On 23 August 2024, Webinar on "Indian Coal Gasification: Strategy and Roadma" by Dr. Prakash D. Chavan, Chief Scientist, Head Gasification and Catalysis Research Group, CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, Dhanbad

ACTIVITIES UNDER R & D EXPERT COMMITTEES

- One-Day Course on "Achieving Sustainability through Green Chemistry" was organised on 12th April 2024 virtually. More than 60 delegates participated in the Course. The Course commenced with Introduction by Prof. Rahul Nabar, Adj. Associate Professor Dept. of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay & Member, R&D Sub-Committee, ICC. Mr. George Lu, Ramboll, USA explained the participants about 'Sustainability in Chemical industry.' Mr. Nitesh Mehta, Co-founder and Director of Green ChemistryTree Foundation, Mumbai spoke on '12 Principles of Green Chemistry' and 'Tools to achieve Green Chemistry'. Dr. Mushtaq Patel of BASF discussed with the participants about the 'Implementation of Green Chemistry & Case Studies.' The program ended with the assessment test for the participants and concluding remarks. More than 65 delegates participated in the Course.
- ICC under the auspices of R & D Expert Committee organized Second Edition of "Essentials of Chemical Process Transfer from Laboratory to Pilot Plant" virtual on 19th & 20th July 2024. Chemical Companies often struggle to scale up reactions they have developed at lab scale to commercial production via a pilot plant. Successful scale up and Processes Transfer require knowledge of fundamentals of not only Chemical Engineering & Chemical Reactions, but also a systematic approach. The goal of this course was to sensitize the respective people about concepts and factors that are essential for achieving successful Scale up and Processes Transfer to Production. Such knowledge is crucial for personnel working in the process development area and technology transfer
- Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC) is in the process of launching ChemIndia Portal, which will facilitate the collection of statistics related to various aspects of the chemical sector, such as Production, Installed Capacity, Export, Import, Purchases and Sales, etc. The main objective of compiling this data is to create a comprehensive chemical inventory that covers all the relevant information about the chemical sector. These statistics will be collected through online mode from the chemical and petrochemical units/ industries across the country. ICC is supporting the above initiatives of DCPC.
- To familiarize the industries/ units in the chemical sector with the functioning and various other aspects of the portal and encourage them to on-board the new system, the workshop was organized at Vadodara on 11th October 2023, Mumbai on 15 March 2024 and virtual Webinar on 30th July 2024.
- Technical Session on the portal was also organized on 24th May 2024 at Guidance Tamil Nadu Office, Teynampet, Chennai. Senior officials from DCPC participated and explained about the benefits of the portal, facilitating the onboarding and data entry processes for chemical and petrochemical industrial units.
- A Sensitization Workshop on "CHEMINDIA" Web Portal was organized on 15 March 2024 at Mumbai. The Workshop was organized by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India in association with ICC and CIPET. The portal will facilitate the collection of statistics related to various aspects of the chemical sector, such as Production, Installed Capacity, Export, Import, Purchases and Sales, etc. The main objective of compiling this data is to create a comprehensive chemical inventory that covers all the relevant information about the chemical sector.
- Mr. Deependra Kushwaha, IAS, Development Commissioner- Industries & Chairman MAITRI was the chief Guest of the program for the Workshop held at Mumbai. Mr. Ganga Kumar Dy Director General, DCPC along with his team of officers attended the program with participation from more than 150 industries.
- ICC NRO attended a Webinar organized by DCPC for creating awareness, onboarding and data entry in the ChemIndia Portal on 30th July 2024. The portal will facilitate the requirements of chemical and petrochemical industries and collection of statistics pertaining to various aspects of the chemical sector, such as production, Installed Capacity, exports, imports, purchases, sales and some characteristics of chemicals. The webinar was attended alongside member companies to address and discuss the pending concerns of members, for which ICC has already submitted a representation to DCPC.

CHEMINDIA PORTAL:

- On 5th December 2023 ICC sent a representation to DCPC highlighting the issues as intimated by member companies following to "Sensitization Programme on ChemIndia Portal" conducted by DCPC on 27 October 2023 Virtually. It was requested to consider minimizing the data fields and excluding data fields which are not useful for making chemical inventory. The representation also consisted of the possible suggestions for respective issues.
- On 8th May 2024, ICC sent a representation to DCPC collating the response received from its member companies regarding issues / challenges faced by them related to the ChemIndia Portal. ICC requested department to accept the suggestions / recommendations made by its members.
- In response to representation sent by ICC to DCPC on 08 May 2024 regarding issues faced by the industry w.r.t. ChemIndia Portal, a response dated 21 May 2024 had been received from DCPC. The said response was shared with members for their inputs / comments.

CWC RELATED ACTIVITIES

Activities carried out by the ICC - CWC HDs located in Vadodara, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Delhi are as follows:

- Disseminated Notification for the ADAA 2024 received from NACWC was disseminated to all the Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 Declarants regarding filing of their declarations.
- All the CWCHD staff participated in a series of Internal Training cum Refresher Course. This was an extensive one which involved multiple case studies and questions as the CWCHDs prepared themselves for the ADAA 24 and ADPA 23.
- Filing of ADAA 2024 for Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 declarants have been accomplished in all the regions before the deadline for declarations. The queries raised by NACWC to few Schedule 2 declarants have been resolved with the communication between CWC HD and NACWC.
- A detailed report was sent based on the virtual meeting with NACWC, DRDE, ICC – NHQ and CWC HDs held for discussing the proposed changes in CWC Schedule 2B chemicals.
- Shri Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia, IAS Chairperson, NACWC visited Vadodara and Goa to meet the CWC declarants on 23 September 2023 and 5th / 6th October 2023 respectively. CWC HD, Vadodara was involved in both the meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to have a discussion with invited Schedule 2B10 declarants on the latest issues on Schedule 2B04 and Schedule 2B10 declarations and also discussion regarding Schedule 2 Declarations and other challenges.
- Under the guidance of NACWC, a CWC Awareness Programme was organized on 13th December 2023 at Vapi Industries Association (VIA), Vapi. The objective of the program was CWC declaration filing guidance. The Chief Guest for the program was Mr. Kalpesh Vohra, Honorary Secretary, VIA, Mr. Rajul Shah, Treasurer, VIA, Mr. Yashdeep Khare, Section Officer, NACWC, Delhi attended as representative and observer. 34 delegates participated in the program.
- ICC's CWC Help Desks located at Vadodara, Hyderabad, Mumbai and New Delhi with the support of National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC), Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, organised CWC Awareness programs for Declaring and Potential industries from the 28th November 2023 till the 11th January 2024. In total, Sixteen CWC Awareness Programmes were conducted covering all the regions of India as per the jurisdictions defined in the MoU between the ICC and the NACWC.

Activities of CWC Help Desks:

- The Annual Declaration of Past Activities (ADPA 2023) e-filing was completed on time by all the three Help Desks like the previous three years. This was possible because of the continuous reminders sent to all the declaring facilities, Potential declarants and traders for submission of ADPA 2023 declarations. Follow up on a routine basis through email as well as on phone with facilities for submission of declarations was done.
- Scrutinizing to ensure filing of complete and error free declarations were done, for all the declarations which were received from the declaring facilities.
- Weekly status reports and the final status report on the update of ADPA 2023 declarations were sent to the NACWC promptly.
- A total of 16 overall new declarants from all the jurisdictions belonging to four CWC Help Desks had submitted initial declarations in 2023 and subsequently submitted ADPA 2023 as well. These declarants included Schedule 3 traders and OCPF units.
- An internal meeting was held among the CWC HD in-charges to discuss the ADPA 2023 declaration and Industries feedback.
- Reports for the 3rd Quarter were prepared by all the CWCHDs and sent to ICC HQ which in turn were submitted to the NACWC. These reports contain the activities which were divided into qualitative and quantitative aspects in order to show the performance measures and achievements. They included the details regarding the number of CWC Awareness programmes conducted in various venues along with the targets for the 4th quarter.
- Meeting of NACWC Chairperson, Mr. Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia, IAS with industry representatives of MIDC, Mahad was conducted from 9.00 am to 10.30 am on 29th January 2024 at the MMA's Hall in MIDC, Mahad. The meeting was attended by 22 representatives from 15 different facilities. Both Schedule 3 declarants attended the meeting. Mr. Bhatia told the audience that the basic purpose of this meeting was to interact with industry and get information on issues faced by them, mainly related to CWC Act 2000 and SCOMET regulations.

Following key suggestions came up from the industry representatives:

- To conduct mock inspections with facility that has undergone inspection and invite declarants in that area to witness the same.
- MSDS of the products should have CWC identifier so that the customer becomes aware of the category of the chemical and take necessary action.



ICC

Indian Chemical Council

- Awareness programmes should try to cover more and more of traders to spread awareness.
- Local PCBs have the information of products and quantities of each facility. They should also be invited for awareness programmes.
- Producers of Scheduled chemicals should inform their customers about the CWC related obligations of the products they are purchasing.
- **Visit of Indra Mallor, IAS, Joint Secretary, NACWC from 11 – 13 March 2024 at Mumbai:**

Ms. Indra Mallo, IAS, Joint Secretary, NACWC, visited Mumbai along with Dr. Arjun Singh, Joint Director, NACWC from 11th – 13th March 2024. As per her directives a meeting with ICC was arranged at New Customs House, Mumbai on 11 March 2024.



Ms. Indra Mallo, interacted with Mr. D Sothi Selvam, Dr. R. Narayanan and Mr. C.A. Deshmukh in the presence of high-ranking officials from DGFT and Customs. During the meeting, Dr. Narayanan made a presentation on ICC and its CWC Helpdesks which covered ICC's activities, current status of the Helpdesks, goals & objectives of Helpdesks,

roles and responsibilities of Helpdesks, CWC Awareness programs conducted by all ICC Helpdesks in 2023-24, numbers and details of Schedule 2 / Schedule 3 chemicals handling facilities under Mumbai Helpdesk and supply chain mapping for the declarants with one typical example of a Schedule 3 chemical manufacturer. The discussion following the presentation was centered around how to increase compliance, mainly of traders of Scheduled chemicals.

- On 12th March 2024 visits to two CWC declaring facilities were arranged. The facilities visited were Viswaat Chemicals Ltd., Ambarnath, a Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 chemicals producer and Gharda Chemicals Ltd., Dombivli a producer of pesticides / herbicides / insecticides.



- The visits to CWC declaring facilities consisted of a presentation on history, facilities, products, product applications, major customers, etc. This was followed by plant visits.
- NACWC officials raised queries regarding raw materials, product applications, export of scheduled chemicals, issues while filing the declarations and problems related to obtaining export licenses. These queries were answered to the satisfaction of NACWC officials. During plant visits, the officials were keen on seeing safety and security measures, precautions taken while handling chemicals, material handling facilities, etc.
- The CWC HD, Hyderabad organized a meeting for the industry representatives and a visit to a CWC declaring facility for the visit of Mr. Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia, IAS, Chairperson, NACWC on 20 March 2024. The Chairperson, NACWC visited Jeedimetla Industrial Area in and Virchow

Laboratories Limited, Hyderabad which is a pharmaceuticals manufacturing facility. This facility is a CWC declaring facility falling under the category of Other Chemicals Production Facilities (OCPF).

GLOBAL PRODUCT COMPLIANCE (GPC)

ICC NRO participated in an Online Masterclass organized by GPC focusing on the latest developments in Chemical Regulations worldwide on 7th Feb 2024. The session delved into various crucial topics including state registration mandates for Chemical Substances, the implementation of Chemical Safety Information Systems, exemptions for certain materials, import regulations, fee structures concerning chemical registration, as well as the inclusion of specific chemicals requiring BIS approval. Moreover, discussions extended to the timeline for ICMSR notifications, offering a comprehensive understanding of the evolving landscape in chemical compliance.

ICC in association with the Global Product Compliance (GPC) organized following virtual Webinars on :

1. "Global Regulatory Update" on 31 January 2024. Dr. Jayachandran Nair, CEO, Global Product Compliance (GPC) India was Key Speaker for the Webinar. The objective of the Webinar was to strengthen the concepts of the world's latest technologies.
2. "KKDIK Compliance in 2024: Deadlines Obligations LPR LR" on 21 February 2024. Mr. Mirac Mert Pelister, Head of Turkey Operations, GPC was key speaker for the Webinar. The objective of the Webinar was to help to understand the recent changes in the KKDIK regulation and how it will affect the registration process as well as your compliance obligations, and most importantly your trade to Türkiye
3. "How to Comply with Korean REACH K-REACH" on 15 March 2024 virtually. The eminent speaker for this webinar was Ms. Barbara Kim, South Korea Regulatory Advisor, GPC. The objective of the webinar was to presents the latest updates and upcoming deadlines for 2024 on K-REACH and gives an overview of the compliance obligations.

4. "Key Regulatory Updates: SDS, PCN and GHS Regulations" on 19th April 2024. The eminent speaker for this webinar was Dr. Shweta Deoskar, Senior Chemist and Substance Sameness Expert, GPC
5. "EU-REACH updates and UK REACH" on 31st May 2024. The eminent speaker for the webinar was Ms. Ketki Kulkarni, Chief Compliance Officer, GPC. The objective of the Webinar was to focus into the latest developments and regulatory requirements under the EU REACH and UK REACH frameworks, providing attendees with crucial insights and updates.
6. "Bio Stimulant: Regulatory Framework in India, Europe and South Africa" on 19th July 2024. Ms. Pritee Panicker, Regulatory Affairs Manager at Global Product Compliance was the Key Speaker of the Webinar.

INDUSTRY ACADEMIA EXPERT COMMITTEE:

- MoUs for creation of "**Centres of Excellence**" between ICC and Shiv Nadar University and Delhi Technological University were signed as apart ICC's Industry-Academia partnership.

- The MoU exchanged between ICC and Delhi Technological University (Formerly DCE) is for creation of 'Centre of Excellence' in the field of 'Polymer Compounding and Membrane Separation processes'

- Internship provided to Manipal University, Jaipur student in Indian Glycols Ltd. , Kashipur, UK.
- Field visit were arranged for Chemical Engineering students of Manipal University, Jaipur to DCM Shriram, Kota plant, Rajasthan.
- A Lecture was organized by Manipal University, Jaipur on Chemical Industry in India- Challenges and Opportunities" by Mr. Dinesh Chopra for Chemical Engineering students in the International conference RAMSACT for chemical sector promotion
- Skill Development, Internship and CSR: Initiated 'WeChemie' project for skilling underprivileged women in initiated by BASF, executed by Somaiya Vidyavihar University and supported by ICC. Working with Dr. Achala and Mrs. Sunita Sule to arrange Internships for 41 students who got their certificates on 11th April 2024.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES:

- With reference to the Circular No. 23/2023-Customs, dated 30th September 2023 (Circular) from Central Board Of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) and Advisory No: 22/2023 dated 16.10.2023, regarding new mandatory additional qualifiers in import/export declarations in respect of certain products, ICC has sent a representation to Mr. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, CBIC with a copy marked to secretary DCPC regarding the issues which member companies are still facing regarding the said subject on 4th December 2023
- ICC sent a representation to DCPC on 13th December 2023 consisting concerns raised by one of our member companies about the issues related to Toluene QCO and Methylene Chloride (dichloromethane) QCO and requested extend the implementation date for Toluene for a time that will be sufficient for Indian manufacturers of Toluene to develop infrastructure and ensure conformance to IS 537, 3rd revision.
- On 04 January 2024, ICC sent a representation highlighting the concerns about the issues related to Policy Advocacy

regarding BIS regulation of chemicals to Bureau of Indian Standards.

- ICC sent a draft proposal to DCPC on 29th June 2024 to streamline process to authorize import of excipient grade chemical products for end use in the pharmaceutical industry impacted by quality control orders

ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES EXPERT COMMITTEE:

- On 17th September 2023, ICC under the guidance of International Treaties expert Committee sent a representation to DCPC regarding notifying final regulatory actions taken before the entry into force of the Rotterdam Convention and notifying final regulatory actions with the time limit specified in Article 5.1 of Rotterdam Convention. In this regard, ICC requested department to send a formal communication to the Secretariat of the Convention, UNEP and FAO ahead of the next CRC meeting (2nd Oct – 6th Oct) to ensure that the notifications that fail to meet the requirement given in Article 5.1 of the Rotterdam Convention (RC) are not taken up for review by the CRC. Such impugned notifications are required to be withdrawn for not meeting the Convention's requirement or sent to the Compliance Committee.
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare organised a meeting on 27th September 2023 chaired by Dr. Ashish Kumar Srivastava, Joint Secretary (Plant Protection), Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, on the impact of chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention in relation to "market availability" of listed chemicals and their alternatives. The meeting was attended by Mr. S. Ganesan, Chairman, ICC-International Treaties Expert Committee, along with Mr. Dhruvil Soni, Officer, Sustainability, Environment and Regulatory Issues, ICC – Northern Region.



- A meeting was held at DCPC on 17th Oct 2023 under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Chemicals to discuss the follow-up action on the decisions taken during the 11th Conference of Parties (CoP) meeting of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (COP-11) held during 01-12th May-2023).
- Mr. S. Ganesan, Chairman-International Treaties Expert Committee, ICC and Mr. Dhruvil Soni of ICC NRO attended the first (1st) meeting of the 'Working Group' for stakeholder consultations at MoEF&CC, New Delhi on 06 April 2023 to aid in preparing a common understanding of various Agenda

items like compliance, effectiveness evaluation, the listing of chemicals, implementation and monitoring mechanism, technical and financial assistance, the election of officials in the three conventions, etc. for the meetings of the Conference of Parties(COP), Chemical Review Committee (CRC), and Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC) organised by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

- A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary (Chemicals) on 11 April 2023 regarding discussion on the agenda of the Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention for the Eleventh (11th) meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Geneva. It was a preparatory meeting ahead of COP, wherein the Department demonstrated a presentation and requested associations to share inputs. The said meeting was attended by ICC- NRO team. Subsequently, ICC has submitted the recommendations to the Department.
- ICC delegation attended meeting held on 17 May 2023 under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (C&PC) to discuss the addition of Australia Group Proposed Dipropylamine (CAS No. 142-84-7) to the list of Chemical Weapons Precursors. The feedback obtained from Stakeholders is under consideration by DCPC.
- ICC submitted following to the Rotterdam Convention:

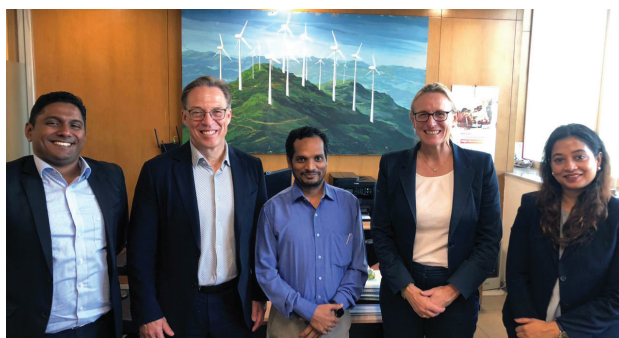
Potential direct and indirect trade and socio-economic impacts caused by listing of chemicals/pesticides in Annex III (PIC list) of the Rotterdam Convention.

1. It is often claimed that listing of chemicals in the Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention (PIC list) need not be considered as a ban or restriction on their uses. But in reality, PIC list is often perceived to be a blacklist qualifying for outright ban.
2. Adverse economic impacts (direct and indirect economic costs) of PIC listing cannot be accurately quantifiable in monetary terms. The indirect and long-term costs are much more than the immediate direct costs.
3. Past experience shows that Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, in most cases, decide to ban the production, use and trade of the PIC listed chemicals/pesticides. Thus, PIC listing of chemicals/pesticides produce ripple effects across the globe.
4. PIC listing of a chemical/pesticide invariably leads to reduction of its international trade.
5. A pesticide listed or proposed to be listed in Annex III is considered as a high-risk hazardous substance hampering its commercial use considerably.
6. Private agriculture standards by non-state actors considerably influence the international trading of agricultural commodities. These non-state actors prohibit use of pesticides listed or proposed for listing in Annex III of the Convention. They also run campaigns among farmers advising them to avoid using pesticides listed or proposed to be listed in Annex III.

7. Past listing shows all the pesticides in Annex III are post patent, cost-effective generic pesticides. Their substitute products are expensive and not as effective.
8. The Rotterdam Convention regulates international trade of certain chemicals and pesticides. Though there are strict rules prescribed for the notification and evaluation, they are often neglected.
9. The predictability, credibility and effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention is compromised when certain important procedural and substantive provisions are ignored. For example, Article 5(1) and Annex II 2(b) of the text of the Convention are often ignored while receiving and reviewing the notifications.
10. As the Convention concerns the international trade, it is necessary to ensure procedural fairness in the decision making. This could be main reason why the CRC recommended chemicals fail to get the unanimous support of the COP for PIC listing.

OTHERS

- Industry Associations' Summit (CII-ASCON) took place on 21st September 2023 at The Lalit Hotel, New Delhi. ICC, a full member of ASCON association council attended the meeting. Mr. Rupark Sarswat, CEO, India Glycols & Member, Executive Committee of ICC represented ICC and made a presentation on the Chemicals & Petrochemicals sector for Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs, Food & Distribution, Government of India.
- ICC Northern region met Shri Arun Baroka, Former Secretary of the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals on his superannuation and thanked him for all his guidance, support, and encouragement to ICC and its activities.
- A meeting was held at DCPC regarding a discussion on the inclusion of two fentanyl precursors, 4-piperidone and 1-boc-piperidone in Table I of the 1988 Convention. DCPC has requested industry associations to provide inputs with proper justification supporting the non-listing of the two fentanyl precursors, 4-piperidone and 1-boc-4-piperidone, in Table I of the United Nations Convention.
- ICC NRO had attended the training session organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and the Department of Expenditure regarding the Procedure to be followed to release the funds by the Central Nodal Agency (CNA).
- ICC Northern Region officials attended the Indian Bromine Platform meeting organized by Avalon Consulting along with IBP members on 18th September 2023 at New Delhi to discuss the Fire safety regulations in various regions (Europe/America/China) and how Indian consumers can benefit by strengthening of fire safety standards in India. Impact of global regulations on India's global trade and how India can participate in the consultative process adopted by US/EU as a part of any regulatory overhaul was also discussed in the meeting.
- The ICC Secretariat along with Dr. Claus Rettig, President, Evonik Asia Pacific & extended Board Member and Dr. Claudine Mollenkopf, Head of Evonik Specialty Additives Division, Mr. Vinod Paremal, President and Managing Director, Evonik India met Mr. Prabir Kr Dash, Scientist D, Wind Energy Division, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on 13th October 2023 at MNRE to understand the perspective on India's wind energy growth trajectory and enabling policies and also to understand about potential policy developments like production-linked incentives for the wind energy industry and the development of offshore wind energy.



- World Investment Conference was held in New Delhi from 11-14 December 2023. World Investment Conference serves as a platform for global investment promotion and innovation stakeholders. This conference brings together IPAs, international organizations, academia, and the private sector to discuss investment policies and trends, providing a unique opportunity for networking, knowledge sharing, and partnership building. ICC NRO participated in the WAIPA and met Government officials from State Govt, and MSME units and discussed various initiatives of ICC and possible areas of collaboration.
- Toxic Link in collaboration with UNEP organized a roundtable discussion meeting on 13th December at India International Centre, New Delhi to discuss and disseminate information on user-friendly guidance documents for producers, registration holders, and users of non-POPs alternatives to DDT, to support them in meeting the legal requirements for DDT alternatives and thus facilitate their use in the country. ICC NRO participated in the meeting and shared their perspective on DDT alternatives.
- Mr. Rupark Sarswat, Chairman, Northern Region-ICC engaged in a pivotal meeting with Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on the various initiatives of ICC and the need to announce the PLI scheme for the Chemical sector at the earliest. The opportunity was also utilised for inviting him for the upcoming 17th Annual India Chemical Industry Outlook Conference & Exhibition scheduled to take place from February 29th to March 1st, 2024, at Taj Lands Ends, Mumbai. Indian Chemical Council looks forward to the continued support and guidance from the Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals, envisioning a collaborative effort in creating a robust knowledge platform that propels the evolution of India's chemical sector.

- ICC delegation led by Mr. Kartik Bharatram, Vice President, ICC and Joint Managing Director, SRF Ltd along with ICC NRO team and officials from McKinsey called on Ms. Nivedita Shukla Verma, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India on 13th Feb 2024. The discussions revolved around the ICC Perspective Chemical Vision Plan 2040, exploring key insights and strategic pathways for the industry's future. Mr. Kartik Bharatram cordially invited Secretary for the 17th Annual India Chemical Industry Outlook Conference & Exhibition scheduled on 29th Feb & 1st March 2024, Mumbai.
- Chemical Skill Development Centre (CSDC) an initiative of ICC with CIA & MIA in Southern region conducted two programs at Kongu Engineering College and Rajalakshmi Engineering College for final year chemical engineering students in enhancing their technical knowledge and employability quotient.
- ICC NRO had a productive meeting with Mr. Saleh S Alabdul Rahman, Commercial Attache, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia wherein potential areas of collaboration were discussed. The meeting also served as a platform to brief the Saudi embassy officials about the ICC's initiatives and explore avenues for future collaboration.
- UN-Global Compact Network India organized its 18th National Convention as a part of its continuous effort of bringing up and highlighting the most prudent issues of our times. The theme was "Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030", guiding companies on where they can make the biggest and fastest impact before 2030. The Convention focused on the thematic areas surrounding the subject of Climate Change, Gender Equality, Living Wage, Finance and Investment and Water Resilience. In addition to addressing the underlying issues, the discussions also paved the way for clear and credible roadways for approaching the midpoint of the Decade of Action thereby accelerating the transition towards sustainable, equitable, inclusive and just development models.

ICC AT STARTUP MAHAKUMBH:

As India continues its journey towards becoming a global innovation hub, events like Startup Mahakumbh plays a crucial role in nurturing the dreams of tomorrow's entrepreneurs, ensuring a sustainable and inclusive growth trajectory for the nation's startup landscape. On 19th March, ICC NRO participated in the Startup Mahakumbh at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. DPIIT and eminent industry associations like Bootstrap Incubation & Advisory Foundation and IVCA supported the Event. ICC NRO took the opportunity to introduce the Indian Chemical Council to a diverse array of startups across fertilizers, paints, essential oils, FMCG, and cosmetics.

The 4th edition of Startup Mahakumbh, India's largest startup event, took place at the International Convention Centre, Yashobhumi in New Delhi. Over 250 startups from across India participated in this grand event. It served as a great platform for networking, collaboration, and celebration, bringing together innovators, investors, and industry leaders. During the event, officials from the ICC Northern Region office interacted with MSMEs, startups and self-help groups, introducing them to the Indian Chemical Council its initiatives, work, and its flagship events.

- Under the WeChemie initiative, an Industry visit was organized on 24 November 2023 at Ambarnath plant of Viswaat Chemicals Ltd. 43 students from Somaiya College, Kirti College and Swami Vivekananda College with 2 Administrators participated in the visit.

CHEM EXPO INDIA 2024:

ICC participated in the CHEM EXPO INDIA 2024 held on 24 – 25 April 2024 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai and showcased its initiatives viz Responsible Care, NicerGlobe etc. Large number of Chemical Companies visited our stall where ICC promoted CHEMICAL NEWS for subscriptions/advertisements, Members Directory, Various events, etc. ICC staff explained to the visitors regarding the functioning of ICC, various activities being undertaken under the banner of ICC. The attendees were explained on the benefits of becoming a member of the Council and how it will help in uplifting their company further.

Mr. Aron interacted with the members of the ICC executive Committee and was extremely positive in rendering support to the Chemical Sector. ICC extends Greetings and Warm Wishes to Mr. Aron and look forward to working together towards the Prime Minister's vision to make India a developed nation by 2047, the 100th year of India's independence.

MEETING WITH DCPC ON SEMI CONDUCTOR GRADE CHEMICALS

India has made significant strides in developing its domestic semiconductor industry in recent years, and the government has set ambitious goals to make India a global leader in semiconductor manufacturing. The semiconductor industry is a critical sector that underpins the global economy, powering everything from smartphones to cars to medical devices. ICC attended a meeting under the Chairmanship of the Director (Chemicals) on 12th July 2024 to discuss the issues related to the Chemicals used in Semiconductor industries. During the meeting, ICC apprised DCPC about the upcoming Gujarat Semiconnect[™] Conference on 19th July 2024 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat where ICC is collaborating with Gujarat State Electronics Mission (GSEM) as an esteemed Knowledge Partner for a session at the Gujarat SemiConnect Conference.

- On 09th November 2023, a mock drill exercise was conducted by National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) at Ambarnath plant of Viswaat Chemicals Ltd. The Mock drill was conducted by NDRF personnel, Viswaat team, Police Dept., Collector Office, MIDC and various other agencies and more than 300 people are engaged in this massive exercise.
- Participation in Bengal Global Business Summit organized by Government of West Bengal on 21st and 22nd November 2023 at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata
- ICC, Southern Region organised a national level conference on “Emerging Technologies in the Chemical Sector” in association with CIA, MIA & FICCI on 24th Jan 2024 at Chennai. McKinsey & Company were the Knowledge Partners. Mr B Ashok, Ex Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation & Director Deepak Phenolics; Mr Arvind Kumar, MD – CPCL; Dr GSK Velu, CMD, Tritivron Health Care and Ms Ramya Bharathram MD & CEO, Thirumalai Chemicals Limited graced the conference as Key Speakers.



Coordinated by Mr. K. S. Karthikeyan, Chairman - ICC, Southern Region and Mr S Venkataraghavan, President, Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd; the conference had eminent speakers across technology companies, McKinsey, MNCs and Indian innovators presenting their cutting-edge technologies in the chemical industry and their importance in contributing to India's growth towards USD 5 Trillion economy.



The technical sessions focussed on themes such as Petrochemical Manufacturing, Inorganic Chemicals, Catalysts and Reactors and Sustainability in Chemical Industry. Large number of senior officials from the Chemical Industry attended the event.



- The Global Congress co-implementing partners organized the fourth annual plenary meeting of the “Global Congress on Chemical Security and Emerging Threats”. Ms Priyanka C Mayekar, Leader- Responsible Care attended this meeting physically from 16th to 19th October 2023 at the Bangkok, Thailand. The Aim of the meeting was to share best practices, applied case studies, information, challenges and lessons learned to raise collective awareness about chemical security and explosive threats around the world.
- The “7th Industrial Green Chemistry World (IGCW-2023) - Convention & Ecosystem” was organized on 6-8th November 2023 in The Westin Mumbai Garden City. Dr. Pranav Tripathi, Deputy Director - Sustainability, Environment, and Regulatory Issues, ICC delivered a presentation on Responsible Care: A Path to Improve Safety and Sustainability in Chemical Industry. Dr. Pranav was also a part of Panel Discussion of Management of Environmental Pollution of MSME based on Clustering & Industrial Ecology Approach.



- ICC Northern Region attended the 20th CII Global MSME Business Summit on 23rd November 2023 at New Delhi. The summit was organized by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Confederation of Indian Industry. The session on Standards, Quality, and Sustainability on Indian MSMEs attempted to discover the essential tools and strategies for MSMEs to bolster their export competitiveness and expand their global footprint with quality as the foundation of trade.



ICC-NRO team met MSME companies during the summit and briefed them about ICC and its initiatives.

- Director General, ICC along with the ICC-NRO team, met the Invest India team on 30th Nov 2023. The meeting was to discuss future collaborations with Invest India.
- Dr. Pranav Tripathi, Deputy Director - Sustainability, Environment, and Regulatory Issues attended a Webinar on “Overview of Chemicals Management Policy in India and Latest Development of Draft Chemicals (Management And Safety) Rules” organized by Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC) on 26th September 2023 and made presentations on “Overview of Chemicals Management Policy and Regulations in India” and “Overview of Draft Chemicals (Management and Safety) Rules, 20xx”.

ICC PRESENTS “LAB TO MARKETS” AT ‘INDUSTRY-CONNECT’ MEETING UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF PROF. AJAY KUMAR SOOD, PRINCIPAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser held ‘**Industry-Connect**’ meeting under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, at Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi, to expand the collaboration between Science & Technology (S&T) Clusters and the Industry, with the purpose of bridging the gap of ‘**Lab to Market.**’ The meeting brought together representatives from S&T clusters and various industry associations to showcase the clusters’ work, discuss the industry needs for technology advancements and

process improvements, and explore industry requirements for product development and the role of S&T Clusters in meeting these needs.

City Knowledge S&T Cluster Program is a flagship initiative of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. This initiative aims to tackle local challenges through S&T interventions by bringing together academia, R&D institutions, industries, startups, and local governments. Currently, there are

seven S&T Clusters established in – Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jodhpur, Northern Region, and Pune.

Prof. Sood highlighted that the S&T Clusters have the potential to achieve global competitiveness. He further added that this endeavour involves creating stronger linkages between S&T Clusters and existing Industrial Clusters. The goal is to identify new avenues for collaboration, drive technological advancements, and support sustainable development, contributing to the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat.'

Dr. Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, office of PSA stated that the dynamic interplay between industry and science drives innovation, enhances the practical application of research, and ensures that our scientific endeavours are aligned with market needs. She said that the meeting is sought to establish a robust connection between S&T clusters and industry bodies. The industry associations were requested to spread awareness among their member industries about the clusters for effective collaborations in future.

ICC was represented by **Dr. Rahul Nabar**, Member of the R&D Subcommittee and Adjunct Associate Professor at IIT-Bombay. He presented and elaborated on the critical current issues in the chemical industry where help is needed, including better chemical processes, sustainability and safety, innovation and technology transfer/indigenization, mapping and creating robust supply chains, and utilizing the latest in AI/ML/Industry 4.0. Dr. Nabar also expressed the necessity for bridging the skill development gap, establishing a clear timeline for translational technology ecosystem, and updating user-friendly databases.

WORKSHOP ON THE VOLUNTARY CODE OF CONDUCT AND UNDERScoreD THE COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT TOWARDS FOSTERING A DRUG-FREE NATION.

At an impressive function held on 14th June 2024 at New Delhi, **Shri Vivek Aggarwal I.A.S, Additional Secretary (Revenue), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, along with Shri Dinesh Boudh, Narcotics Commissioner, Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)** inaugurated the workshop on the Voluntary Code of Conduct and underscored the collective commitment towards fostering a drug-free nation.

Members may be aware of the voluntary code of conduct signed by ICC with Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) to prevent the diversion of chemicals that can be used in the illicit manufacturing of drugs. The Code typically aims to uphold ethical standards and regulatory compliance while ensuring that chemicals are only sold to legitimate and authorized entities.

Key aspects of the voluntary code of conduct include:

- **Due Diligence:** Conducting thorough background checks and due diligence on customers to ensure they are legitimate businesses with lawful purposes for purchasing chemicals.
- **Documentation and Record-Keeping:** Maintaining accurate records of transactions and keeping documentation that verifies the intended use of chemicals.
- **Training and Awareness:** Providing training to employees about the risks associated with diversion and the importance of adhering to the code of conduct.
- **Reporting Suspected Diversion:** Establishing procedures for reporting any suspicious activities or potential diversion attempts to relevant authorities.
- **Collaboration with Authorities:** Cooperating with law enforcement and regulatory agencies to prevent and investigate cases of chemical diversion.
- **Monitoring and Auditing:** Regularly monitoring transactions and conducting internal audits to ensure compliance with the code of conduct.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Committing to continuous improvement by reviewing and updating policies and procedures in response to evolving risks and regulatory changes.

As the responsible Industry body, ICC believes that by implementing and adhering to the voluntary code of conduct, the chemical industry will fulfill its social responsibility and contribute to efforts to combat the illicit drug trade while maintaining the legitimate use of chemicals in various industries.



On the occasion of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2024, the workshop was organised, emphasizing the crucial role of a voluntary code of conduct in the chemical sector to combat the menace of drug abuse.

Highlighting the industry's perspective, **Mr. Rupark Sarswat**, Chairman, ICC Northern Region and CEO, India Glycols Limited, shed light on the outlook of the chemical sector. **Shri Dinesh Bouddh**, Narcotics Commissioner of India, elucidated the statement of purpose, while **Shri Anil Ramteke**, Chief Controller of Factories, Department of Revenue, Government of India, emphasized the imperative of responsible chemical management.



Acknowledging the challenges posed by the misuse of precursor chemicals, the workshop emphasized the need for vigilant oversight and responsible usage across all stages of their lifecycle. Insights into global chemical control trends provided by a representative from the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) further enriched the discussions. During the

workshop, the Department of Revenue, Govt of India presented a case study on Germany's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. Additionally, industry stakeholders from Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd and Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd presented safe handling techniques for controlled substances.

In a combined effort to combat illicit drug manufacturing, the workshop advocated the adoption of a voluntary code of conduct, aiming to strike a balance between legitimate industrial use and the prevention of chemical diversion for illegal purposes. The workshop attended by nearly 100 senior executives from the industry, served as a platform to sensitize corporate stakeholders to the hazards associated with non-scheduled chemical substances, encouraging informed vigilance and responsible practices. The event culminated with a panel discussion and a vote of thanks.

Other important dignitaries who took part in the event include Ms. Sheila Kamdar, Regional Technical Officer for South Asia, International Narcotics Control Board (INCB); Dr. Sanjay Kumar, IRS, Deputy Narcotics Commissioner, Central Bureau of Narcotics, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India; Mr. Himanshu Dhapola, SBU Head – Acetyls, Jubilant Ingrevia Limited and Mr. Deepak Dutt, General Manager Logistics, Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION: SEMINAR AT GSFC UNIVERSITY, VADODARA

World Environment Day spearheaded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is celebrated worldwide every year to raise awareness and influence environmental actions. ICC organized a seminar to observe the World Environment Day on 5th June 2024 at the GSFC University for their students and faculty. **Mr. Vikram Singhal**, President, Gulbrandsen Technologies was the Chief Guest. The programme was attended by more than 100 students and faculties.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN MARINE AND RIVERINE ECOSYSTEMS" ON 7TH JUNE 2024 AT CHENNAI

ICC took part in the International Conference on "Circular Economy in Marine and Riverine Ecosystems" organized by Royal Norwegian Embassy on Friday, 7th June 2024 at Chennai which was attended by Secretary – Southern Region of ICC.

Key features of the Conference were:

- Necessity in transformation of shift in plastic waste management.

- Multiple initiatives adopted including banning selected single use plastics. Extended Producer's Responsibility (EPR) system and Quick Response Code (QR) based tracking, studies on health aspects of products, food packaging etc., minimize colors in packaging for circularity.
- Regional programs could add value in integrated planning, technology, enhancements, up-scaling with sustainable financing partnerships. PPPs and introducing enhanced digital systems for management effectiveness tracking.
- Enhancing science based approaches with ecosystem/environmental accounting can further add value in attracting and fast tracking investments, strengthen policy and budget decision, including subsidies across sectors to promote circularity.
- Change from liner to the Circular model.
- It is indicated that plastic leakage to the ocean will triple by the year 2040 to 29 million metric tons per year.
- The solid waste sector counts for 11% of methane emissions, with a global warming effect 25% higher than CO₂.
- It was emphasized for Green Growth with Circular Economy world-wide.
- In order to reduce the amount of marine debris washing ashore in the Gulf of Mannar, India and Sri Lanka are working towards the Mannar Region System Solutions (MARESSOL) Project.
- Dr. Jayanthi.M, The Chairperson, TNPCB insisted on Green Revolution; Ban on single use plastics; Implementation of

"Voluntary Green Rating" by GoT; Need for Eco alternatives
- Collaboration with IIT, Chennai, CLRI, NEERI, NCCR, World Bank for effective implementation of Eco alternatives
; Requirement of EPR registration for battery waste.

IIT BOMBAY OFFERS SUPERVISED LEARNING PROJECT-INDUSTRIAL DEFINED PROBLEMS (SLP-IDP):

IIT-Bombay has invited esteemed members of ICC for taking the students of Chemical Engineering in their companies for Internship Training. The institute has also offered to the industry the advantage to collaborate with the Department of Chemical Engineering, IITB regarding Supervised Learning Project-Industrial Defined Problems (SLP-IDP). Separate Communication along with the brochure of IIT-B has circulated to the industry.

ICC SRO, PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM FOR LARGE INDUSTRIES IN MANALI AND ENNORE REGION

Mr V. Arun Roy, IAS, Secretary – Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, Tamil Nadu organized a program for Large Industries in Manali and Ennore region on 10th July 2024 at Secretariat, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.

The main Objectives were:

- Industries to provide more employment opportunities on a temporary contract basis and support local villages.
- Align with CPCL's training program through CIPET and Skill Development Centre at Bhubaneswar by choosing local students in the area 2.5 km radius of Manali.
- Alcohol de-addiction program suggested for the area.



GLOBAL CONCLAVE ON PLASTICS RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY (GCPRS) 2024

Indian Chemical Council attended the Global Conclave on Plastics Recycling and Sustainability (GCPRS) 2024, held at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Hosted by the All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) and the Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturers' Association (CPMA), GCPRS served as a critical platform addressing key issues surrounding plastic usage, recycling innovations and sustainable practices

within the industry. During the conclave, ICC officials interacted with several industries such as Uflex Ltd, Ecoline Clothing, Karma Ecotech Ltd, Lucro Plast-E-Cycle Pvt Ltd, PlastIndia International University, Polymer Bazar, Gujarat State Plastic Manufacturing Association, Chemco, Tricon, MJ Pigment & Additives, Divar Chemicals, Silvertan Papers Ltd, Shakti Olefin Compounds and Cloud Chemicals Ltd, inviting them to join the ICC. Additionally, discussed their participation in the upcoming 6th Edition of the ICC Sustainability Conclave and highlighted ICC initiatives for promoting sustainability within the chemical sector.



→ A programme was organized in association with Beacon Insurance Brokers on **“Liability & Cyber Risks Associated with Chemical Plants”** at Vadodara on 24 February 2024 for the awareness of the industry towards various risk assessments and options in insurance.

→ **CHEM SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM on 25th - 26th July 2024 at CPCL, RESOT, Alwarpet, Chennai**

CHEM SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM organized by Chem Skill Development Centre, the wing of Indian Chemical Council, Chemical Industries Association and Manali Industries Association on 25th - 26th July 2024 at CPCL, RESOT, Alwarpet, Chennai.

The main objectives of the Program was importance to operating Plants such as Process Safety Management, Environmental Concerns, Operation Excellence, HAZOP, Root Cause Analysis, Asset Integrity, Operation and Trouble Shooting of Pumps and Net Zero.

Mr.Hari Narayanan, Director, Ram-Nath & Co. inaugurated the Program.

Faculties:

Mr. Ravi Ramasamy, Pragna Consultants

Mr. Ramadoss.N, CEO–Quality Business Systems

Mr. Dilip P.V, Consultant

Mr. Murthy, N.S, Principal Consultant in ‘Oil refining’ in McKinsey

Mr. Panneerselvam.B (Retd., Chief GM, CPCL)

Mr. Venkat Subramanian, Technical Training Faculty, Consulting Expert & Water & Energy Management

Technologist

Mr. Srinivasan.S, Consultant

Mr. Sivaramkumar, Senior Manager Manufactring Excellence, TCL

Presidential Address by – Mr.K.S. Karthikeyan, ICC, Chairman, Southern Region / CEO, Proklean Technologies Private Limited

Valedictory address and Distribution of Certificates by Mr.Senthilkumar, Whole Time Director, TPL

Vote of Thanks by : Mr.Ravi Ramasamy, Chem Skill Development Centre

Meeting of ICC Northern Region Members

- The 2nd Committee Meeting of ICC Northern Region Members was organized by the ICC Northern Region on 9th August 2024 in New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kartik Bharat Ram, Vice President of ICC and Joint Managing Director of SRF Ltd, and Mr. Rupark Sarswat, Chairman of ICC Northern Region and CEO of India Glycols Ltd. The meeting discussed the committee’s robust roadmap and activities for 2024, along with detailed updates from key meetings, policies, and developments in the chemical sector over the previous quarter. In addition, members engaged in in-depth discussions about critical industry issues and explored avenues for joint advocacy with the government.

Additionally, KPMG officials delivered a presentation on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations in the chemical sector, highlighting the importance of addressing ESG matters and the potential benefits associated with doing so.

PRESENTATIONS MADE DURING THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Mr. Ved Prakash Mall, Director – Sales and Marketing, India Electronics & Semiconductor Association(IESA) made presentation on “Growing Semiconductor manufacturing eco system India - some immediate opportunities for materials”.

IESA Focus Area :

Industry

- To Grow Electronics & Semiconductor business in India
- Become ‘go to’ destination for ESDM in India
- Integrate India into the Global ESDM supply chain

Government

- Emerge a trusted adviser to the center and state Governments for formulation and implementation of policies (ESDM, Semiconductor, fabless, etc.)
- Bring issues of the industry to the notice of government to find resolution

Academia

- Advisors for future skills development
- Bridge gap between Academia and industry
- Promote Research and development

Society

- Enabler for latest technology solutions to enhancing quality of life & business
 - Promoting technology based social innovations
- During the 3rd Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 28 February 2024 following presentations were made
- Presentation on “Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) of the European Union” by Ms. Charanya Lakshmikumaran, Partner, Lakshmikumaran and Sridharan
 - Presentation on “Pollution Legal Liability Insurance Policy” by Mr. Maneck Dastur, K. M. Dastur Reinsurance Brokers Private Limited.