



## Industry Meet on EPR and Way Forward 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019, The Pavilonn Hotel, Kolhapur

EPR Industry meet held on Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at The Pavilonn Hotel kicked off with approximately 70 participants from plastics industry. The welcome note was given by Mr. Harshad Desai, Chairman –Seminar Committee, AIPMA. He briefed the forum on objectives of this meet and warmly welcomed all the delegates on behalf of AIPMA office bearers, IPI Pune Chapter and APP.

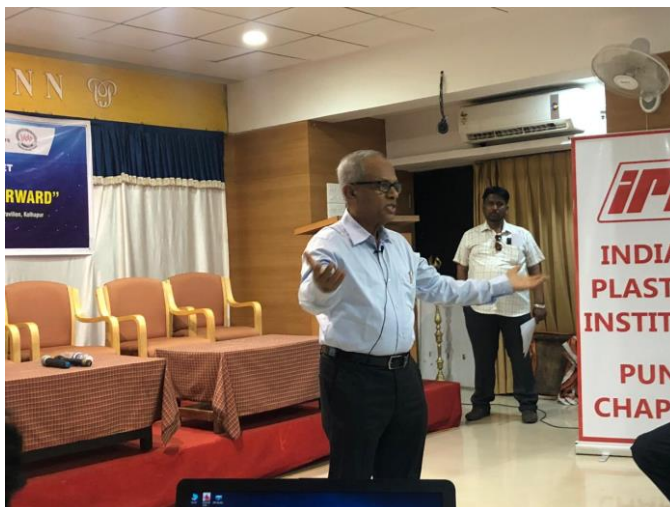
The Program commenced with Lamp Lightening ceremony by hon. Chief guest Mr. Ravindra Apte, Chairman – Gokul Dairy; Mr. Sapan K. Ray, hon. Secretary, ICPE; Mr. Chetan Baregar, Founder member – recykal.com; Mr. D. T. Devale, former sr. law officer – MPCB; Mr. Ranjitt Jadhav, Vice Chairman – IPI Pune chapter; Mr. Satyajeet Bhonsle, Sustainability Division – Reliance Polymers; Mr. Kishore Sampat, VP West – AIPMA; Mr. Harshad Desai, Chairman – Seminar Committee, AIPMA



*Inauguration and Lamp Lightening*

**Mr. Sapan K. Ray, Hon. Secretary, ICPE** explained impact on plastic on environment and approach towards sustainable development. He went on explaining anthropological context and material context stating that production and usage of plastic dates back to some hundred years only and ever since the consumption has increased to 350% from

1950s. he further highlighted VAC factors i.e., Versatility, Affordability, and Convenience. Impacts of plastic alternatives result in increased environmental footprints. Concluding to his presentation he put forth circularity to be a possible solution.



*Mr. Sapan K. Ray, Hon. Secretary, ICPE*

**Mr. Chetan Baregar, Founder member – recykal.com**, shared his perspective on EPR. He explained the digital framework created by his company Rapidue Technologies Pvt Ltd as an idea to create hassle-free waste management. He said, to certain extent waste management could be curbed using digital platform and market place; which can create ecosystem of recycling by creating awareness at consumer level giving incentive based scheme (from household to waste pickers to DRCC material recovery facility to recycler). He emphasized digital technology has a great potential to bring all stakeholders on one platform aggregating their sporadic efforts, ultimately leading to empowerment of each fringe element in this informed industry.



*Mr. Chetan Baregar, Founder member – recykal.com*

**Mr. D. T. Devale, former sr. law officer – MPCB** lectured about introduction of EPR into this system. He highlighted that first EPR in India was proposed to deal with batteries waste in 2001, subsequently, in 2011 E-waste management rules introduced. And similar was the approach towards plastics now.

He further informed that 200-300 EPR plans have been submitted so far, but none of them has been approved. He advised if government could levy a cess in lieu of EPR which could be appealed by plastics associations.



**Mr. D. T. Devale, former sr. law officer – MPCB**

Subsequently, the **panel discussion** was moderated by Dr. Sameer Joshi on EPR related challenges, way forward, and possible solutions. Mr. Kishore Sampat introduced panellists; Mr. D. T. Devale, Mr. Nitin Gore, Dr. Vijay Patil, and Dr. Sameer Joshi.



**Falcitation of panelists**

**Mr. Ravindra Apte, Chairman – Gokul Dairy** said selling milk in plastics pouches was an innovation but now it is alleged to cause plastic waste and there is relentless attacks on milk pouches; based on perception however public image needs to improve. And so is the thing with oils as well, which eventually use polythene films, cans, jars, containers, etc.

He added, due to littering; drains are blocked and that's particularly visible in rains, which results in submerged roads. If littering is the problem, then is it right that all the responsibilities be borne by producers/ manufacturers/ retailers.

He recited Mr. Devele's thought referring to government cess in lieu of EPR and commissioning common collection centres.



***Mr. Kishore Smpat felicitated Mr. Ravindra Apte, Chairman – Gokul Dairy***

The meet was concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Satyajeet Bhonsle, Sustainability Division, Reliance Polymers.