

COVID – 19 and Polymer Markets – Implications for the Indian Plastics Processing Industry

The Plastics Industry is making significant contributions to the economic development of various key sectors in the country.

The Indian petrochemical industry which includes the end products like polymers, synthetic fibers, surfactants etc. constitute ~20% i.e. ~USD 23 Bn market. Petrochemical products permeate the entire spectrum of daily use items and cover almost every sphere of life like clothing, housing, construction, furniture, automobiles, household items, agriculture, horticulture, irrigation, packaging, medical appliances, electronics and electrical etc. These industries hence drive the demand growth of petrochemicals. India offers a strong opportunity for manufacturing of petrochemicals in future with its plan to increase the share of manufacturing in GDP from 16% to 25% by 2022. Plastics are the major product that account for the bulk of the Indian petrochemical industry.

The global spread of the coronavirus and the crash in crude oil prices has unleashed tremendous uncertainty in the polymer markets. With economic recession on the horizon, demand recovery is likely to be slow even as new capacities are brought on stream.

Apart from this, the Indian Plastics Processing Industry faces a lot many additional implications. The Indian plastics processing industry is highly fragmented and small and micro players constitute the majority of the units. India's plastics market depends on labour intensive equipment

which has adversely impacted the productivity. Unreliable power and high energy costs in India as compared with other countries are also constraints which hamper capacity utilization.

The All India Plastic Manufacturers Association of India (AIPMA) in collaboration with I.C.I.S put together this webinar. The key factors influencing markets and what is in store for the rest of the year. This webinar discussed all the critical issues facing polymer buyers in these unprecedented times.

OUR TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Business Owners
- Directors
- CEO's of the Plastic Industry

SPEAKERS:

- Mr. Himanshu Sanghavi Managing Director, Vinmar India
- Ms. Malini Hariharan Market Development Director APAC I.C.I.S
- Ms. Veena Pathare Senior Editor Manager I.C.I.S

The webinar had an attendance of over five hundred participants. A lot of interest was generated during this program, and many of the questions were answered by our esteemed panellists.

THE WAY FORWARD -

In these trying times where businesses are shutting down and people are facing problems, programs like this help the industry people and give them a more clear view of how to move forward.