

»» NEWSLETTER ««

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

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BUISNESS TRENDS



GLOBAL PLASTIC RECYCLING REPORT 2024: FUTURE FOCUS ON MOLECULAR TECHNIQUES - FORECASTS TO 2030

Source:Lelezard.com

The "Global Plastic Recycling Strategic Business Report 2024" forecasts the plastic recycling market to reach \$86.7 billion by 2030, up from \$48.9 billion in 2022. Despite COVID-19 challenges, the industry is poised to rebound, driven by sustainability concerns. PET and HDPE segments are expected to grow, especially in packaging. Innovation and investment in recycling infrastructure are crucial, with the Asia-Pacific leading growth. The U.S. market is valued at \$4.4 billion, while China is forecasted to reach \$33.9 billion by 2030. Companies are investing in R&D and partnerships to capitalize on emerging opportunities in the transition to a circular economy.

DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BLOOD BAG MARKET SET FOR MORE GROWTH| SICHUAN NIGALE BIOMEDICAL, TERUMO, VELICO MEDICAL

Source:Openpr.com

The disposable plastic blood bag market is growing due to increased healthcare infrastructure and rising blood transfusion procedures. Key players include Terumo Corporation and Fresenius Medical Care AG. Market trends show an increase in distribution channels, with opportunities in developing regions and increased government funding. Market segments include type, application, and distribution channel, with global coverage.



PLASTIC RECYCLING



►►► CALIFORNIA ANNOUNCES RECYCLING REGULATIONS FOR PACKAGING AND BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

Source: :Recycling today



The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has introduced new recycling regulations to reduce single-use plastic waste in the state. Draft regulations released for S.B. 54 and S.B. 1013 aim to cut the use of single-use plastics, ensure recyclable or compostable packaging, and expand beverage container redemption. Producers will be required to sell 25% less single-use plastic packaging by 2032 and recycle 65% of it. The state plans to raise \$5 billion from industry members to address plastic pollution and offers \$55 million in grants for recycling technology and workforce development. California's efforts aim to hold plastic producers accountable and protect the environment while providing new recycling options for consumers.

►►► LOK SABHA POLLS: EC STRESSES ON 'ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE' ELECTIONS

Source: The week.in/ TOI

The Election Commission (EC) has emphasized the importance of "environmentally sustainable" elections, urging political parties to minimize waste and avoid non-biodegradable materials for campaigning.



Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar stressed on reducing paper usage and carbon footprint through recycling. The EC's "Go Green" initiative includes issuing digital vouchers for political party advertisement time allocation, promoting sustainability, cost-effectiveness, and modernization. Additionally, the EC has advised political parties to refrain from using plastic and non-biodegradable materials during campaigning. This move has been commended by environmental experts for promoting eco-friendly practices in the electoral process, though the extent of political party adherence remains to be seen.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

►►► URGENT NEED FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT REFORMS TO IMPROVE SWACHH SURVEKSHAN RANKINGS 2024: EXPERTS

Source: Times of India

During a conference organized by the Uttarakhand Council for Science and Technology, experts highlighted the need to address issues such as the lack of source segregation and enforce the ban on single-use plastic to improve Dehradun's ranking in Swachh Survekshan 2024. They also emphasized the necessity for more collection centers and safe incineration units to manage various types of waste effectively. Experts called for extensive public awareness campaigns and a proactive approach from the state government in penalizing violators. While officials from the Dehradun Municipal Corporation were absent, representatives from Dehradun Smart City assured that responsible waste management is a priority for the government. They mentioned collaboration with DMC to address legacy waste and reforms at waste transfer stations in the city.

►►► CRISIS OF PLASTIC WASTE IN THE INDIAN HIMALAYAN REGION

Source: Theprayasindia

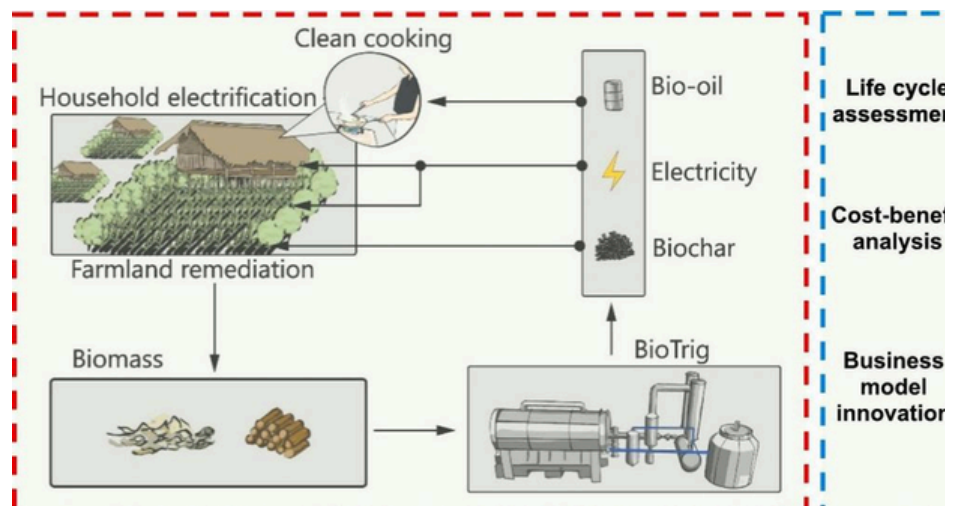
The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) faces a severe crisis of plastic waste, with microplastics contaminating rivers and soil, threatening biodiversity, and harming freshwater sources downstream. Recent reports highlight the alarming increase in plastic pollution, compounded by inefficient waste management systems and shifting consumption trends. Urgent action is needed to address the root causes, including investments in waste management infrastructure, collaboration with rural communities, and implementation of state-specific initiatives. Closing data gaps, empowering local bodies, and integrating waste management with biodiversity conservation are crucial steps towards mitigating the crisis in the IHR.

NEW RESEARCH/INOVATION

»» NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY COULD IMPROVE LIFE IN RURAL INDIA, CLAIMS STUDY

Source: Down to earth

A recent study conducted by researchers from various institutions, including the University of Glasgow, Gram Utthan (India), CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (India), and the University of Queensland (Australia), sheds light on a promising waste management technology named 'BioTRIG' and its potential benefits for rural communities in India. This technology, based on community-level pyrolysis, has the capacity to address several pressing issues faced by rural areas, including indoor air pollution, soil degradation, and energy access challenges. Pyrolysis, the process at the heart of BioTRIG, involves heating organic waste materials in an oxygen-free chamber at temperatures exceeding 400 degrees Celsius. This process breaks down the waste into three valuable by-products: bio-oil, syngas, and biochar fertiliser. These by-products offer a range of advantages for rural communities, including cleaner cooking fuels, renewable energy generation, and improved soil fertility.



The study began with surveys conducted among approximately 1,200 rural households in Odisha to understand their current challenges and aspirations regarding cooking, energy access, and agricultural practices. The findings revealed a strong desire among the surveyed households to transition away from traditional cooking methods involving smoke-producing fuels like coal. Additionally, there was a widespread interest in accessing reliable electricity and exploring opportunities to utilize agricultural waste for bioenergy production. Based on these insights, the researchers developed the concept of BioTRIG, envisioning it as a decentralized waste management solution tailored to the needs of rural communities living below the poverty line (BPL). The proposed system aims to utilize locally generated waste as feedstock for pyrolysis units, generating bio-oil, syngas, and biochar fertiliser in the process. These products can then be utilized to address multiple challenges faced by rural households, including indoor air pollution, soil degradation, and energy poverty.

EPR RECYCLING MANDATES

GOVT TO LAUNCH PLATFORM FOR TRADING E-WASTE RESPONSIBILITY CERTIFICATES

Source: Business standard.com

The government is launching an online platform to trade Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) certificates, aiming to tackle e-waste. EPR shifts the responsibility of a product's afterlife to producers, encouraging them to collect and recycle their products. Companies can fulfill this obligation by collecting waste or purchasing EPR certificates. The platform, developed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), will enhance transparency and efficiency, with guidelines set by the CPCB and pricing ranging from 30% to 100% of environmental compensation. The initiative aims to streamline processes and increase recycling targets. Additionally, the government has clarified the definition of dismantlers and introduced flexibility in report filing deadlines.



REGISTRATION OF PRODUCERS, IMPORTERS & BRAND-OWNERS (PIBOS) AND PLASTIC WASTE PROCESSORS (PWPS) ON CENTRALIZED EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) PORTAL FOR PLASTIC PACKAGING

Source: eprplastic.cpcb.gov.in

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, has mandated registration for Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners (PIBOs) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWPs) on the Centralized Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Portal for Plastic Packaging. The deadline for registration is **March 31, 2024**. Non-compliance may result in enforcement actions under the Environment (Protection) Act) 1986.

CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग, भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA

F. No. CP-20/8/2024-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO March 14, 2024

Notice

Sub: - Registration of Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners (PIBOs) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWPs) on Centralized Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Portal for Plastic Packaging

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Govt. of India, notified guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Plastic Packaging vide fourth amendment to Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules on February 16, 2022. Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners (PIBOs) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWPs) are required to register on centralized EPR Portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to fulfil their EPR liability as per the notified EPR Guidelines.

The PIBOs are required to obtain registration from CPCB if operating in more than two States/UTs and from concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) / Pollution Control Committee (PCC) if operating in one or two States/UTs only. Also, PWPs are required to obtain registration from the concerned SPCBs/PCCs.

The EPR Portal (<https://eprplastic.cpcb.gov.in/#/plastic/home>) was launched on April 05, 2022 and 36,230 PIBOs and 2351 PWPs have been registered on the Portal on date. However, it is observed that several PIBOs & PWPs are still operating their business without obtaining registration from CPCB/SPCB/PCC (as applicable) which is in violation of provisions of PWM Rules 2016 (as amended).

This notice is being issued to inform all the PIBOs & PWPs to obtain registration from CPCB/SPCB/PCC (as applicable) in accordance with provisions of PWM Rules, 2016. PIBOs & PWPs, who have not yet applied for registration are required to submit registration application complete in all respects on the EPR Portal by March 31, 2024. Guidance Manual and the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for registration of PIBOs/PWPs, uploaded on EPR Portal, may be referred to for the purpose.

Necessary action, as deemed appropriate under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, including levying of Environmental Compensation and closure of operations, shall be taken against defaulters.

(Bharat Kumar Sharma)
Member Secretary

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DO YOU KNOW?

NEW DATA SUGGESTS LCAS MAY UNDERESTIMATE CO2 EMISSIONS FROM FOSSIL-BASED PLASTICS, AS PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS SHOW HIGHER CARBON FOOTPRINTS. REVISIONS TO DATABASES LIKE ECOINVENT AIM TO IMPROVE ACCURACY, POTENTIALLY INFLUENCING POLICY SHIFTS TOWARDS RENEWABLE CARBON SOURCES AND BIO-BASED PRODUCTS FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION.

NEW RULES/ POLICY MANDATES

IMO AGREES NEW GUIDANCE FOR SAFE TRANSPORT OF PLASTIC PELLETS ON SHIPS

Source: imo.org

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is taking steps to ensure the safe transport of plastic pellets on ships to prevent damage to the marine environment. At the recent PPR 11 meeting, draft recommendations were agreed upon, focusing on proper packaging, stowage, and labeling of containers carrying plastic pellets. Cleanup guidelines for spills were also discussed. These measures aim to prevent accidents like the recent incident off the coast of Galicia in Spain. Other topics at the meeting included Black Carbon emissions in the Arctic, in-water cleaning guidance, discharge water from exhaust gas cleaning systems, sewage treatment plant performance, and reporting lost fishing gear. The draft recommendations will be considered for approval by the Marine Environment Protection Committee in March 2024.



175 COUNTRIES AGREE TO FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND PLASTIC WASTE TREATY

Source: nbcnews

On March 4, 2022, representatives from 175 countries agreed to develop a global treaty to address plastic waste, marking a significant step in curbing the plastic pollution crisis. The treaty aims to tackle the full lifecycle of plastic, from production to disposal, with the goal of reducing plastic pollution and associated greenhouse gas emissions. Leaders have until the end of 2024 to finalize the treaty's details, including funding and collaboration efforts.



PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2024

Source: oer.enviraj

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has introduced the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024, expanding the definition of producers, imposing registration and reporting obligations on manufacturers and importers, and introducing new categories such as sellers. The amendment also introduces a new category for biodegradable plastics, exempts compostable/biodegradable carry bags from thickness requirements, and mandates pre-consumer waste processing by manufacturers. Additionally, minimum recycling targets have been set for plastic packaging waste, with exemptions for micro and small enterprises from direct EPR obligations. The amendment also implements price caps for EPR certificates and extends the deadline for annual filing.

