



## GRAND SUCCESS OF PLASTINDIA 2009 HELD IN FEBRUARY 2009.

On behalf of the Plastindia Foundation and the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India, we jointly express our profound gratitude to you for your kind support for success of PlastIndia 2009, the 7th International Plastics Exhibition & Conference held between 4-9 February, 2009 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The six day event was inaugurated by Her Excellency the President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, in presence of Shri Ramvilas Paswan the Hon'ble Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Steel, Shri B.K. Handique, Hon'ble Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Mines, Shri Bijoy Chatterjee, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Govt. of India and other dignitaries. The exhibition was a landmark in terms of participation by number of exhibitors from India and from abroad, where there were 1525 exhibitors including 475 from abroad. The participation of 32 countries is also an indication of the success of the event. All this contributed to showcasing India's growing stature in the global perspective. It is also indeed heartening to note that business of approximately Rs 1000 crores was generated.

There was overwhelming response with more than a lakh of visitors to the stalls. We hope that with your continued participation and association in the ever growing fortunes of our plastic and petrochemical sector we will be able to achieve the objectives and vision set forth in the National Policy on Petrochemicals.

(SMT. NEELKAMAL DARBARI) I.A.S,  
Joint Secretary,  
Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals,  
Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

(ARVIND M. MEHTA)  
President,  
Plastindia Foundation,  
Mumbai



## Speech delivered by Her Excellency Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil Ji, Hon'ble President of India

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The 7th International Plastics Exhibition and Conference, which commences today, is an important event. I have been informed that about 20 countries have set up pavilions and that there are likely to be around 1,00,000 business visitors. This initiative provides a platform for stakeholders to meet and to enhance their business prospects through joint ventures and technology partnerships.

The need for better quality of life has been driving the human race, through the ages, to come up with new improved materials and create value added commodities. Over the years, there has also been a shift from conventional material based products, to chemicals based products, due to the need for conservation of natural resources, energy efficiency, innovative design and cost saving measures. Petrochemicals, along with its downstream products like plastics, have brought many benefits to human kind. Synthetic polymers, also known as plastics, have been one of the most versatile commodity materials invented in the twentieth century. Plastic with its inertness, lightweight and cost effectiveness, has proved to be a material that lends itself to multiple uses. This downstream petrochemical product permeates our daily lives in many aspects and caters to the needs of textiles and clothing, agriculture, packaging, infrastructure, healthcare, furniture, automobiles, information technology, power, electronics and tele-communications; and a host of other articles of daily and specialized usages.

The global demand for plastics since 1990 has grown at an average of 5.5 percent annually. I have been informed that global consumption reached about 200 million tons during 2008, with per capita consumption levels of 30 kilograms. North America and West Europe have high per capita consumption between 80 to 100 kilograms, while in China it is about 25 kilograms and in India around 5.5 kilograms. This sector is expected to grow at about 5 percent annually up to 2015, with the highest growth rates in Asia.

Rapid urbanization and growth in retail business in populous countries like India will result in high growth performance for the plastics sector. There are currently more than 50,000 units across the country with a turnover in excess of Rs. 80,000 crore. The Indian export performance has also been robust. The Indian plastic industry is relatively labour intensive and it is this feature of the industry, with a large number in the tiny, small and medium scale sectors, that has generated employment. During the coming few years, polymer consumption in India is likely to go up to 11 million tons from the current level of around 5.8 million tons, as we expand our infrastructure.

Government has announced a National Policy on Petrochemicals, the main objectives of which are to increase investments and competitiveness, both in the upstream and downstream sectors, to promote Research and Development and to create adequate skilled manpower, with an overall objective to achieve environmentally sustainable growth in the petrochemical sector. I am told that Indian industry is gearing up to meet these challenges. I am sure that with a vast talented and skilled manpower; and well-established and globally reputed institutions; we will take major strides in Research and Development activities in areas of material





## **Speech delivered by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan Ji Hon'ble Union Minister for Chemicals, Fertilizers and Steel**

At the outset I express my sincere gratitude to Madam President for having consented to be here amongst us today.

I am happy to be here with you on the occasion of the inauguration of Plastindia 2009. This year's event is being projected to surpass all previous events. The likely presence of hundred thousand business visitors for this event and with 20 country pavilions set up, shows that the Indian Petrochemical and Plastic industry has come of age.

We know that petrochemical industry and its downstream processing units, viz. Plastic Processed Articles and Synthetic Fibre Processing are major contributors to employment generation and industrial development, thereby serving a vital need of the economy. A vibrant downstream processing sector is essential for sustaining the investment in the upstream petrochemical industry.

How strong is India in this sector and what are our weaknesses? We know that our strengths lie in a Strong Domestic Growth Performance, an ever increasing per capita income, assured supply of labour, a diversified manufacturing base, a vibrant downstream industry, a few integrated complexes, capability to introduce world class products and, above all, possession of a Quality Human Resource and R&D base. But we are also aware that our polymer plants operate at high feedstock costs, high cost of power/finance, relatively high rates of indirect taxes, fragmented suboptimal size downstream processing capacities and lack of world class infrastructures, which we are in the process of improving. Coupled with these weaknesses we need to compete with countries which have the advantage of low cost feedstock. In addition we also face more competitively priced finished goods, ever reducing import duty structure, volatility in polymer and plastic prices due to crude oil price variations and environmental concerns.

The Government has announced a National Policy on Petrochemicals, the main objectives of which are to increase investments and competitiveness both in the upstream and downstream sectors, encourage modernization of downstream processing units, promote research and development, development of adequate skilled manpower, etc. with an overall objective to achieve environmentally sustainable and healthy growth in the petrochemical sector. We have also put in place a policy on Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Regions (PCPIRs) which will enable us to have global scale infrastructures. Six proposals have been received from AP, Gujarat, West Bengal, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Of these, three are shortly to be considered by Cabinet. Out of these, AP, Gujarat and WB have already been cleared by the High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary.

I am informed that there had been a growth of 12% in total polymers during 2007 in comparison to 5.6% during the previous year. The projections for 2008 were high but perhaps this rate has gone down due to adverse Impact of the global economic meltdown. The most heartening factor has been that the Indian petrochemical industry has bounced back and the performance during December 2008 and January 2009 are justifications in this regard. What is most heartening is that the downstream plastic sector, which forms the backbone of employment generation in this sector, has retained its potential to grow. I am confident that we with a mature capital market, liberalized foreign investment policy and regular fiscal and trade policy reforms





## **Speech delivered by Shri Arvind Mehta Ji, President, Plastindia Foundation & Managing Director, Welset Plast Extrusions Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai**

On behalf of myself and members of the Managing Committee of Plastindia Foundation, I extend to you all a very, very hearty welcome to Plastindia 2009 – The 7<sup>th</sup> International Plastics Exhibition & Conference.

We are grateful to the President of India for accepting our invitation, to inaugurate this mega event. Madam, President - The plastics industry of India is honoured by your presence and recognition!

A very hearty welcome to Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji, whose support has been a pillar of strength to the Industry. It was through his hands that the Industry saw the release of the Petrochemical Policy. The DCPC, has been very supportive to the Industry.

Plastics play a very significant but silent role in our daily lives. It is a common man's product. It is a scientific product which is used in every walk of life making life comfortable for everyone. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, no invention is possible without plastics.

Plastindia 2009 is no longer an exhibition. It is a movement driven by the vibrant spirit of industrialists of the plastics industry of India. The glorious past and the confident present of the Plastic Industry comes with a promising future. Today the per capita consumption of plastics in India is only 6 kilos, against the world average of 27 kilos. The per capita consumption of plastics is more than 100 kilos in developed countries.

While the global melt down has had its impact on certain sectors, which has also impacted plastics, nothing really can stop the inherent momentum of this industry which is poised to make India the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest consumer of plastics by 2012, next to US and China.

The industry is growing at 12 to 15% per annum and the exports have witnessed a new surge in the last few years. The last year alone has seen that the exports have reached a figure of USD 3.6 billion.

The success of Plastindia 2009 is due to unprecedented global marketing activities spread over 40 countries, and local marketing spread over 50 cities in 26 states by Plastindia Foundation and its overseas Associates.

Plastindia 2009 is a platform of enormous size to ensure vast business opportunities at a scale witnessed never before. This has resulted in 1485 exhibitors occupying over 77,000 sq.metres of space with 475 overseas exhibitors. All these three figures are landmark individually and have been achieved for the first time in the history of Plastindia. A big thank you to all.

The enthusiastic response was such that even if Pragati Maidan had 40% more space, it would have been occupied by Plastindia 2009.

Last but not the least Plastindia 2009 has been a result of the untiring efforts of Plastindia Foundation led by over 250 honorary industrialists of the industry. They have put in a lot of work to bring to you this mega event. Plastindia exhibitions are organized in a unique way and it is the only one of its kinds in the world. This is what makes Plastindia 2009 truly an event by the industry and for the industry.

I wish you all to have a fruitful experience at Plastindia 2009.

**Thank you.**



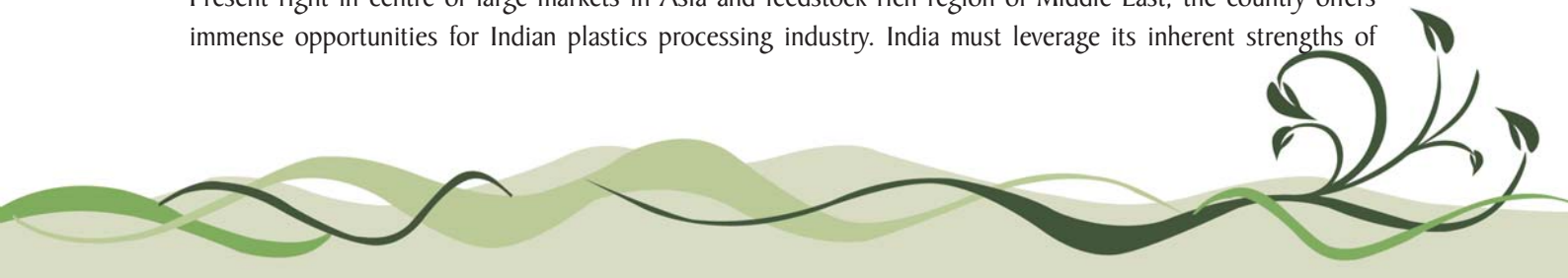
**Speech delivered by Shri Nikhil R Meswani Ji**  
**Chairman, National Advisory Board, Plastindia Foundation**  
**and Executive Director Reliance Industries Limited**

The year 2008 dawned on a euphoric note of high growth and robust optimism but eventually ended with one of the gloomiest global economic outlook. I would say this is the largest economic crisis in a global World. We in particular are confronted with a confluence of global economic slowdown and petrochemical down cycle. This has impacted the industry confidence like that of a coconut tree.

While advanced economies are caught up in worst ever economic crisis since Great Depression, developing world is showing high degree resilience and vitality. The US, Japan, Australia and a section of EU are officially in recession. It would be surprising to note that current consumption and imports of BRIC economies combined is more than the US. Today combined GDP of Japan, China and Korea is more than GDP of Britain, France and Germany put together. Countries like India and China are showing respectable growth at around 7% after having withered the initial shock of global economic melt-down. Crude prices have declined from a peak of \$147 in mid-July'08 to a low of \$33 recently. This decline in oil prices may slow Middle East economies but it will, at the same time, reduce inflationary pressures on consumers like India who are net oil importers.

Young population, large domestic consumption, comfortable forex reserves, large and fast growing services sector has helped India to tide over the current global turmoil. The working-age population of US and China are projected to shrink and India will have World's largest working population. This would not only help create wealth but also constitute a large market. I am sure India will become richer before becoming older. With over a billion people striving to uplift the "Quality of Life", it will certainly provide a major boost to Indian Plastic Industry. Indian plastic processing industry added nearly 1.5 million tonnes of new capacity during 2007 -08. In first half of this fiscal we have added nearly a million tonne of new capacity. This amply demonstrates our vitality. Within Indian economy there are "Super growth" sectors. These sectors address common man's needs in the areas of agriculture, food packaging, housing, infrastructure, health & medicare. Individually they have potential to double plastic consumption atleast twice in a decade. However onus of tapping these opportunities lie with Indian plastic industry ie, all of us.

In the prevailing business and economic milieu I see two major challenges. The swiftness with which Indian Plastic industry adjusts to changing global environment will decide its future. Volatility in currency and feedstock prices that we witnessed in the last few months is here to stay. It is for us to face it or bow down. Developing innovative and high value-added products, re-engineering the product profile, conformance to global standards and streamlining of operations to improve profitability would be imperative. However developing niche products and optimising the commodity products will help minimise the effects of volatile prices and uncertain market conditions. Above all a change of mindset is necessary to ride this economic challenge. Our mantra should be "Never compromise long term benefits for short term gains". Consolidation also should be an area of high priority. Major players are seizing the opportunities and companies are focusing more on their core competencies. Countless number of mergers & acquisitions will lead to new faces, increased competition and greater financial discipline. India occupies a strategic geographical location. Present right in centre of large markets in Asia and feedstock rich region of Middle East, the country offers immense opportunities for Indian plastics processing industry. India must leverage its inherent strengths of



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7<sup>th</sup> International Plastics Exhibition & Conference, New Delhi

global competitiveness in terms of effective productivity and intellectual capabilities to transform the country into a strong manufacturing base and a Global service and Knowledge hub. I am confident that Indian Plastic Industry can seize these opportunities and grow.

PLASTINDIA 2009 offers an excellent platform to global plastic industry to showcase the latest developments and innovation. The exhibition has always been a centre of attraction. The event this year has kept up with the past tradition of improvising over previous events. My hearty congratulations to Sh. Mahendrabhai and the NEC team for taking PLASTINDIA 2009 to such heights and to Sh. Arvindbhai for his untiring efforts in making this happen. PLASTINDIA is one of the most coveted global events of our industry. With many new initiatives taken up this time, it has raised the bar for such future events.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me conclude by revisiting thoughts of Reliance Founder Chairman and my beloved uncle Sh. Dhirubhai Ambani who always prodded us - "Pursue your goals even in the face of difficulties, and convert adversities into opportunities. If you work with determination, success will follow." I wish you all a very successful PLASTINDIA 2009.

**Thank You.**







## INDO- CHINA SUMMIT

Concurrent with PLASTINDIA 2009, the event also showcased India-China Plastics Industry Summit 2009, where both the countries discussed the business opportunity and trade complementation. The summit aimed at strengthening the trade in plastics between the two countries from USD 38.7 billion in 2007 to USD 60 billion by the end of 2010.

Speaking on the occasion, The Minister of State for Chemicals, Fertilisers and Mines, Shri B K Handique, who was the Chief Guest, said that the time has come for the two countries to play a more coordinated role for the further growth of the industry. He said, "In the plastic industry, India and China are playing the role of torch bearers to be followed by the rest." He added, "To me, the most encouraging recent developments in India-China ties is the rapid increase in bilateral trade, with a more healthy contribution from the Indian Plastic sector."

## Plasticon Awards

To further add to the celebration and the success story in PLASTINDIA 2009, the foundation felicitated the innovators in Indian Plastics Industry through 5th 'Plasticon Awards 2009' where the accomplishments and excellence in the Indian plastics industry were recognized.

There were 23 Categories like creative packaging, contribution to agriculture, recycling technology, conservation of energy, material and ecology, infrastructure, innovative product, best research, innovative plastics processing machinery etc.



## INDO-US SUMMIT

Following the success of the India- China summit, and to bring the plastics industries of India and USA together for mutual cooperation and business promotion, Plastindia Foundation with Society of Plastics Industry Inc., USA (SPI) had organized, the first India-USA Plastics industry Summit 2009. The summit was aimed to further growth prospects with the theme 'Strategic Cooperation, Market Sharing & Trade Complementation'. Mr. Neil Pratt, Senior Director, International Trade and trade counsel, SPI spoke favorably on benefits of the India-USA trade relations. He said, "The plastics industry should benefit from the promising prospects by collaborating, employing necessary tools and overcoming challenges." Shri G.K.Pillai, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India, was the Chief Guest.





## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The International Conference, an integral part of Plastindia 2009 proved to be an effective platform for experts to share knowledge and explore global trends, innovations and opportunities in Indian Plastics sector. The speakers were unanimous in highlighting that the global downturn in indicating a positive sign for emerging economies like India in the plastics sector. The world is now shifting focus from developed economies to Asian region on these verticals.

At the International Conference, Shri Bijoy Chatterjee, Secretary, (Chemicals & Petrochemicals), said, " We feel that plastics industry in India is reducing the impact of the global downturn, in the first nine months, the exports have registered a growth of 10 per cent and we expect the momentum to continue for the rest of the year."



## ASIAN PLASTICS RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

PLASTINDIA 2009 also saw the curtain raiser for Asian plastics Recycling and Waste Management Conference. Organized by Plastindia Foundation in association with Asia Plastics Forum (APF), the conference was attended by experts from 12 countries. It focused on addressing technology options, opportunities, risks and concerns about plastics waste in India and other parts of Asia.



Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Neelkamal Darbari, Joint Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals stressed that, "An effective plastics waste management can be successful if government's policy making, plastics industry bodies, municipalities and the citizens work closely together. Ms. Darbari said that the employment generation by plastics recycling industry is significant and it employs people mostly from lower strata of society. As an extension of this conference, a global contest was also organized to show case the recycling industry, recycled products, ideas were awarded prizes.



## INTERACTIVE SESSION- EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES IN PLASTICS IN ASSAM

PLASTINDIA 2009 also witnessed an interactive session on " Emerging Opportunities in Plastics in Assam." At the function the chief Minister of Assam, Honorable Shri Tarun Gogoi, said , "We are developing a Plastics Park of 500 acres in Assam, to provide state-of-the-art infrastructure for the plastics industry. The state has also initiated a 'Manpower Planning Project' to provide qualified, technical man power for the industry, this will also generate substantial employment in the state."

The government of Assam in association with Plastindia Foundation is organizing 'North East International Plasto Fair 2009' from June 5-9, 2009, The main objective of the event will be to promote the development and growth of the Plastics industry in Assam and project Assam as a potential investment hub for plastics.



PLASTINDIA 2009



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### **About Plastindia Foundation**

Plastindia Foundation is the apex body of major associations, organisations and institutions connected with plastics, with common objectives to promote the development of plastics industry and to assist the growth of plastics, related materials and their products. The foundation is dedicated to the national progress through plastics.

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