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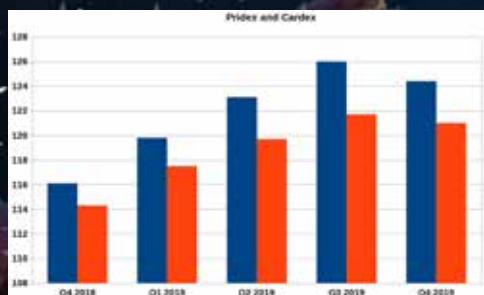
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF MASTER PRINTERS

March - April 2019

Volume 43

Issue No. 2

₹ 10



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1927-2017

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT	04
EDITORIAL	06
AIFMP NEWS	08
• OPA and JPA hosts the 244th GC Meeting at Chandigarh	
• India Day at Shanghai	
• AIFMP represents Print China and Asia-Pacific Day	
• Romancing Print @ Nammakal	
• Romancing Print @ Warangal	
• Romancing Print @ Kohima	
• Romancing Print @ Ahmednagar	
• Romancing Print @ Yamuna Nagar	
AFFILIATE NEWS	24
INDUSTRY NEWS	29
NOTIFICATIONS, RULES & REGULATIONS	35

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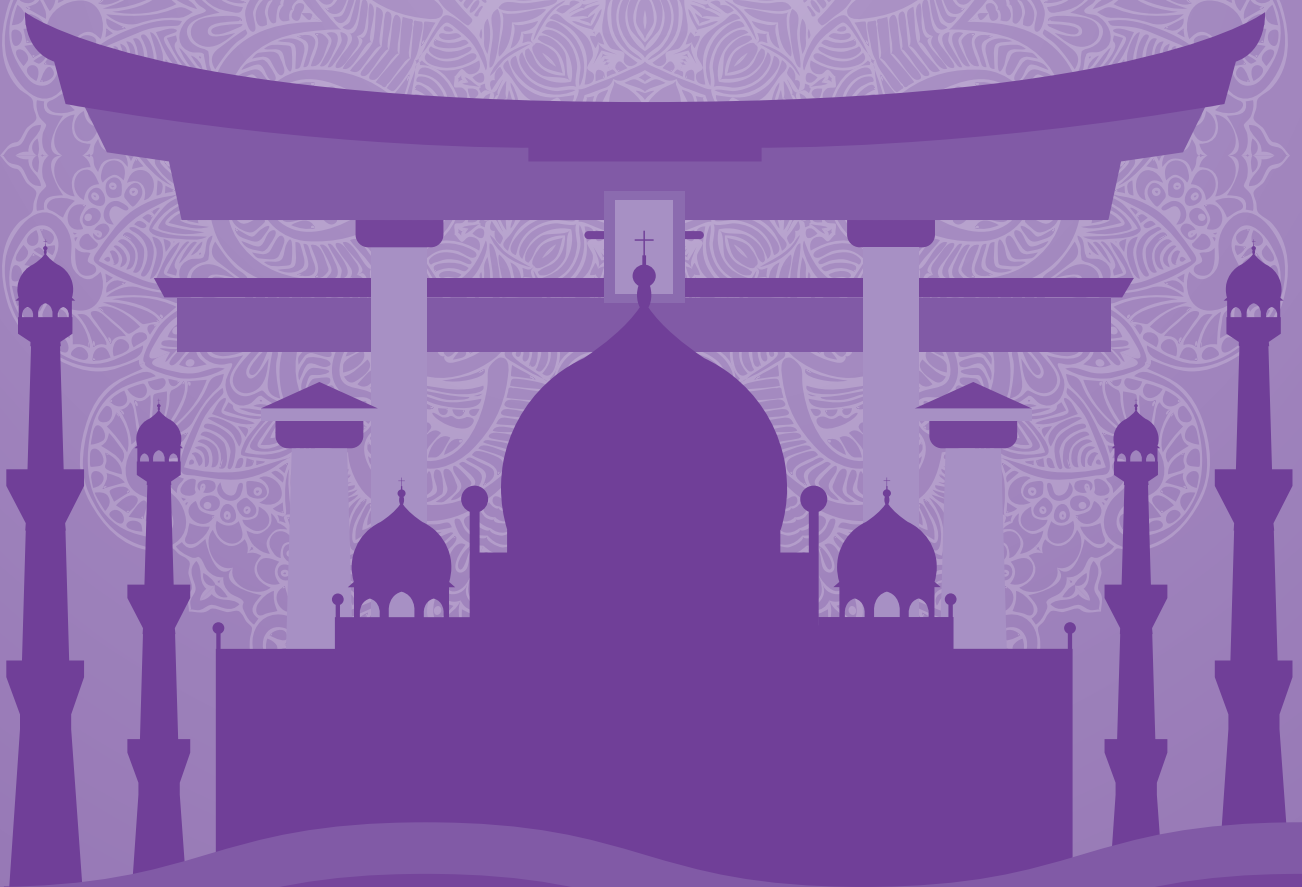
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Message FROM PRESIDENT

We are almost in middle of 2019. We started the year on an positive and optimistic note and this positiveness and optimism ought to carry us forward through the rest of the year.

The 244th Governing Council meeting of the Federation was successfully organised by OPA Ludhiana and JPA, Jalandhar on March 23 – 24, 2019 at Zirakpur, Chandigarh. Many issues One of the decision taken were to undertake undermentioned promotional activities to promote PAMEX 2020 scheduled to be held from 6th January 2020 at Mumbai to make the event successful and memorable :

- To display car/scooter/motor bikes stickers by all printer brothers to propagate PAMEX 2020.
- The AIFMP and its affiliate associations to publish the advertisement of PAMEX 2020 in their house magazines/journals regularly. The logo of PAMEX 2020 to be carried at the front cover of the house magazines/journals.
- The AIFMP and its affiliate association(s) to put banner advertisement with link at their official Websites as a banner advertisement.
- AIFMP and its affiliate association (s) to display logo of PAMEX 2020 prominently at all of their letterheads, email, envelops etc.

I appeal to all printer brothers to undertake above mentioned promotional activities to propagate PAMEX 2020 and make the event very successful.

I congratulate Dr Arun Agarwal, GC member, GDMPA and Director, Saraswati Offset Printers Pvt Ltd for giving a donation of Rs 5 lacs to the Federation for instituting award 'Late Shri R S Agrawal- Best Children Book of the Year/Late Shri R S Agrawal – Best Educational Book of the year in the memory of his late father Shri R S Agrawal.

I compliment all the four zonal Vice Presidents for having made preparations for holding Romancing Print in their respective zone within the scheduled time.

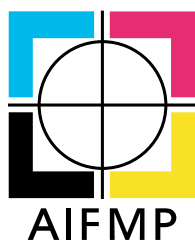
Now I propose to hold Round Table print Circle Conclave in metro cities during the period from middle of June 2019 till September 2019.

The conclave will house 8 round table with experts of the business including print, Pre Press & Post Press, digital, packaging, MSME schemes, Marketing & Exports, Print Software & Artificial Intelligence and Print Enhancement all geared to enlighten the Indian printers with expert knowledge and know-how.

It will be a workshop type conference for the duration of 2 to 3 hours with the provision of high tea. The Federation will reimburse an amount of Rs 75,000/- per Round Table Print Circle conclave to the organizer to meet the expenses including venue charges and cost of high tea and other expenses.

By the time this magazine reaches your hand the outcome of general election to Loksabha would have been known. A strong and stable Government should be formed at the Centre for rapid economic development of the economy.

Before concluding I once again appeal to all the members/affiliate(s) to be proactive and communicative, create proper atmosphere and platforms for discussions and exchange of information and ideas for betterment of our Indian print industry.



Raveendra Joshi
President



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Editorial

Dear Readers

From time immemorial, “Customer is the King “ has been the mantra underpinning every business. Taking advantage of that axiom ,customers have become more demanding and more discerning of products, services and brands than ever before, using several methods to articulate and fulfil their needs. Business are reinventing themselves to pander their customers wishes.

Recycling, packaging, businesses are changing all of those things because that’s want consumers want. There is a magical aura which encompasses the world of packaging, with images being conjured to entice customers and attract them to products. As Steve Jobs averred, “Packaging can be theatre, it can create story.” With this objective in mind many business has taken a leap in to creative territory and has launched sparkling new dimensional packs.

Products are no longer products – they are creations, designed to entice customers to desire them unconditionally! They have come a long way from the basic functionality and utility of yesteryears. “The presentation and packaging is everything “with the advent of affluence, consumers needs have undergone a sea of change, they now nurture lofty aspirations and attitudes. One has to constantly strive to evoke customer ecstasy and what better way to magnetize them than by launching, dazzling, scintillating packaging products and packs.

In the pre 90s era the Indian industry had limited players, and was mostly dominated by the public sector units. During that period, packaging was not a priority and only served as covering material.

The deregulation of the Indian markets and arrival of multinational companies on the Indian consumer products scene in the early 90s brought about a wave of change in the industry as a whole the companies who were enjoying a monopoly. Suddenly found themselves facing immense competition. This was the juncture when realization set in that there would need to be a differentiator in the product and product presentation to the end customer, so that he will choose a product over the several available products, packaging is a very powerful differentiator in almost all types of products, because the end consumer often never gets to see or feel the actual product. The outlook of all the big branded companies towards packaging changed. Printing and packaging specialist were much sought after and were in great demand.

This is your magazine! We would like to feature your thoughts, travels, achievements, news and views in the forthcoming issues. Do write in and make this magazine vibrant and exciting! Your feedback would also be greatly appreciated.

With best regards

P. Chander

Hon. Editor

Former President - MPLA & AIFMP





Smart, reliable and accurate, the new **Checkmate 50** from Autoprint has a 'carton' full of features designed to enhance productivity, and as a happy consequence your profitability! Three sophisticated cameras detect even the smallest of print errors, foil and embossing errors, colour mismatch, bar code errors and more!



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OPA and JPA hosts the 244th GC Meeting at Chandigarh



Prof. Kamal Chopra, Co-Ordinator, 244th GC meeting welcomed everybody present at the meeting to Chandigarh, the city of Punjab not only the land of battles of saints, Sufis, mystics and warriors, but also known for its hospitable people. He said 23rd March is most important date in ones calendar. He wanted to narrate the importance of 23rd March, he further said it was the darkest day in the year 1931 when a young man of 23 years was put to gallows by the British Empire who made Supreme sacrifice to eradicate slavery, so that we could live freely in an independent country.

Governing Council members paid their tributes to Late Mr Shaheed Bhagat Singh, the great freedom fighter.

The office bearers were welcomed to the dais by the GC members in standing ovation by clapping their hands. Prof. Kamal Chopra, Past President described them to be Bhagat Singh of Indian printing industry.

Felicitation of Past Presidents: Mr Manoj Mehta, Mr Subhash Chander, Mr Govind Bhargava, Mr Dev Nair, Mr Dibyajyoti Kalita and Prof. Kamal Chopra Past Presidents of AIFMP were welcomed honoured and felicitated by presenting them with mementos by Mr Vijay Kumar Chopra, President-JPA, Jalandhar.

Felicitation of Governing Council Members: All the Governing council members were honoured and felicitated by Mr Vijay Kumar Chopra, President-JPA, Jalandhar by presenting them with mementos.

SHRANDHANJALI OVER THE PHULWAMA INCIDENT: HGS briefed the August house that as the members were aware a suicide bombing attack on CRPF convoy in Phulwama region of Jammu & Kashmir killed 40 CRPF paramilitary troopers on February 14, 2019, he further requested all the members to observe two minutes silence to pay respect to the departed soul(s) of 40 CRPF paramilitary troopers.

All the GC members in standing position observed two minutes silence and prayed for the departed soul(s) to Rest in Peace.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT, HOST ASSOCIATION:

Mr Vijay Kumar Chopra, President, JPA welcomed Mr Raveendra Joshi, President, Mr Rajendran, HGS and other OBs, Past Presidents and GC members who have come from different parts of the country to attend 244th GC meeting at Chandigarh. He said that it is still fresh in his memory that previously GC meeting used to be held at four metro cities namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Madras (now Chennai) and participants used to be in few numbers and he always used to advocate for holding GC meetings at smaller places. It is Late Msgr. T A Pereira, when he became President of AIFMP who started the practice of holding GC meetings in smaller cities. He further said he was very glad to see such a huge gathering. He further said he has completed 87 years of life and has seen hand composing, litho composing, offset rotary, and the printing world has undergone tremendous change and now digital printing has occupied the space. He felt happy to see young energetic people taking printing as profession, he said it is heartening to note that printing is developing. He also said that he was made President AIFMP in the year 2004-05 unanimously without contest and Prof. Kamal Chopra as HGS. He once again thanked everyone who have come from nook and corner of the country to attend the meeting. He also thanked all the OBs and complimented Mr Raveendra Joshi, President, AIFMP for his good nature who is working as a team leader and carrying all the OBs with him. He further praised the Federation for working in the interest of Indian printing industry. He congratulated each and every printer owner for working hard without depending upon Government subsidy and bringing Indian printing industry at par with global print industry. He also said due to the decision taken by Late Msgr. T A Pereira, PP the practice of holding GC meeting

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at smaller cities commenced and gave the details of GC meeting so far held at smaller cities which is enumerated as under: 3 times at Jalandhar, 2 times at Chandigarh, 2 times at Amritsar and 1 time at Ludhiana.

He concluded his welcome address by once again expressing his thanks to all the members for attending the GC meeting and wished the printing industry to further progress/prosperity.

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT, AIFMP: President wished good afternoon and welcomed everybody present at the meeting. Mr Raveendra Joshi with pleasure thanked every GC member Past Presidents and others for attending the meeting to discuss and resolve issues impacting the Indian print industry.

President thanked Prof. Kamal Chopra, Past President and Mr Vijay Kumar Chopra, Past President for making excellent arrangements for holding the 244th GC meeting and making the stay of GC members very comfortable.

President briefed the Governing Council regarding his visits to several affiliates.

ROUND TABLE PRINT CIRCLE CONCLAVE: President further briefed the August house that he proposes to hold Round Table Print Circle Conclave in metro cities during the period from middle of June 2019

till September 2019. He said that the modality for holding Round Table Print Circle Conclave will be intimated in due course.

He concluded his address by once again thanking all the GC members for attending the meeting to discuss and resolve the issues impacting Indian print industry.

Prof. Kamal Chopra sought the approval of Governing Council for carrying out about mentioned promotional activities. He further requested President-AIFMP to form a committee of GC members for successful holding Board meeting of WPCF.

1. Stickers for vehicles: It was decided that all the members of affiliate associations must put stickers on all their vehicles.

2. Advertisement in Printing Magazines: It was decided that all the journals published by affiliate associations must carry the advertisement of PAMEX in all the issues to be published by January 2020. It was also decided that the advertisement for the purpose will be supplied by the AIFMP.

3. PAMEX logo at the cover of Magazine: It was decided that logo of PAMEX will be printed at the cover of all the magazines/journals being published by AIFMP and the affiliate associations.



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4. PAMEX banner for the website: It was decided that AIFMP and all the affiliate associations shall publish the banner advt. with link (<https://www.pamex.in/>) at their official website with immediate effect.

5. PAMEX logo at the signature line: It was decided that emails of AIFMP and other affiliate associations must publish the PAMEX logo as the signature line in all email correspondence.

6. PAMEX logo at the letter heads: It was decided that AIFMP and all the affiliate association will carry the PAMEX logo prominently at all the official letterheads and envelopes also.

President complimented Dr Arun Agrawal for instituting Award **“Late Shri R.S. Agrawal – Best Children Book of the Year OR Late Shri R.S. Agrawal – Best Educational Book of the Year”**

He thanked Dr Arun Agrawal; President paid rich tributes to Late Shri R S Agrawal. Dr Arun Agrawal presented cheque of Rs. 5 lakhs to President-AIFMP & OBs.

Prof. Kamal Chopra, IPP informed the august house that Dr Arun Agrawal is not only a reputed & successful printer but is also conferred with Doctor of Philosophy by Commonwealth Vocational University, Bangkok. The Governing Council congratulated Dr Arun Agrawal for his achievement of acquiring Doctor ship from Foreign University.

VOTE OF THANKS: Mr Mehul Shah wished Good Evening to all the members who were present at the meeting. He thanked respected OBs for giving him an opportunity to propose the vote of thanks. He mentioned about Gujarati saying according to which eating is by nature but to feed and to feed well is Sanskriti/Culture. He thanked both the host association namely OPA & JPA



for taking care of all members and ensured comfortable stay of all the members during their two days stay at Chandigarh. In appreciation of their service, Mr Mehul Shah requested all GC members to give a round of applause to both the host associations.

He thanked President, HGS, Vice Presidents and other OBs for conducting flawless Governing Council meeting. He requested GC members to give big round of applause for all the OBs. He also complemented Prof. Kamal Chopra for his tireless work and requested all GC members to give round of applause for him. He also thanked management & staff of Hotel Park Plaza for assisting host association and making an event success. He again requested all GC members to give round of applause for management & staff of Hotel Park Plaza for their efficient conduct of the event.

He requested all GC members to contribute with their inputs as GC is supreme and all views/opinion of GC members matters.

He further requested all the GC members to freely express their opinion as only few members speak in the GC meeting.

He felt Proud to be a Printer!

The meeting concluded with **“National Anthem”**.



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All India Federation of Master Printers

**246th Governing Council Meeting &
66th Annual General Meeting**

September 20-22, 2019

Hotel Hyatt Regency, Pune

India Day at Shanghai



SinoCorrugated, SinoFoldingCarton and the China Packaging Container Exhibition have become the annual events of the global packaging industry. This year the event was held at Shanghai from 8 to 11 April, 2019. The event was supported by the All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) and Offset Printers Association (OPA). The exhibition was attended by Mr. Ashwani Gupta, Hon. Treasurer to represent AIFMP. This year 900 Indians visited the SinoCorrugated at Shanghai with the total 89,000 visitors from different parts of the globe. The India delegation was by far the biggest overseas visitor group followed by countries such as Malaysia or Japan.

On the opening of the exhibition, India Day was celebrated on 8th April, 2019. The event was hosted by the Reed Exhibitions and India Day was celebrated with His Excellency Shri Anil Kumar Rai, Council General of India as the Chief Guest. To kick start the event 'Proud of India' parade was organized within the exhibition area.

India Day was the proud moment for more than 200 participants, the event started with National Anthem

of India. Welcoming the Indian delegation Ms Josephine Lee, COO of Reed Exhibitions appreciated the gesture of AIFMP and OPA in arranging the event for and on behalf of Reed Exhibition. India Day was also supported by the Federation of Carton Box Manufacturers (FCBM), speaking on the occasion Mr. K Arunachallam, President FCBM said, it is tremendous time to share the platform with printer representatives, I believed that AIFMP is the largest printers association of the world. Any box cannot said to be complete without printing it is therefore both the industries are coexisting and dependent on each other. In these days of internet and digitation more and more printers are turning towards packaging which is growing industry world over. He emphasised for the networking between both the apex associations of India and appreciated the efforts of Prof. Kamal Chopra in that direction.

Representing 250,000 printers and the largest printers association of the world, Mr. Ashwani Gupta, Treasurer AIFMP said, we are gather here at Shanghai some 4250 kilo-meters away from the Indian capital to celebrate India Day. We are here to showcase the strength and



splendour of our vibrant country. India is an emerging power and has consolidated its position as the world's fourth largest economy, behind the United States, China and Japan, in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), (according to the latest World Development Indicators) and has the third largest GDP in the entire continent of Asia. It is also the second largest among emerging nations. The purpose of India Day is to present before the world the capacity and capability of Indian Printing and Packaging industry. Such a platform can create the possibilities of joint collaborations and to invite the international manufacturers to get their work printed in India, he said. AIFMP also showcased its activities, especially PAMEX at the complementary stall provided by the Reed Exhibitions for the purpose.

In his address, His Excellency Shri Anil Kumar Rai, Council General of India at Shanghai said, I on the behalf of Government of India appreciate the efforts made by both the associations (AIFMP and FCBM) to organize this event at China. He also appreciated the 'Print in India' booklet published by AIFMP and assured all the assistance for business in China. He stressed the need for collaborations with Chinese companies to manufacture the machines in India and assured all help for the purpose.

H.E. also appreciated Reed Exhibition for providing a platform for the exchange and development of China and India printing industry. Such efforts must continue to build better understanding between the companies of both the countries.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Sebastian Hoffmann from Reed Exhibitions, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests from India and affirmed 'India Day' as a valuable platform for professional exchange between China and India printing industry during SinoCorrugated 2019 to signify friendship between the two countries. Mementoes were presented to distinguished guests on the occasion. AIFMP and FCBM also presented mementoes to His Excellency Shri Anil Kumar Rai.

OPA also organized group visit of its members and other printers from India. A 30 member strong delegation under the banner of OPA visited SinoCorrugated exhibition at Shanghai on 9-11 April, 2019. As per the signed agreement the, local transportation, stay and food for OPA delegates was provided by Reed Exhibition. Prof. Kamal Chopra appreciated the gesture of Reed Exhibitions and thanked them for their excellent hospitality.

AIFMP represents Print China and Asia-Pacific Day

Print China, Asia's largest printing industry exhibition, has been held every 4 years since 2007. The 4th iteration of the show took place from April 9th to 13th at the Guangdong Modern International Exhibition Centre. The trade show alternates with China Print in Beijing, which is also held every four years and caters to the general printing industry as well. Since the Chinese market is so vast, both shows have a unique regional appeal—Print China focuses on Southern China while China Print caters to the Northern China printing industry. Both shows have

the same organizers and are sponsored by the Printing and Printing Equipment Industries Association of China (PEIAC). Both shows are large enough to attract local as well as international visitors, primarily from the Asia Pacific region – the organizers claim visitors from more than 100 countries. Language can sometimes still be a barrier, and not all vendors are well-prepared for a discussion in English.

The 2019 event attracted 1,200 exhibitors from 28 countries. Print China covered several halls of the Dongguan Exhibition Centre, with many halls having two floors. While the ground level floors were packed with exhibitors and visitors, the upper level was decidedly less busy. Print China 2019 accommodated 140,00 sq. meters of space, only slightly smaller than Drupa 2016 (158,237 sq. meters). Print China is one of the few remaining printing trade shows that still displays a wide range of offset presses. Offset presses are rarely on display at Western trade shows because of cost reasons, plus press vendors believe that all customers and prospects who are interested in offset devices are known and can directly





targeted with open houses. Meanwhile, the Chinese market is a bit different—its shows continue to attract potential buyers who may not been on the prospect lists of large equipment manufacturers. As a result, events like Print China are an important venue for capturing the attention of these companies.

AIFMP also displayed its projects and activities, especially PAMEX during this show at Dongguan. The complementary stall provided to AIFMP was at first floor and was managed by Print Packaging.com.

Mr. Ashwani Gupta, Treasurer AIFMP, represented Indian Printing industry during 'Asia-Pacific Day' organized on 10 April, 2019 at Room C, Zone A2 of Hall 3 within the premises of the exhibition area. The event was initiated by Lu Chang'an, Vice President of PEIAC with the words 'Globally, the world is witnessing a new round of major development, changes and adjustments and human beings are still faced with numerous unstable and uncertain factors. The new round of scientific and industrial revolution has not only brought new opportunities for the development of human society, but also posted an unprecedented challenge'. The Asia-Pacific Day during this exhibition is of prime importance because, the vitality of the Asia-Pacific economy is of vital importance for the global economy.

Representatives from more than 10 countries including China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam besides India participated in this global event.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ashwani Gupta felt that the event is a networking source and learned discussions among the participants with over 60 concurrent conferences taking place. India, he said, is a youngest nation with bright future and shall take giant stride in technology. Internet today, has made the world a global village and Indian printers are doing world class work and exporting to various countries across the world. Indian print industry is growing at 14% and is expected



to reach INR 380 billion by the end of 2019. More than 15 lakh people are getting direct employment in 250,000 strong Indian Printing industry.

Talking about the All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP), he said, representing 250,000 printers AIFMP is not only the apex body of Indian printers but also is the largest printers association of the world. Printing Times is the official journal of AIFMP, published six time in a year PT is considered to be the best source of information for Indian Printers. India's oldest exhibition of Printing machines and material – PAMEX is organized by AIFMP. Next PAMEX is going to be held at Mumbai on 6-9 January, 2020. For better cooperation and deep understanding, he invited the Chinese manufacturers to participate in the Pamex. With exclusive support of Beijing's Keyin Media, we are going to establish a separate pavilion for Chinese Manufacturers, he said.



Renominated as Honorary Professor at Beijing Institute of Graphic Communication for another term of 3 years w.e.f. 9th April 2019



Romancing Print '19



@ Namakkal



On behalf of All India Federation of Master Printers one day conference, in the title Romancing Print 2019 - Future in Printing was conducted at Namakkal in Tamil Nadu on Sunday, the 17th March, 2019.

This conference was jointly hosted by Karur District Offset Master Printers Association and Pollachi Master Printers Association and supported by Namakkal Master Printers Association, infant affiliate of AIFMP.

This event was inaugurated and presided by AIFMP's Hony. General Secretary Mr. K. Rajendran, Mr. C. Ravinder Reddy, Jt. Secretary, AIFMP, Mr. P. Chander, Former President AIFMP, Mr. S. Manickam, President, TMPF & KOMPA, Mr. B. Selvakumar, President, PMPA and Mr. M. M. Balagopal, President NMPA.

Mr. A. Senthilkumar, Vice-president (South) welcomed the gathering. In his welcome speech, he explained the Objects of the Romancing Print. And he mentioned that this is the first time 2 Romancing print Conferences organised in one Regional state. The second will be held at Warangal, Telangana.

Hony. General Secretary, Mr. K. Rajendran explained the activities of AIFMP.

Printing Times, the Magazine of AIFMP, issue under the new editor Mr. P. Chander was released by the HGS and the copy was received by Mr. Rajamoorthy, a Senior Member of NMPA.

There was six eminent personalities from respective fields of their own, who shared their experience and knowledge to the gathering.

Mr. Panthal Selvan, Director of Pressman, Chennai explained the Importance of PDF in Printing.

Mr. Arun Subbu, MD, QTech Services, Pudhucherry highlighted Digital Technology in a different way, which was appreciated by everyone.

The importance and need of Open Source applications in Graphics Designing was introduced by Mr. J. Veeranathan, Balaji Institute of Computer Graphics, Coimbatore.

Mr. K. Siva Rama Prasad, Asst. Director, MSME-Technology Centre ha explained about the MSME Schemes and Loans.

Tamil Semmal Dr. Arasu Parameswaran, Professor, Aringar Anna Govt. Arts College, Namakkal delivered a lecture on Stress Management.

Dr. TKS Lakshmipriya, Prof. & HOD, Dept. of Printing, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore explained the Importance of Education in Printing Industry and Cost Management.

Technical details about Digital Printer, New polymaster etc., were given by M/s. QTech Services, Polyplex and Epson, who were the Sponsors of the event.



All the lectures were well received and appreciated by more than 350 delegates from Arani, Arcot, Chennai, Kanchipuram, Gooduvancheri, Sholingur, Theni, Namakkal, Karur, Pollachi, Thuraiyur, Trichy, Lalgudi, Manachanallur, Paramathivelur, Mohanur, Rasipuram, Erode, Coimbatore, Mettupalayam, Salem, Karamadai, Sirumugai, Tuticorin - various cities of Tamilnadu.

5 students and 2 faculties of Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore also attended the seminar with huge enthusiasm. At the end of every session they interacted with the speaker to clarify their and the delegates doubts.

All Guests, Presidents of the participant Associations and the Speakers were honoured by the Team, AIFMP.

Mr.B.Manoharan, Secretary, KMOPA felicitated the association Office Bearers, Vote of Thanks was delivered by Mr. P.Sanjeevi, Secretary, NMPA.

The entire conference was well organised by team Namakkal Master Printers Association headed by Mr. M.Balagopal. Our heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the members of the NMPA.

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Romancing Print 2019 @ Warangal

“Printing Industry has Bright Future”



Romancing Print knowledge seminar was held in a grand manner on 31st March 2019 at Hotel Haritha Kakatiya, Warangal. It was the first time that a galaxy of AIFMP leaders were present at the seminar. Delivering the key note address, Sri. Raveendra Joshi, President, AIFMP said that the printing industry has bright future and printers should work with passion to develop their businesses. He also informed the gathering that Romancing Print Seminars are conducted to help the printers in Tier 2 and Tier 3 towns with the latest trends in printing technology and with lectures by experts on various topics of interest to the printing industry. He was very happy that to see about 350 printers attending this seminar from Warangal and the surrounding districts.

Earlier Sri. C. Ravinder Reddy, President, TOPA welcomed the leaders, Speakers, Delegates, Sponsors and the exhibitors for their support and encouragement. He thanked the AIFMP leaders for conducting this seminar at Warangal. Sri. Rajendran, Hon. General Secretary, AIFMP spoke at length about the AIFMP Programmes and their support for the benefit of printers spread all over India. Sri. Senthil Kumar, Vice President – South, who is the Convener of the seminar in collaboration with TOPA, has informed that South Zone was the only zone to conduct two Romancing Print Seminars at Namakkal and Warangal. He was happy that both were a grand success with over 300 printers attending at each place.

Excellent speakers covered topics like Upgradation from Baby offset to next level, Screen Printing Value Addition in Printing (UV Printing), Need for visiting printing exhibitions, Cluster Management, Designing and lay out in graphic arts, MSME schemes etc., followed by a question & answer session. All printers found the proceedings very useful and interesting. The seminar was reviewed comprehensively by Sri. P.Chander, Former President and Editor of Printing Times, AIFMP in a very lively presentation.

Speakers included Sri. ASHWANI Gupta, Treasurer, AIFMP, Sri. Prof. Kamal Chopra, Former President, AIFMP, PROF. Nagarjuna, HOD, Printing Technology, Sri. Suryaprakash Goud, Faculty, NI-MSME Sri Jignesh, Sri. Mustafa Kapadia, SPAI, MUMBAI and Ravindra Babu General Secretary – APROPA.

The seminar was sponsored by HP, POLYPLEX, SRI VENKATA RAMANA GRAPHICS, Sree Maruthi Printers and IPAMA New Delhi. There were exhibitors also with stalls with interesting products and services useful to the printers.

The seminar was supported by ten active local and district associations.



Romancing Print 2019 @ Kohima



The First edition of Romancing Print in the Eastern Region was held at Hotel Japfu, Kohima, Nagaland on April 5th 2019 and hosted by the Nagaland Master Printers Association. Shri Subhash Chander, Former President AIFMP was the Chief Guest and Shri Dibyajyoti Kalita, former President AIFMP and Shri Dalip Tuli, President GDMPA and GC Member AIFMP were the Guests of Honour.

The day-long programme was attended by about 70 printers and press workers from Kohima District and Dimapur District of Nagaland, where majority of the printers of the State are there. The welcome address was given by Mr. Mhiesizokho Zinyu, President NMPA. Chief Guest, Shri Subhash Chander highlighted the importance of Marketing for printers in the highly competitive market today and printers have to go out of their way to satisfy, what is unique about their service is that they are not drawn into a unprofitable war on price. Shri Dibyajyoti Kalita and Shri Dalip Tuli offered all possible support to Nagaland printers, be it in procurement of raw materials, machinery or regarding consultation on complex printing jobs.

The Morning Session was on MSME CFC and Cluster Development by Raghavendra N. Dutta Baruah, Vice President East, Breakthrough - A Printer's Journey by

Shahjahan Kazi, GC Member, he spoke on his journey as a printer starting with only Rs. 10,000 to a turnover of several crores at present.

The Post-Lunch Session was on GST with Special Reference to Printing and Nagaland by Mr. Vizayie Kar, Inspector of Taxes, Nagaland, with assistance by Ms. Sentikala Sanglir, Inspector of Taxes, Nagaland. Mr. Kar spoke at length on the intricacies of GST especially highlighting the fact that Nagas

hitherto were largely unaware of taxation in view of their tax-exempt status under the Constitution. But with the advent of GST, almost all Nagaland people are affected by tax and therefore, business-persons have to be particularly careful to remain compliant. He gave a detailed powerpoint presentation and explained the different tax structures as applicable to printers. A question & answer session followed all the presentations.

The programme was well conducted by Zievinu Yalietsu, Vice President NMPA and GC Member AIFMP with Mr. Povotso Lohe, Vice President NMPA giving the vote of thanks.

The sessions were much appreciated by the participants and AIFMP was requested to have more such programmes in Nagaland in future.



Romancing Print 2019 @ Ahmednagar



Printers should prepare to face the upcoming revolution in technology : Dr. Nimse

Historical grand ceremony First time in Nagar's printing field Ahmednagar: Printing has turned an essential part of life. Right from birth certificate to death certificate many times we come in contact of printing. Printers need to work in multi dimensions. Today's world is on the verge of a new revolution in printing technology. Printer businessman should prepare to face the upcoming changes, said Dr. Nimse, the former Vice Chancellor of Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University.

He was addressing the informative grand ceremony 'Romancing Print' organized for the first time in Ahmednagar on Friday, 3rd May 2019, by the All India Federation of Master Printers in coordination with Ahmednagar Press and Allied Owners Association. The function took place at Sanjog lawns. As the guests of honour the President of All India Federation of Master Printers Ravindra Joshi, West Zone Vice-President Vilas Sangurdekar, President of Asia Prints & IPAMA S. Dayakar Reddy, Secretary of Maharashtra Mudran Parishad and Convenor of the Program Vinay Chhajed, MMP Treasurer & Convenor Kamlesh Dhargalkar, MMP West Zone Vice President & Convenor Manoj Bankar,



President of Ahmednagar Press and Allied Association Girish Bachcha, witnessed the event.

Dr. Nimse underlined the value of work in this field. While working as a Vice Chancellor in Swami Ramanand Teerth University and later in Lucknow University he came in close contact with this field. Printers have to perform various kinds of tasks in multi dimensions in stipulated time.

He said that printers are always alert in their business. He emphasized that the upcoming period will be taken over by nanotechnology. Printing business has now turned an industrial movement. All those who work in this highest turnover movement are its true pillars.

The President of All India Federation of Master Printers Ravindra Joshi expressed his pride saying printing has become the second top business in the world. He appealed people to grow faith on this fast growing movement. He said we all- right from Sir John Guttenberg the founder of Printing business -are the carriers of knowledge. Everyone working in this field should be proud of it.

In this program various informative lectures related to printing business and technology were arranged. CA Uday Dhote from the education and training department of the All India Federation of Master Printers Association gave information on 'Reinventing Business Model'. He guided about time to time changes in the technology, Profit ratio, key-resources, key-process etc. He also focused on the typical problems arising frequently in this field and guided about how to satisfy the customers.

The proprietor of Design-Adict Dnyanesh Shinde spoke on 'Brand building and Marketing'. He said in printing business along with CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) one must use the fifth colour that is faith. This



fifth colour is not visible but plays a vital role in building the brand. Brand itself is the quality. Quality cannot be prepared in a factory, it gets generated through proper service. It helps to create your own identity. People in this field must use the trio 'Give faith, Earn faith and win faith', said Shinde.

Prof. Parag Hase from Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad spoke on the topic 'Printing Business: Opportunity and Challenges'. He gave information regarding the new upcoming technology based on nanotechnology. Beni Landa from Israel has invented this new technology which will be shortly available. This technique saves one third ink and gives clear and accurate images.

In the second session, Pradip Ghaisas from Technova talked on 'Safety at work place'. He guided about the safety at the work place, the safety of workers, electric wiring etc. As this field needs paper, it carries risk on a large scale. Taking proper care in time will minimize the risk, he reiterated.

Indrajeet Singh from Toyo Ink group shed light on the ink used in offset printing. He gave information about LED ink, UV ink and Conventional Ink. He elaborated the difference among the inks. He told that daily over 2000 kg offset ink is used all over India. It costs around 20 lakh rupees. The turnover only in Ink is upto 50 Crores.

Mr Viraj Damle from Heidelberg, the German printing giant said, "The printing industry is shedding its skin & is adopting to the new age technology. The upcoming years shall see a new era in the printing world with a bold name- 'Smart Print Shop.' This technology not only requires small place but also reduces the time of printing from days to just hours. The present & upcoming entrepreneurs in the printing world must adopt this technology which makes them more competent & profitable.

Dr Umesh Kankavlikar gave lecture on 'Mi Vijeta Honarach' (I will succeed). In the program a souvenir



'We love Printing' was published in the hands of Mr. Dayakar Reddy & the distinguished guests. The West zone President of All India Federation of Master Printers Vilas Sangurdekar gave the welcome speech. A lucky draw also was conducted. The first winner of lucky draw Uday Dalvi won three gram gold, the second and third winners Sanjay Kurhe and Kailas Vallakatti respectively won music system. The programme ended with the Maharashtra cultural programme 'Maharashtrachi Lokdhara' by Dilip Khanderay.

Maharashtra Mudran Parishad, The Poona Press Owners Association, Solapur Mudrak Sangh, Aurangabad Mudrak Sangh, Mumbai Mudrak Sangh participated in the organization of the program. The Mudran Sangh from Deulgaon Raja, Latur, Shirur, Phaltan, Pandharpur, Akola, Ichalkaranji, Nashik, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Thane, Panvel, Dombivali, Shrigonda, Shirampur cooperated. Members of Ahmednagar Press and Allied Owners Association Popat Shelke, Manish Zanwar, Ishwar Bhandari, Mukund Dalvi, Sandip Bhagat, Sanjay Bale, Sandip Thube, Ramesh Luniya, Vikram Bankar, Ramdas Autade and Sameer Kulkarni took special efforts for the success of the programme.

Panel Discussion & Interaction with the Women in Printing Business

Panel Discussion with the Women working in Printing Business was the main attraction of the programme. It was the first ever activity in the history of "Romancing Print" of this kind. It highlighted the fact that women are also working in this field with confidence. The former president of Mumbai Mudrak Sangh and Printing businessperson Mrs Medha Veerker had a dialogue with women working in this field. Mrs Kavita Chhajed, Mrs Sanjeevani Dalvi, Mrs Sushma Mulay, Mrs Nayana Adgatla, Mrs Meena Athare, Mrs Jaylaxmi Burha, Mrs Usha Lingujwar, Mrs Vaishali Patil, Mrs Nalini Gandhe participated in the dialogue. These women answered frankly and sportily to the questions by Mrs Medha Veerker.

Romancing Print 2019 @ Yamuna Nagar

Romancing Print is the annual event of AIFMP, it is designed to disseminate the knowledge about latest and the things to come in future. To ensure that the message may reach at the grassroots level the event is organized at the tier 2 and tier 3 cities only. Technological advances in this day and age is moving at such a rapid pace that what we thought fantastical and impossible in the past are now a hair's breadth away from becoming a reality. The print industry is one area that has been affected by major significant changes. Earlier, printing was considered an art, but over the years it has invaded the world of technology and with the adaptation of offset, it has morphed into a combination of art, science and chemistry. In the age of computers, electronics soon became a part of its world and heralded the advent of digital printing. But the story of its expansion continues and printing has now embraced space science, architecture and biology.

A day before the event on 4th May a press meet was organized at Yamuna Nagar to highlight the details about the event. The press conference was very well attended by print as well as the electronic media. Speaking during the press conference, Prof. Kamal Chopra said, Romancing Print is being organized to educate the printers for falling in love with Printing. Printing is the best invention of mankind till date, because printing brought about the civilization. We have 250,000 printers in India and through such seminars our mission is to reach each and every printer persuading him to love printing and feel – 'Proud to be a Printer'.

Romancing Print (North) was organized by All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) at Yamuna Nagar on 5th May, 2019. The event was hosted by Yamuna Nagar Offset Printer Association with the support of Greater Delhi Master Printers Association. Nearly 200 printers from 12 cities across India participated in this full-day seminar.

To kick start the event AIFMP flag was unfurled by Mr. Subhash Chander, Former President of AIFMP outside the venue at Yamuna Nagar. Welcoming the delegates, Vimal Vohra, President Yamuna Nagar Offset Printer Association, said, "YOPA is a small association established with the efforts of Prof Kamal Chopra few years back. We are indebted to AIFMP, especially GDMPA, for reposing faith in our association and choosing Yamuna Nagar as the venue of Romancing Print (North) 2019". Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Dalip Tuli, President GDMPA said, it is a novel concept to reach the printers of smaller cities and I wish to thank Mr. Raveendra Joshi, President AIFMP and his team, for approving our proposal and bestowing the honour to host this prime event by GDMPA at this small city of North India.

Speaking on the behalf of AIFMP, Mr. Ashwani Gupta, Treasurer said, "The purpose of this seminar is to encourage the printers to 'love their job' so that they may work with more enthusiasm, with new vision and with more dedications. I am thrilled to see such a mammoth gathering of printers at this small town." He added that while earlier



Romancing Print conferences were organised only in metro cities, when it was seen that the message was not reaching the printers of small cities, it was decided to conduct these knowledge-sharing seminars in tier two and three cities too, where such information is more required. He said, representing 250,000 Indian printers, AIFMP is considered to be the largest printers association of the world. Mr. C Ravindera Reddy.

Mr. Subhash Chander, Former President of AIFMP said, I am thankful to the services given by Prof. Kamal Chopra for successfully conducting the event at Yamuna Nagar. He said, Yamuna Nagar is known as the cluster of plywood in India, Jagadhri is well known city for Workshop for railways. I am thankful to Mr. Vimal Vohra and his team for extending full support and showing exemplary enthusiasm in hosting the event at this city. Showering his blessings, Mr. Dayaker Reddy, President of IPAMA appreciated the efforts of AIFMP for creating overall awareness about printing and the latest developments.

In his key-note address Prof. (Dr.) Rajendrakumar Anayath, Vice Chancellor at the DCB University of Science & Technology, Murthal highlighted the future education system, stressing the need for uniformity and elimination of class rooms. The education should be on need basis rather than creating competition among the students. It was a remarkable and eye-opener session the audience appreciated the words of Dr Anayath.

Dr. Anjan Kumar Baral, senior professor of printing at GJU, Hisar, enlightened the printers about latest innovations and 'future printing' with a special emphasis on packaging printing. He said, as long as the population is growing the requirements of food is bound to grow. In this digital age, human is becoming technology driven, online shopping is becoming popular. Moreover, due to more and rapid urbanisation, the trend for purchasing packaged food is



increasing. It is good sign for packaging printer that more and more people are becoming health-conscious. Brands are becoming popular to ensure quality and healthy food. Thus, the future lies in packaging printing, he said.

Earlier, inaugurating the Romancing Print (North) 2019, Padma Shree, Vijay Kumar Chopra, chief guest, said printers of the country are progressing without any support from the government. "I wish the government take care of this key industry which is the second largest in the country, giving employment of 25 lakh families directly and 20 lakh families indirectly," he said. He appreciated the efforts of AIFMP for educating the printers of smaller cities so that they can also can rub the shoulders with other printers of metro or bigger cities.

During this event presentation on 'Fire & Safety for a Printing Press' was made by Mr. Pradip Ghaisas the eminent expert in the field. Whereas the Mr. B S Nagi, Director

MSME, Government of India elaborated the details about various schemes of the ministry for the overall benefit and growth of trade and Industry.

In his vote of thanks, Prof. Kamal Chopra appreciated the efforts of all and said we must be thankful to the almighty that he created us as Printer. Because, as per the Darwin theory, man began his life like animal (monkey) some 1,20,000 year before Christ. Our ancestors were living in jungles like any other animal, eating fruits/leaves or other small animals. Do you know the how and what transformed the human spices to live like this? It is printing; that is why Printing is considered to be the biggest invention of mankind till date. Printing is the foundation stone of modern civilization. Because the printing press developed by Johannes Gutenberg unharnessed the power of ideas of the world it is therefore Gutenberg was declared as the 'Man of Millennium' at the time of turn of the century.



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All India Printers Cup Badminton Tournament 2019

The Poona Press Owners Association Ltd is celebrating its centenary year in 2019. As a part of the year long celebrations, various programs and tournaments have been organised by them for their members. The highlight of all the events till now is surely the All India Printers Cup Badminton Tournament! After the PPOA Premier League, the Association held a Pan India Badminton tournament on 9th and 10th March 2019.

Every day, we Printers face numerous problems in our line of business. In spite of the many hurdles we conduct our business with full integrity and honesty. Mundane work and routines can be stressful and exhausting. Tournaments, like this, are real stress busters and raising ones spirit and energy.

This tournament was the brain child of Mr Raveendra Joshi. Its format, its planning and execution was open for discussion six months prior to the date, at every

meeting, conference and exhibition. It was decided that this tournament would ensure lots of fun, showcase individual talent and there would be no age limit. In fact during the tournament, there was a great response from 50+ participants much to the envy of youngsters. As the matches progressed, the tempo kept building up. The semi and final matches were a fitting finale to the two day tournament.

The tournament was declared open by the President of AIFMP, Mr Raveendra Joshi, accompanied by Mr Natu. It ended with all participants 84 being awarded with medals and certificates at the hands of Mrs Manjusha Sahasrabudhhe. The tournament was sponsored by M/s TOYO INK. represented by Mr K S Murthy, Director.

In conclusion, Printers united with harmony and are looking forward to hold bigger-better tournament in the coming years.



Sivakasi Printex 2019

SMPA had organised the second edition of Sivakasi Printex 2019 Exhibition in their SMPA Hall from April 12 to 14, 2019 which was declared open on April 12, 2019 by Sri Saikat Basu, CGM Sales, JK Paper Ltd, New Delhi.

A technical seminar with the theme "Passion to your Profession" was also arranged at 6.30 p.m. on April 12, 2019 at Bell Hotels, Sivakasi.

Eminent speakers from the industry addressed the gathering. The meeting was attended by over 150 printers. SMPA Vice President Mr V Ganesh Kumar proposed vote of thanks.

SMPA expressed their thanks to all of their sponsors exhibitors and visitors who had helped them in making the Exhibition a grand success.



BMPA organises impact session on Laws and Regulations

The Bombay Master Printers' Association (BMPA) organised a session on 4 April 2019 at Sunville Banquets in Worli, Mumbai, in its constant endeavour to keep the industry updated about taxes, laws and

regulations. The event was powered by Kotak Mahindra Bank and Toyo Ink. BMPA had held its last impact session on GST in 2017.

At the event, Pathik Shah of BP Shah spoke about the recent amendments on GST, such as the verification for the grant of new registration, the 6% scheme of the supplier of a service, and clarifications on sales promotion, amongst others. In addition, he also spoke about the merits of having different GST numbers for different manufacturing units.

Shah also spoke about Input Tax Credit (ITC)-related changes, such as the threshold limit for the composition scheme has been increased to Rs-1.5 crore from Rs-7 lakh, along with the updates regarding the changes in due dates, ITC credit availability, SGST, CGST and IGST.

He also highlighted the merits of the new Maharashtra VAT (MVAT) Amnesty scheme.

BMPA's newest inclusion to its advisory panel, Hiral Chheda of Chheda Management Consultants, spoke about the latest amendments on labour laws and its impact on the industry, which shed light on the topics, such as Provident Fund (PF) allowances, Employees' State Insurance (ESI) age limit, and maternity benefits, amongst others.



Chheda provided insights about the supreme courts' judgement on PF and guided about the dos and don'ts of the PF. He strongly advised avoiding remitting PF monthly contribution.

Sridhar of Online System highlighted the benefits for the active voltage conditioner for printing units. In addition, he also shed lights on servo voltage stabiliser, isolation transformer, Ferro transformer, and most importantly the key role of a UPS system. He also provided guidance about the importance of earthing system and its implementation.

The Toyo Ink team spoke about the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018, and the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2018.

Ram Kumar of Toyo Ink said, "Printing, Inks, Stationary and Allied Products FSSAI amendments coming into effect from July 2019 prescribe that printing ink for use on food packages shall conform to IS 15495."

Iqbal Kherodawala of Printline Reproductions concluded the event with the vote of thanks. BMPA member Sanjay Patel of Param Packaging was the host for the event.

Courtesy : Printweek

Print Ratna Award for Sri C. Ravinder Reddy



President - Telangana Offset Printers Association C. Ravinder Reddy was conferred with "PRINT RATNA" Award by Sir C.V. Raman Academy, Hyderabad on the eve of its Silver Jubilee celebrations on March 10, 2019 at Indira Priyadarsini Hall, Public Gardens, Hyderabad.

This Award was given in recognition of his contribution to the Printing Industry both at the State and National level. He has taken many delegations to various prestigious International exhibitions and tried his best to benefit the Printers Community in Telangana State with the latest trends in Technology, Techniques and trends in printing.

The joy of rediscovering 'print' by Mumbai Mudrak Sangh

on 26th April 2019 at MMS Training Centre in Mumbai

A Appadurai, Country Manager for HP India, is an avid print business analyst – by profession and by liking too. He shared insights into rediscovering 'print' with digital for profitability.

The printing and packaging industry in India is facing a severe commodification of its services. Businesses in this industry are trying innovative ideas to edge past peers. Value addition with a wide range of processes and services is making it big to some companies while others are successfully launching their brands and products in the market to attract customers. If one looks closely; however, a lot of this change here and globally is driven by the demands of the brands and their millennial, young customers who are in constant search for something new; something that carries a unique identity, without being terribly pricey.

For a brand-disloyal market

Interestingly, the number-cruncher, Mr Appadurai, shared some numbers about the millennial population in India. They are changing the buying pattern in the country. Over 65% of the population in India is below the age of 35 and half of that is under 25; this young generation constantly changes its demands. "They want everything now, they are buying in smaller quantities, they want everything in a new, uniquely personalised package," he added, "in such a market, digital is the only viable technology that will help the industry manage the small quantity jobs more efficiently or the large volume jobs that are driven by data variables.

He pointed out personalised campaigns such as Share A Coke campaign or the Essel Propack's greenfield project in Assam where it chose digital printing as the choicest technology over the conventional, and the National Geographic's customised cover page incorporating customer photographs. Bringing home his point, Mr Appadurai said, "the young customers will not negotiate on the price; they would shift to something new. For instance, they would opt for a Cadbury chocolate for they offer personalised gifting."



Know your customer; an old adage

The conventional technologies undoubtedly drive volumes in the printing and packaging industry; however, they fall short of the dynamic abilities offered by the digital technology – be it variable-data-based personalisation, the sheer range of substrates it can handle, or the broader scope of volumes that can be effectively cost-effectively managed with this technology.

Once art was mastered by a select few, printing became a mass offering with the mechanisation of printing. And, that's where each player in the industry lost an edge because each business could deliver the same product with the same machine. Those who innovated succeeded; however, profitability became ever so challenging to achieve for the lack of consistent differentiation in the products and services offered within the industry. "Digital is the future of printing because it will help you rediscover printing to create and offer innovative solutions for your customers," Mr Appadurai explained.

Highlighting the strengths of HP Indigo as a product and a technology platform, Mr Appadurai suggested that the printers could try digital as a technology complementing conventional technologies. Those jobs and customers who demand lower volumes, digital could be a sustainably profitable investment in the long-term. "Our liquid electrophotographic printing (LEP) technology enables printing on almost any substrate – paper or film, the thin-layer print enhances gloss and texture," he highlighted.

In a typical Appadurai-style, grabbing the attention "I am a south Indian guy, but I learned Gujarati, and I can fluently speak Punjabi. I learned these languages because my customers speak these languages," by sharing his personal experience, he added, "but it isn't enough any more. Now knowing your customer isn't enough; we must know the customer of our customer."

If the customer of the customer of printing and packaging industry is young, dynamic and ever demanding of newer and customised solutions, the brand managers, the marketers – the customers of our industry – will demand dynamic and impressive solutions. Also, we must be able to provide such solutions not just once or twice, but again and again, with the same level of quality, consistency and innovation.

It is essential to know our customer's customer to be effective in the business – with this new success-mantra for the modern-day service-oriented business, Mr Appadurai brought home and perfectly tied together the discussion of digital technology and the future of printing industry before concluding his session, and leaving the audience with lots of information and business insights to think about and act upon in the future to make their business profitable.

Gutenberg Festival at Ludhiana



Just to remember the father of modern printing – Johannes Guttenberg, ‘Gutenberg Festival’ is celebrated every year by OPA on the eve of Holi. OPA Carnival is the part of this festival where members and their families create the aura of fun and frolic. This year OPA Carnival was arranged on 21st March, 2019 on the occasion of Gutenberg Festival at F2 Raceway, South City, Ludhiana.

The day started with colour bombs and showering of rose petals while the members started assembling in the meeting hall. 140 members and 33 printers from other cities participated along with their families in this enjoyable moments. There was a punctuality draw for the members to win ‘Gold Coin’.

During this carnival besides field games fun games like balloon blowing, recognition of partner, apple eating were arranged. Children presented their talent by way of excellent dance and singing moments. Members enjoyed the stand-up jokes of the master of ceremony. Earlier welcoming the members, Mr. Parveen Aggarwal, President OPA said, established in 1988, Offset Printer’s Association (OPA) has recognized itself into a dynamic and influential

organization that provides a strong voice for the needs of printing community. OPA is considered to be one of the most live printers association of India. It is only due to the hard work of the team that OPA is now the only association in India to get Quality in Business Certification from International Trade Council, USA. I am glad to welcome you all to enjoy the celebrations and let’s start another eventful year. On this occasion, Team OPA 2019 was also felicitated by the President.

Giving concept of the celebrations, Prof. Kamal Chopra, General Secretary OPA said, stress and tension have been linked to numerous ailments, including heart disease, high blood pressure, atherosclerosis, irritable bowel syndrome, ulcers, anxiety disorders, insomnia, and substance abuse. Stress can also trigger a number of distinct physical symptoms, including nausea, headache, hair loss, fatigue, and muscle pain. Relaxation has been shown to reduce the incidence and severity of stress-related diseases and disorders in many patients. Taking these facts in mind and to pay homage to Father of Modern Printing the Annual Gutenberg Festival (OPA Carnival) is celebrated every year by OPA where printers from other cities are also invited. It is purely fun time with not business or technical discussions. Prof. Chopra elaborated that finance for this event is arranged by way of selling lucky draw coupons by the office bearers and other executive members.

Finally the winners of Lucky Draw were announces with First Prize bagged by M/s Sandeep Design Art, Second Prize; U-Tourizmo, Third Prize: Mr. Neeraj Goel, Fourth Prize: M/s Shree Sham Trading Co and 4 Consolation prizes to M/s M/s BBF Industries Ltd., M/s Fine Inks, M/s Print ‘O’ Tech India and M/s U-Tourizmo.

Association News-Update

EMPOWER YOUR PRICE-NEGOTIATION

CARDEX and PRIDEX indices have been developed by AIFMP through Crisil. The indices are developed to accurately track increase/reduction in costs of Raw Materials as well as Labour, Electricity, Interest Cost and other costs which directly impact our industry produce. CARDEX has been developed by considering leading inputs for the Packaging Sector whereas PRIDEX is computed basis leading inputs required by Commercial printing segment.

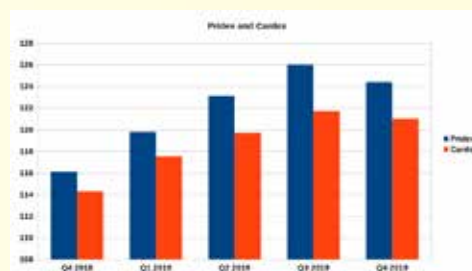
What are the latest numbers?

CRISIL has published the Q4 (FY2019) results for the indices PRIDEX and CARDEX.

In the Q4 of FY2019, PRIDEX stands 124.4 and CARDEX stands at 121. The downward trend is apparent if we compare the Q4 (FY2019) with the previous quarter Q3 (FY2019); however, when compared with Q4 (FY2018) the year-on-year input cost increase in Q4 (FY2019) has been 8.3 per cent for PRIDEX and 6.7 per cent for CARDEX.

Are input costs down? Should we reduce prices?

To gain a better understanding of the trends, one must consider the current pricing strategy for the business; if one has been consistently quoting prices in sync with the twin indices, the business can enhance profitability by keeping the client prices same and benefit from the slight reduction in the input costs. If you have been quoting prices lower than the PRIDEX-CARDEX trends, we would advise you not to lower your prices further and use the slight reduction in the input costs to correct your losses, if possible.



NEW TEAMS

Delhi Printers' Association

The Annual General Meeting of Delhi Printers' Association was held on April 27, 2019, the following Office Bearers for the year 2019-2020:

Mr. Mahinder Budhiraja	-	President
Mr. Ashok Kumar Nandra	-	Vice President
Mr. Prakash Dass	-	Vice President
Mr. Puneet Talwar	-	Vice President
Mr. Kewal Krishan Singhal	-	Hon. Gen. Secretary
Mr. Prashant Aggarwal	-	Joint secretary
Mr. Sandeep Aggarwal	-	Joint secretary
Mr. Meghraj Bhati	-	Treasurer



President



Hon Gen. Secretary

Tiruvannamalai Printers Owners Welfare Association

The Annual General Meeting of TPOWA was on February 17, 2019 the following Office Bearers for the year 2019-2020:

Mr M Sakthi	-	President
Mr E Ravichandran	-	Vice president
Mr A Ashok Kumar	-	Secretary
Mr R Sivasankar	-	Joint Secretary
Mr K Raman	-	Treasurer



President



Secretary

Sivakasi Master Printers' Association

The Annual General Meeting of SMPA was held on May 1, 2019, the following Office Bearers for the year 2019-2020:

Sri. V. Ganeshkumar	-	President
Sri. S.R. Sridhar	-	Vice President
Sri. A.J. Dharmaraj	-	Secretary
Sri. S. Prabhuraj	-	Joint Secretary
Sri. K. Gurumoorthy	-	Treasurer



President



Secretary

PROF. ANJAN KUMAR BARAL OF GJUS&T CONFERRED PIA “EDUCATION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE”



Dr. Baral has received the “Education Award of Excellence” 2018 on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at Minneapolis, U.S.A. The award is conferred to Dr. Baral by Mr. Michael F. Makin, President & CEO, Printing Industries of America, U.S.A. He is the first Indian Printing Professor to receive the above prestigious award.

This award is presented annually to an exemplary academic in recognition for leadership that has directly resulted in a distinguished education service and accomplishment in advancing graphic communication. He was nominated by Prof. Kamal Chopra, past President, AIFMP, New Delhi, General Secretary, Offset Printer’s Association (OPA), Ludhiana, Punjab.

Prof. Baral, is honored for his outstanding work in advancing print education programs in India. He has made significant contributions to the unification of print curriculums and syllabus across numerous technical

schools and university platforms in order to ensure a comprehensive understanding of printing technology across India. He also spearheaded the first ever International Research Conference on, “21st Century Printing”, in 2015 in conjunction with the AIFMP in India.

Prof. Baral, who is currently working as senior most Professor in the Department of Printing Technology, GJUS&T, Hisar, is credited for the establishment of a state-of-the-art, Digital Print Application Laboratory at the department through a partnership with Ricoh for students and researchers to experience hands-on training. This lab is the first of its kind to be installed in any academic facility in India. Prof. Baral is the first recipient of prestigious, “Education Excellence” award 2016-17 and “Print Ratna” award 2016-17.

Prof. Baral is an active academician, researcher and speaker with high caliber and extensive experience of over three decades in highly result oriented teaching and research in Graphic Arts Industry in India. He possesses a Doctorate in Printing Technology and at present eight research scholars are continuing their research work leading to Ph.D. under his supervision. He has authored two printing books and published more than 70 research papers in national and international reputed journals. He is member of various printing bodies in India and he is a specialist speaker on various topics related to print and happiness. Among Prof. Baral’s other achievement include regular interaction with the printing bodies and the Print Olympiad competition at the national level.

BAMU Print Symposium



Department of Printing Technology & Graphics Arts of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, Marathwada University, Aurangabad organised BAMU Print Symposium (BPS-3) with theme “New Trends in Printing” on 12th March 2019 at Aurangabad.

Mr Raveendra Joshi, President inaugurated the BPS-3 Symposium by lighting the ceremonial brass lamp.



A gathering of around 200 printers, students, researchers and other professionals not only from Aurangabad but also from Marathwada and Khandesh region attended the same. The teachers and students of Printing Technology of Government Polytechnic, **Beed**, MJ college, **Jalgaon**, KS Wani institute of Printing Technology, **Dhule** & New Arts College, **Ahmednagar** also attended the Symposium.

Prateek Metal Industries installed Konica Minolta's AccurioLabel 190

The installation is the first-of-its-kind to come equipped with the new Winder system from Brotech Graphics Co. Ltd.



Underlining its position as a domain leader in advanced imaging and digital printing technologies, Konica Minolta Business Solutions has recently completed the installation of the AccurioLabel 190 at Prateek Metal Industries in Mundka, New Delhi. The state-of-the-art label printing solution from Konica Minolta was installed in April 2019 and is the first AccurioLabel 190 featuring the new Winder system from Brotech Graphics Co. Ltd.

AccurioLabel 190 will help Prateek Metal Industries to cater to the growing demand for new-age label printing, print short-run jobs, and add variable data printing capability to its portfolio. The machine comes equipped with an AccurioPro Print Manager and delivers the best-in-class printing speeds, performance, productivity, and image stability. It is designed for minimal paper wastage, excellent media handling, and convenient job management – features to help Prateek Metal Industries improve its profitability and business output.

Speaking on the announcement, **Mr. Vijay Kamat, National Product Manager – Industrial Print, Konica Minolta Business Solutions**, said, “Brands and manufacturers are moving towards short-run print jobs that offer greater personalisation and customisability. These requirements are driving the demand for innovative label and packaging solutions. The AccurioLabel 190 is specifically designed to cater to such new-age print jobs. The installation shall help Prateek Metal Industries increase the scale of its business operations while driving higher productivity and profitability. We are delighted with Prateek Metal Industries’s decision to select Konica Minolta solutions

and will be looking forward to helping more businesses across the country to prepare themselves for the era of digital printing.”

Mr. Manoj Arora, Proprietor, Prateek Metal Industries, added, “The Konica Minolta brand has been driving a major transformation in the digital printing space through its range of innovative print and printing solutions. This is why, when we were looking for a label and package printing solution, the AccurioLabel 190 was our top consideration. The improvement in productivity and efficiency since the installation has been impressive and validates our decision to choose this Konica Minolta product. Being able to cater to new-age print jobs has also helped us drastically improve our profitability.”

With the help of AccurioLabel 190, Prateek Metal Industries is able to produce special applications like speciality labels for the appliance industry, consumer industry and industry label segment.

A future-ready product designed for dynamically-evolving market demands, the AccurioLabel 190 reduces time-to-print and is capable of printing on different media including paper, non-tack paper, tack paper, synthetic paper, PP, and PET of variable thickness. Its compact size also allows it to deliver a better space economy and more efficient utilisation of workspace as compared to other digital printers in the same category. All of this combines to deliver superior productivity and improved profitability while allowing printing businesses to expand their business operations by catering to a much wider range of new-age print jobs.

To know more please visit: www.konicaminolta.in

Sivakasi Institute of Printing Technology

New Office bearers for the year 2019-2020

Sri.V.Ganeshkumar	- President
Sri.AMSG.Ashokan	- Vice President
Sri.V.S.Raveendran	- Vice President
Sri.N.V.Muralitharan	- Vice President
Sri.S.Vithyatharan	- Correspondence-cum-Secretary
Sri.S.Thiyagaraj	- Treasurer
Sri.S.Stalin	- Joint Treasurer

Tirupur's M.S. Labels installs brand new Heidelberg Speedmaster SX 74 to set new performance milestones

Tirupur-based M.S. Labels is taking innovation and performance to the next level, by investing in a brand new Heidelberg Speedmaster SX 74 four-color press. This leading Apparel branding company specializes in high quality woven labels, which it supplies to prestigious clientele across the globe, including Walmart, Disney, Abercrombie & Fitch, Levis, Reliance Trends, Jockey etc.

"Innovation is our signature approach," says Mr. Ganeshan, Managing Director, M.S.Labels "We strive towards exemplary quality goals with state-of-the-art infrastructure.

Our latest addition SX-74 is a perfect fit into our vision, and paramount to achieving new quality benchmarks."

The Speedmaster SX-74 offers 100% color fidelity during production, thanks to colorimetric control with Heidelberg's proprietary Prinect workflow, which secures and standardizes print production.

"Colorimetric control plays a key role in helping the SX-74 hit colors precisely," agrees Saseendran Baskaran, Sales Head – South & East, Heidelberg India. "Adjustment of ink zone motors in the SX-74 is based on a colorimetric perspective, not on density difference. This is crucial because, the color can look different, even if the density is the same. This type of ink control ensures stable control of color, including pastel shades, while also alerting on ink soiling or use of wrong ink...other perks being, less paper waste and easy reproducibility."

Designed for consistently high productivity, the Speedmaster SX-74 comes with short make-ready times, and production speeds of up to 15,000 sheets per hour. Special rollers in the Alcolor dampening system of the SX-74 drastically reduce IPA usage from 10% to 3%, rendering the machine eco-friendly and resource-efficient.

The SX-74 accommodates flexible processing of different production run lengths. The Prinect Pressroom Manager facilitates controlling press operations from the office, including automatic and timely delivery of print jobs to production.

"With our elite clientele, we take no chances with innovation, quality or production. Our foray into offset



printing was supported by a single-color Heidelberg press. Other equipment came later. Our Speedmaster SX 74 is again a first in this region," states Ganeshan emphatically. "Our value proposition stems from compelling offerings, including Organic cotton, woven labels, offset printed tags, labels and cartons. It is imperative to support our objectives with the best infrastructure and cutting-edge technology. The SX-74 positions us to derive meaningful benefits from the trends dominating the print industry."

Established in 2005, M.S.Labels is today recognized as one of the best woven labels company in Tirupur, catering to more than 100 customers - both domestic and international. In addition to woven labels, the firm also produces offset printed labels, Heat transfer stickers, digital and elastic tapes, screen-printed labels, hang tags, Leather and PVC patches, and chenille, sequin embroidery badges. Adhering to stringent quality standards, the firm deploys an independent Quality Assurance team to conduct inline audits and monitor quality control processes, right from the selection of raw material to the processed end product.

"With our product breadth and differentiation, we need powerful tools like the SX-74 to cater to a highly-discerning, global customer base. Options like intellistart facilitate 70% fewer operations for every job change, making life easier for operators. Heidelberg is a trusted brand and preferred partner to empower the next phase of our development, as we continuously reinvent strategies and processes to achieve higher productivity and industry-leading growth," concludes Vadivel, CEO of MS Labels

IMPRINT 2019 - Technical Symposium



“WHEN MOUTHS FAIL TO CONVEY, IT’S UP TO THE ASTOUNDING ART OF PRINTING TO GIVE YOUR THOUGHTS AND WORDS A SHAPE”

The Department of Printing Technology was originally started in 1983 and has been inculcating knowledge into the minds of the students since then. Then the Society of Printing Engineers (SPE) was established in 1986 by the young and energetic minds of the printing society. The SPE puts a lot of effort for the betterment of its students by organizing lectures, events and also the intra-department event “IMAGES”. “IMPRINT” is one of the biggest bonanzas happening every year since 1995, conducted by the SPE in a grand and sumptuous manner.

Imprint is a National level Technical Symposium that serves as a platform for the printing engineers all over India to showcase their skills.

This year’s Imprint witnessed a massive response from other colleges as over 90 students from 7 different universities and 4 diploma colleges namely Avinashilingam University, University of Calicut, Manipal Institute of Technology, Gurujambeshwar University, Kurukshetra University, Central University of Haryana while the Diploma colleges include Arasan Ganesan Polytechnic college, Nachimuthu polytechnic college, Institute of Printing Technology, SIGA took part in this mega symposium. Imprint '19 stretched out for three days from March 7th -9th. “Eco-friendly Packaging and Printing” stands as a testimony to the students who constantly adapt to the ever-changing trends in the printing industry. The invitations for this IMPRINT were printed on special seed embedded paper, a great initiative that will help us keep the environment clean and safe.

The Inauguration of Imprint' 19 kicked off in style on 7th of March with Mr. A S Matharu - Executive Director, Tamilnadu Newsprint and Paper Limited and Mr. S Mohan Kumar - Senior Vice President, Huhtamaki-PPL and Dr. T.V.Geetha, Dean, College of Engineering who honoured the gathering. The inauguration commenced with the Tamil Thai Vazhthu followed by the welcome address by Prof. Dr. B. Kumar, Head of the Department, Department of Printing Technology. Then the guests were

then graced with shawl, memento and a bouquet. It was subsequently followed by a brief note on Imprint given by the General Secretary, Mr. T. Madhava Ramanujam. Then a peachy speech was given by our honourable Dean, Dr. T.V. Geetha. The dignitaries on stage were called to light the kuthuvizhaku as a symbol of wisdom and knowledge and bow down to knowledge as the greatest form of all wealth. Then it was time for the most awaited moment of the day. The souvenir for the current academic year summarizing all the great and amazing moments that happened throughout the year was released by Mr. A S Matharu and Mr. Mohan Kumar. Copies of the souvenir was given to the guests and the faculties on stage which contained treasured memories. The souvenir gave an elaborate view of the Department of Printing Technology, Society of Printing Engineers, Imprint, its sponsors and industries who supported S.P.E and also contained technical, non-technical articles written by the students and staff. As relating to our theme” Eco-Friendly Packaging and Printing”, we gave sapling to all the delegates and to the sponsors. We made an Information booklet which contains the data about the department, Society of Printing Engineers and Imprint.

There was a knowledge feast awaiting the ears of audience as Mr.A S Matharu and Mr. S Mohan Kumar gave technical talks on Changing trends in paper industry and Flexible packaging: Key trends respectively. Those talks were really informative and would have surely enlightened the minds of the audience. Mr. Thendral Thiyagu- Treasurer, S.P.E. delivered the vote of thanks. The gathering was then adjourned for lunch.

The event “Prove Yourself” was announced to have started and the students started enrolling themselves in the event. This event spanning three days, as long as the IMPRINT itself, puts various skills like photography, Photoshop and creativity of the contestants to make an original movie poster. Now, it was time for another feast for our brain and ears as Mr. Michael- Nikita gave technical speech on Tin Printing. Nikita Containers Pvt Ltd is a company that specializes in tin printing and packaging.

As the clock ticked by, it was time for the IMPRINT events





to commence. The IMPRINT events kicked off in style with two events- Jargon Jostle and Print Identification conducted simultaneously at the Tag Auditorium and the Gutenberg Hall, Department of Printing Technology respectively. The event Jargon Jostle, a technical event, Dr. Keerthi from the Department of Chemistry judged the event. Print Identification needed the participants to examine the printed product and guess the type of printing used with their justifications. Mr. Sandeep Jain, MD and Mr. Sreenivasan, COO, Manali Carton Industries judged the event. The day ended with the Technical Quiz which was conducted at the Tag Auditorium. Several teams participated in the first round which was a written one and out of them, the best five teams were selected for the final round. Mr. Kishore, PIP, ITC Limited judged the event. The second day started on high spirits with two events Build the Box and Stay Alive happening at the same time. Stay Alive was the first non-technical event of the IMPRINT events. Prof. Shoba, Department of English and Mr. Giridharan, CEO, Kapoor imaging judged the event. The participants were given a tough situation to tackle based on which they would be evaluated. Build a Box, a package designing event, where the participants needed to design a prototype package for a product which would then be judged based on its design and efficiency. Mr. Samarth Chandrasekar, ESKO judged the event. After a short tea break, the events resumed again. The event Print the Prize took tested the participant's cost estimation skills. Mr. Senthil Nathan, Dotline Data judged the event. At the same time, Paper presentation on topic "Eco-Friendly Packaging and Printing" took place. Students from various college presented their papers. Mr. C. N. Santhosh Kumar, General Manager, Huber India Groups Pvt. Ltd., judged the event.

In the afternoon, Connections took place at the Tag Auditorium where students competed to connect various images to make meaningful technical and non-technical terms. It was followed by another non-technical event which was an open event, SPENT Quiz (Sports and Entertainment Quiz) which started with prelims from which five teams were selected for the final round on stage.

The second day concluded with a seminar on "Printed Electronics" by Mr. Natarajan Jayakarthykeyan organised by the Printing Technologists Forum at the Tag Auditorium. The Printing Technologists Forum organizes many technical talks for the betterment of the printing community

whenever possible. Mr. Natarajan listed out the various applications of printed electronics and how closely it is interconnected with other fields. He kindled the minds of the young printing engineers that day, inspiring them to pursue knowledge in the field of Printed Electronics.

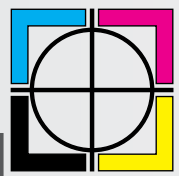
The final day kicked off with Biz Plan at the Tag Auditorium where budding entrepreneurs were given a platform to present their business ideas. It was judged by Mr. G. N. Visvakumar, President, MPLA. At the same time, the event Ad Design took place, where the participants were given the task of creating posters based on a theme and best posters were awarded. Mr. Pichaimuthu, Former Professor of Anna University judged the contestants. The next event was Technical Adzap which took place at the Tag Auditorium where contestants need to market their product as an advertisement. Ms. Monika working at Esko who is also our beloved alumni judged the event. Soon after lunch, the last event of the IMPRINT'19, Channel Surfing took place at the Tag Auditorium. It is an open non-technical event where the participants need to act as people coming in the respective TV channels.

Finally, the time has come for the end of IMPRINT'19. The valediction function commenced at the Tag Auditorium which was graced by the presence of Mr. V. Nandakumar IRS, Additional Commissioner, Income Tax Department, Government of India, Mr. K. Rajendran, General Secretary, AIFMP and Dr. K. Surappa, Vice Chancellor, Anna University. The S.P.E. expressed its gratitude to the guests of honour through mementos. Mr. Guru Vignesh, Additional General Secretary, S.P.E gave a brief note on Imprint'19 followed by the presidential address by Dr. K. Surappa. Then, Mr. P. Karthik, Head of Sponsorship, S.P.E. thanked each and every sponsor who were responsible for making this edition of IMPRINT a grand success. This edition of IMPRINT also witnessed the highest number of sponsors (40+ sponsors).

Then, Mr. V. Nandakumar IRS gave an inspiring talk that lifted the spirits of the audience followed by Mr. K. Rajendran who also gave a brief talk on this wondrous occasion. The prizes were then distributed to the winners of events of IMAGES'19 and IMPRINT'19. A representative from each college was asked to come on the stage and give their feedback about IMPRINT'19. The highlights of the first two days compiled by Team Grid was then telecasted. Finally, Mr. K. Vipinendran, President, S.P.E. gave the vote of thanks.

Thus IMPRINT'19 ended on a high note, achieving its objective of kindling the minds of young printing engineers to hone their minds, explore the new areas of the printing world and

enabling them to reach greater heights. Hope the upcoming editions of IMPRINT would be conducted in such a pompous manner and would always continue spreading the knowledge to the next generation of printing community.



AIFMP



Eligibility Requirements

A nominee for the VCPLA must:

- ❖ Be widely recognized as having made a major impact on the graphic arts industry
- ❖ Have a record of participating in both local and national professional activities
- ❖ Have been active in the industry over a period of time and involved in many facets of the graphic arts industry
- ❖ The person shall be a wizard in printing and would have achieved something exceptional during his work span

The nominee is not required to be a member of AIFMP or any affiliate association, is not limited by age, sex, race, or geographic location, and may be either living or deceased. The ongoing and immediate Past-President of AIFMP and any member or relative of Viren Chhabra's family will not be eligible for Viren Chhabra Print Leadership Award.

The Award will carry a Citation, Shawl, Memento and a cheque of Rs. One lakh together with the bio-data & photo of Viren Chhabra.

How to Nominate Someone

Self-nomination are not permitted. Only affiliates, reputable institutions / individuals from the printing industry can make the nominations. To nominate an individual, please complete the nomination form and enclose a cover letter that briefly introduces the nominee. Please include the following information about the nominee:

- ❖ Your reasons for nominating this individual
- ❖ Dates of accomplishments; approximate dates are acceptable
- ❖ The industry organizations in which the nominee has been active (Give position titles held with approximate dates for each organization)
- ❖ Organizations outside of the graphic arts industry in which the nominee has been or is currently active
- ❖ Three industry leaders, with their phone numbers, whom we may contact in reference to the accomplishments of the nominee
- ❖ Additional supporting information, such as letters of support, a formal biographical description, or a resume for the candidate are not required but are welcomed.



Nominations for the 2019

**VIREN CHHABRA
PRINT LEADERSHIP AWARD
(VCPLA) are now open.**

- ❖ Submit all required and supplemental materials to:

Viren Chhabra Print Leadership Award

All India Federation of Master Printers

605 Madhuban, 55, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110 019

Ph : 011-26451742 / 43, 41651742

Email : fopaid11@gmail.com

History of the Award

Established in the memory of Mr. Viren Chhabra, the most loved mentor figure of India's Print industry, who have gone far beyond standard obligations to become a significant force in shaping the business of printed communications. During his active years he has been universally acclaimed within the printing fraternity as the Ambassador of Indian Printers to the World'. 'Viren Chhabra Print Leadership Award' is recognized throughout the graphic arts industry as the highest awarded to an individual in our business.

The award recipient will be selected by a panel of industry leaders and is honored before hundreds of peers at Printing Industries of India during PAMEX at the time of NAEP Awards to be held on 8th January, 2020 at Mumbai.

Nominating an individual provides an opportunity to honor someone you believe has made a major, long-term contribution to and has had a significant impact on our industry.

Nominations must be post marked or emailed by July 31, 2019.

GST Council to introduce new tax returns filing system to simplify the compliance procedures for MSMEs



The GST Council will introduce a new tax returns filing system to simplify the compliance procedures for micro, small and medium enterprises, said GST Commissioner.

Speaking at an interactive meeting organised by All India Association of Industries (AIAI) and MIVRDC World Trade Center Mumbai, IAS, Commissioner of State Tax, Department of Goods and Service Tax, Government of Maharashtra, Rajeev Jalota said “The new system will be introduced after testing it on pilot basis.”

He said, “India has successfully embarked on a major indirect tax reform since Independence without creating high inflation or shortage of commodities in the market. The current GST regime has consolidated 17 taxes and 23 different statutes under one indirect tax system.

He added, taxes on most goods have been reduced to 18% slab and today 65% of GST revenue comes from this slab. The government has forgone more than Rs 2 lakh crore because of input tax credit under GST. In the last two years, the GST Council has held 30 meetings and resolved major challenges faced by the industry.

The GST regime has reduced tax burden on service industry (because of input tax credit) even though the tax rate has risen from 15% to 18%, explained Jalota.

Also he offered to partner with AIAI and WTC Mumbai for re-launching its skill development programme on GST for professionals.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner of Central Goods and Services Tax, Mumbai, Sanjay Mahendru assured that the government will further simplify the GST compliance procedure as tax collection improves in the days to come.

He said “GST System in India is entering into a consolidation phase in a short span of two years from the date of introduction as the industry and the tax department are adapting to this new indirect tax system. The tax administration is addressing the challenges faced by the industry at a fast pace. Any inconvenience faced by the industry will equally affect the tax department.”

Therefore, GST Council has set up the Law Committee and Fitment Committee to study the representations received by the industry and take timely action on them. In future, we can see more rationalization of this tax regime as tax collection improves, he added.

Earlier in his welcome remarks President of All India Association of Industries (AIAI) Vijay Kalantri called for a rational and simplified tax system to promote tax compliance and accelerate the economy’s growth rate to more than 7%.

Kalantri raised concerns about the impact of GST reform on unorganized sector and called for lower tax rate to address tax evasion and enlarge tax base.

“Redressal of GST complaints must be fast-tracked by the authority. Government of India must reduce the number of tax slabs under the GST to two from the existing four slabs. Also, there is a need to reduce GST rates in order to discourage tax evasion”, he said.

He added, the average tax rate under GST is 14%, while, in India, the peak slab is 28%. In order to provide relief to MSMEs, the government must raise the turnover threshold for GST to Rs 1 crore from the current level of Rs 40 lakh. Gradually, petroleum products and real estate must be brought under the GST regime. The government must promote a business-friendly and balanced tax system.”

Also he suggested policymakers to reform regressive tax laws and avoid prosecution as a solution to address tax non-compliance.

During the event, representatives from trade and industry raised queries and sought clarifications on filing of tax returns, claiming input tax credit, rectifying errors in form submission, incidence of double taxation etc.

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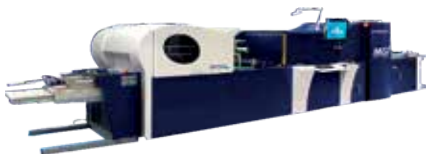


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