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PRINT OLYMPIAD



India's Biggest Talent Hunt in Printing

PAMEX
2022

International Exhibition on Printing & Allied Machinery Industries
Of the Printers - For the Printers - By the Printers

23-26 March 2022

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

The Health Minister on Wednesday issued standard operating procedure(SOPs) to be followed while conducting examination to avoid risk of spreading Covid-19 infection .

With an objective of containing the spread of Covid 19 in the state of Assam various orders under Disaster management Act were issued prohibiting certain activities with the objection Schools, Colleges , education institution coaching institution for regular classes shall remain closed till 30th September.

On September 8, the corona virus vaccine trial at Oxford University was put on hold after a patient fell ill with an “unexplained illness.” Despite this setback, the vaccine is seen as a strong contender and is being watched closely by the rest of the world. On September 12, England announced that in over a week, its new contact tracing app will be released. The app will allow users to scan QR codes at hospitals and will implement technology that recognizes nearby smartphones. Currently, the country is relying on handwritten registrations to track where people have been, but it hopes this new app will help slow the spike in coronavirus cases. On September 12, Oxford was given the go-ahead to resume their vaccine trial. (CNN/BBC)

I had appeal to the Central Government to reconsider instruction to the Banks, PSU's and other Government Departments to curtail on printing of stationery items particularly calendars and diaries. The ban will result in huge loss mainly to the print industry, .To boost the economy, the government must stimulate small value item to prevent unemployment. The industry needs aid from the Government and seeks stimulus along with the clutch of immediate relief measures from the Government in order to help the industry to tide over the unprecedented crisis.

DIBYAJYOTI KALITA
President



Editorial



Dear Printers

Our print professors, teachers of various institutes in India were remembered and honoured on 5th September as Teachers Day was remembered throughout the country

Though the country for the past five months was in the grip of epidemic its slowly but steadily limping back to normalcy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address to the nation asserted that not only Indian products but India's voice too is becoming more global with the world paying more attention to the country. India's COVID response saved several lives

Inaugurating the 'Patrika Gate' constructed here by the Rajasthan Patrika Group of Publications through video conference, Mr. Modi said Indian newspapers and magazines should acquire a global reputation and make their digital presence felt across the world. He also released two books authored by Gulab Kothari of the Patrika group.

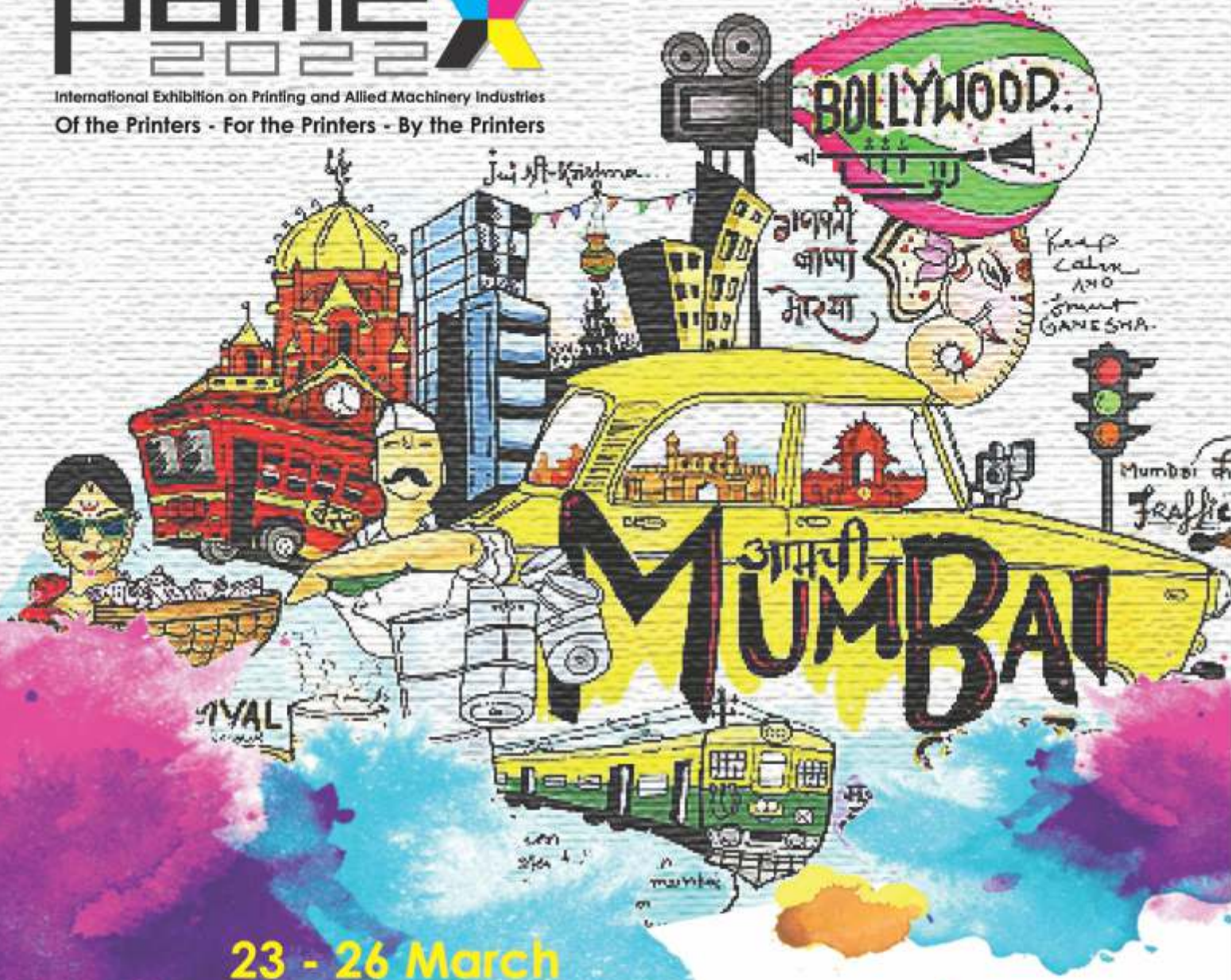
Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is observed on 31 October every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. He had played an important role in unifying the country. not but less we are more unified from Kashmir to Kanyakumari as the saying goes we feel that we are all united emotionally and bonded together though we are miles apart having one common unified goal to fight and overcome COVID at the earliest.

Gandhi Jayanti is celebrated on 2nd October every year to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October to mark the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi who had played an important role in India's Independence. On 15 June, 2007, The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution of establishing the International Day of Non-Violence to spread the message of non-violence including education and public awareness.

P.CHANDER
HON EDITOR
FORMER PRESIDENT-MPLA & AIFMP

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International Exhibition on Printing and Allied Machinery Industries
Of the Printers - For the Printers - By the Printers



23 - 26 March

2022

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Team MMS 2020 - 2022



MMS has announced its new Management Committee, elected during the Association's annual general meeting on 30th September, 2020. The Committee will serve a two-year mandate until the next elections which are due in September 2022.

Outgoing President, Mr. Tushar Dhote extended a warm welcome to the members at the 56th Annual General Meeting and announced the newly elected Managing Committee members for the year 2020 – 2022. In his address, he congratulated the new team and assured the members his wholehearted support in his new role as Imm. Past President, and shall continue his endeavors to achieve the objectives of the Sangh.

Incoming President Mr. Prakash Canser in his address said: "I am delighted to welcome the members of our new Management Committee, bringing together such a wonderful team of enthusiasm, experience and diversity and thank them all for their commitment in agreeing to serve MMS in the years ahead.

Senior Member & Past President, MMS - Mrs. Medha Virkar, congratulated the entire Team MMS and conveyed her best wishes for success as the elected Members prepare to take up the responsibilities and challenges of the high office. Mrs. Virkar assured her continued support for the betterment of the Members of the Print Industry in her role as Senior Advisory Member and Past President, MMS.

Mr. Mehul Shah, Hon. Secretary, MMS in his address appreciated the efforts and excellent work of the previous Managing Committee Members and strongly believes that the new Management Committee has the experience and knowledge to help

the Association and the wider Print Industry overcome the challenges ahead. He also mentioned that the outgoing President Mr. Tushar Dhote has set extremely high standards and has taken MMS to greater heights during his tenure.

He assured the incoming President Mr. Prakash Canser that the entire Managing Committee will support him to incorporate his ideas for the betterment of the print industry & MMS in particular.



Prakash B. Canser
President



Tushar V. Dhote
Imm. Past President



Mehul B. Shah
Hon. Secretary



Ashok Holkar
Vice President



Rajiv V. Joshi
Treasurer



Jigar Satra
Hon. Jt. Secretary

Report on the East Zone Print Olympiad 2020

The East Zone Print Olympiad (EZPO) 2020 is the brainchild of Professor Kamal Mohan Chopra. Prof Kamal Mohan Chopra is a maverick and is a man who needs no further introduction, he is the man behind programs like Print Yatra and Print Chetna. He is the General Secretary of the Offset Printers Association and is associated with many Universities in academic role and is a leader in many industry bodies. Under the ongoing pandemic situation, since the 4th National Level Print Olympiad that was supposed to be conducted at Manipal Institute of Technology, Karnataka could not be held. From April onwards Prof Chopra, with his vision to spread the message of print education and inspire young minds of this country to choose print education as their career of choice, ideated the first-of-a-kind and unique concept of a completely online based regional print Olympiad for the North Zone, East zone, south zone and West Zone to select the best student in printing technology from each zone. The east zone print Olympiad 2020 was organised by Offset Printers Association, Ludhiana under the aegis of All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP). The Patron-in-Chief was Mr Dibyajyoti Kalita, President of All India Federation of Master Printers while the other patrons were Mr Parveen Aggarwal, President of Offset Printers Association (OPA) and Mr K Rajendran, Honorary General Secretary, All India Federation of Master Printers. Professor Kamal Mohan Chopra was the Chairman for the East Zone Print Olympiad and Professor Anjan Kumar

Baral, Professor, Dept of Printing Technology, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Haryana was the national coordinator for the event. The event was hosted by the Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata and was coordinated by Mr Shankhya Debnath, Lecturer, Department of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata. Prof Bijender Kaushik, Dept of Printing Technology, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Haryana was the technical coordinator of the event.

Students who are presently studying in Diploma, B.Voc, D.Voc, B.E., B.Tech in printing and packaging technology in states of West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands were eligible to participate in the biggest talent hunt for the upcoming printers of India. A total of 60 students from various institutes in the Eastern India registered for the event. They belonged to the Department of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata, the Department of Printing engineering, Jadavpur University, Department of Packaging Technology, Birla Institute of Technology, Kolkata and Derozio Memorial College, Kolkata. The first round was held on 21st August, 2020, where the students competed among themselves to be shortlisted as the top 20 students from the east zone. The event was inaugurated by Mr Dibyajyoti Kalita, President, AIFMP and Mr Pallab Roy, Officer-in-Charge of





the Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata was the Guest of Honour. The entire event was conducted online and question papers were given to the students online just before starting the exam and they had to

answer 50 questions within 30 minutes. The above judges also proctored and judged this event. The top five students were declared by Prof Anjan Kumar Baral, Professor, Dept of Printing Technology, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Haryana, who also gave the vote of thanks. The top 5 students will be given a cash prize of Rs. 5000/- each and certificates of merit.

And on the 13th of September this year, the top 5 students of the east zone selected from the second round competed among themselves to become the best student in printing technology from the east zone in India. The top five students included (in alphabetical order) Mr Abhinandan Bhatta, Final year student, Dept of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata, Mr Pranab Kanti Purkait, Final year student at the Dept of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata, Mr Subhajit Banerjee, second year student at the Dept of Printing Engineering, Jadavpur University, Mr Suman Chatterjee, second year student at the Dept of Printing Engineering, Jadavpur University and Ms Suranjana Maity, final year student at the Dept of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Kolkata. This round was judged by a panel of international judges that included Mr Ahmad Mughira Nurhani, President of Indonesian Print Media Association, Mr Delan Francis Silva, founder Director and CEO/Managing Director of Lakfoil (Pvt) Ltd, Sri Lanka, Mr Dayaker Reddy, President, IPAMA, Mr Arun Kumar Sinha, Former Controller of Publication and Director of Printing, Gol, Dr M Nandakumar, Principal, Arasan Ganesan Polytechnic, Sivakasi. The event was inaugurated by Col Comdt Prof Dr Rajendrakumar Anayath, Vice Chancellor of the Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Govt of Haryana. Mr Satish Malhotra, Managing Partner of Swan Press & former president of the All India Federation of Master Printers was the Guest of Honour. The students were given a choice of 5 topics as were determined by the judges on which they had to present their views for 5-7 minutes following which they were asked questions by the judges. Based on the marks given by the judges and audience poll, Mr Manoj Agnihotri, partner in Mesh Prints, Bhopal and Co-Chairman, International Relations at AIFMP gave the vote of thanks and also declared Mr Subhajit Banerjee, Second year student, Dept of Printing Engg, Jadavpur University as the Best Student of Printing Technology from the East Zone 2020. The winner will be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 25000/- along with certificate of merit. All the events were graced by a multitude of luminaries from the print industry.

questions within 30 minutes time, with their phone cameras open at all times so that the exam may be completely proctored and adoption of any unfair means may be prevented. The first round was judged by a panel of eminent judges from industry and academia, which included Mr Surendra Dhote, CEO of Bharat Litho and President of RIPTAA and ABPA, Former President, AIFMP, Mr Krishnendu Halder, Lecturer and Head of the Dept, Dept of Printing Technology, Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Sri Diptendu Chowdhury, the former Principal of the Regional Institute of Printing Technology, Prof Kanai Ch Paul, Professor and Head of the Department at the Dept of Printing Engg, Jadavpur University, Dr Soumen Basak, Associate Professor and former head of the department at the Dept of Printing Engg, Jadavpur University, Mr Hemant Kumar Mishra, Director (Technical), Directorate of Printing, Stationery and Publication at Govt of Odisha. The judges short-listed top 20 students from the region. Mr R. N. Dutta Baruah, Hon. Jt Secretary of AIFMP declared the results and gave the vote of thanks.

The second round was conducted on the 25th of August, 2020, where the 20 shortlisted students from the first round competed among themselves to be shortlisted into the top five position. This event was inaugurated by Mr K Rajendran, Hon. General Secretary of AIFMP and Mr Goutam Dasgupta, Former Officer-in-Charge, the Regional Institute of Printing Technology was the Guest of Honour. Question papers were sent to the students just

PVG to host the regional edition of AIFMP's Print Olympiad 2020


The 4th edition of Print Olympiad, a mega print talent hunt, an initiative of Prof. Kamal Chopra, Chairman, Print Olympiad organized by Offset Printers Association (OPA) under the aegis of All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) West Zone competitions were conducted this year on a virtual platform. The final competition is planned to be held at Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal, Karnataka, at a suitable time, once the Covid-19 pandemic situation is under total control. In order to make the Print Olympiad more meaningful and transparent, it was proposed to hold Zonal level print talent hunt, prior to the final competition, to select the best five printing students from each zone. The states under West Zone are Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Diu Daman, Goa, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Madhya Pradesh. West Zone, printing talent hunt competition was conducted, for the Diploma level, B. Voc., B.E. and B. Tech Printing Engineering and Technology students from states of Maharashtra, Gujrat, and Madhya Pradesh hosted by Pune Vidyarthi Griha's College of Engineering and Technology with Prof. Mrs. Madhura Mahajan as it's coordinator. Students from 3 BVOC colleges, 4 Diploma colleges, 2 Degree colleges from Maharashtra; 1 Diploma college from Gujarat; 1 Diploma College and 1 degree college from M.P. participated enthusiastically.

The first round of West Zone was conducted on 3rd September 2020. The results of each round, is expected to be declared on the same day, preferably on the spot, and there by maintain high level of transparency and clarity. Eminent printing and packaging experts from India and abroad will be contacted to judge the best five students. The last round in the zonal competition will be an oral round with Q&A. The winner of round 1 will receive Rs. 25,000/- as prize money.

The date of the first-round quiz of the West Zone is September 3rd, 2020 and second round are September 8th, 2020. The Chief Guest of the inaugural function will be Shri Rupendra More, Director at the Directorate of Printing and Stationery, Government of Maharashtra and Mr. Ravindra Joshi, Immediate Past President of AIFMP as Guest of Honor. Shri Sunil Redekar Director at PVG's COET gave details about the history of PVG institute and how the institute adopted the changes happening in the print industry to give maximum benefit to students. Prof. Rajendra Kaduskar, Director, PVG's COET guided and motivated the participating students and expressed that participation at such competitions will help students gain more knowledge. Principal I/C Dr. Mrs. Kalyani Kulkarni gave brief introduction about the college and expressed how since last 25 years or so college has developed as per requirements from industry and University. She made an humble request to AIFMP to help to start a research lab at PVG COET to help students in the West Zone. Chief Guest Shri More gave good insights to students about how passion, integrity and sincerity play a key role in the life, as these students are on the threshold of their education and would be starting their careers soon. To experience life in good way, Sir, guided the students to have passion and purpose about what they wish to desire in life. Guest of Honor, Shri Raveendra Joshi Sir guided and encouraged the students mentioning that it is the third largest industry in the world and it is an industry where each of us have to embrace the rapidly changing technology. So, engineers and technologists in printing have to be prepared for it. Prof. Bijender declared all the rules and regulations of the competition to all the students. 50 multiple choice questions were given to students to be finished in 30 minutes. Mr. Nitin Wani, Director Smart Solutions, Pune, Mr. Tushar Dhote, Director Dhote Offset, Prof. Mrs. Manisha Deshpande, I/C Principal at GIPT, Mumbai, Dr. Sasikala, Head of Print and Media Department at Makhnallal Chaturvedi University, Bhopal and Prof. Parag Hase, Head at Printing Department at Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar University, Aurangabad were appointed as jury members for round 1 and 2 of Print Olympiad. After the online exams were conducted the jury along with technical support from Bijendar shortlisted top 24 students from the 220 students. These 24 students were then invited to the round 2 of the competition which was scheduled on 8th September 2020. The program was graced by various other invitees and dignitaries from AIFMP, industry and academics and all gave their blessings and best wishes to the students. The results

were declared by Dr. Anjan Baral, National Coordinator and Prof. Kamalji Chopra proposed the vote of thanks. The program was coordinated by Prof. Mrs. Padmaja Joshi from PVG's COET, faculty at Printing Engineering Department.

The second round of the Print Olympiad was conducted with great enthusiasm on 8th September 2020. It was going to be tough round for the 24 shortlisted candidates as they had to appear to another online MCQ exam. However only top 5 students were going to be selected. The Chief guest for the program was Dr. Prafulla Pawar, Registrar, Savitribai Phule Pune University and Guest of Honor was Mr. Sanjay Patel, Director at Param Packaging. In his speech, Mr. Patel encouraged the contestants of the round 2 with his experience in the field of printing and packaging. Dr Prafulla Pawar gave important insights about how transition of the impression by mechanical to digital technology and this significant change should be considered by all the students. Dr Pawar expressed his happiness to note that PVG's COET is doing a great job in the lockdown by being a host of such technical and innovative competitions which are being utilized to bring out talent to the print industry. Dr. Pawar explored the fusion of print to other technologies such as digital printing, erasable printing and cloud-based printing. The Guest of Honor Mr. Sanjay ji Patel addressed the audience and guided the students about business wisdom which is necessary for them to carry as they will go out in the industry. Sanjayji was very positive about various facets of printing and said that packaging is one such which will last forever. And asked students to not to stop learning till the very end of life. The MCQ exam started soon after the Guest of Honor's speech to select the top 5 students which would compete to be the topper student of the west zone. Results were declared by Dr. Anjan Baral, the National Coordinator of Print Olympiad were declared. Following were the winners: Mr. Manish Talekar, Ms. Aishwarya Lute, Ms Aarti Desai, Mr. Hrishikesh Botre and Ms. Rajashri Ajabe were the top 5 scorers from West Zone. Three students were from PVG COET, Manish Talekar, Aishwarya Lute and Hrishikesh Botre all of them from the BE class. Ms. Aarti Desai is from SIES College of Engineering and Ms. Rajashri from New Arts and Science College, Ahmednagar. Prof. Kamal Chopra congratulated the students and were awarded a prize amount of Rs 5000. The program ended with vote of thanks by Prof. Kamal Chopra on behalf of AIFMP. The event was coordinated by Prof. Shrikala Kanade Madam of PVG COET, Department of Printing Engineering.

Grand Finale: Round 3

The third round of the print Olympiad was conducted on 27th September 2020. It was to select the top 1 student

from the top 5 students of round 2 of the Olympiad. The Top 1 student would be receiving a prize amount of Rs. 25000 and will become the top 1 student in the west zone. The event was hosted and moderated by Prof. Mrs. Madhura Mahajan, HOD of Printing Department of PVG's COET. The Chief Guest for the Grand Finale were Padma Shri Vijay Kumar Chopra, CEO and Chief Editor of Punjab Kesari and the Guest of honor were Mr. Ramesh Kejriwal, Chairman, Parksons Packaging Ltd. and Mr. Dev Nair, Managing Director of Kohinoor Printers. Also, many esteemed personalities of the Printing industry attended the event. The event began with introduction and short speech of the guests of honor, the Honorable Chief guest was not able to attend due to personal reasons. In his speech for the students, Mr. Dev Nair said to have an omnipresence in all departments and try and collect as much experience from each of the departments in the press, an important guidance for the students especially when they will begin their journey in the industry. Mr. Ramesh Kejriwal, Chairman Parksons Packaging Ltd. asked students to focus on following 3 attributes: training, technology and speed. He advised the students to undertake training as required by the companies and specially adopt the skills, understand the technology used in the industry and while doing so adapting with speed is more important.

Regarding this round of the competition, the top 5 students from round 2 were given 50 topics which were to be studied and from these 50, random 5 topics were given to the students 15 minutes prior to their presentation. Then the students had to present their topic and answer questions asked by the panel of 5 judges- 2 international Mr. Delan Francis D'Silva, President of Sri Lanka Association of Printers, Sri Lanka and Mr. Ahmad Mughira Nurhani Mugh, President, Indonesia Print Media Association, Indonesia along with Dr. Kanai Chandra Paul, Professor and Head of Printing Department of Jadavpur University, Kolkata, Mr. Hemanta Kumar Mishra Director, IGNOU and Mr. Surendra Dhote, Director, Lithographing Co. Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata were the 3 national judges. Marks were given according to the presentation skills, question answer session performance and audience poll. After the presentation of 5 students all the judges gave their remarks and audience poll was conducted. Then after short speech by Mr. Kamal Chopra results were declared. Ms. Aarti Desai of SIES College, was the winner. Vote of thanks was presented by Mr. Parveen Aggarwal, President Offset Printers Association. Mr. Aggarwal, declared a final round of all the 4 toppers of the 4 regions will be conducted and the winner will be awarded a prize of Rs 50,000/-.



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UDYAM REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE																					
Our small hands to make you LARGE																					
TYPE OF ENTERPRISE	MICRO SERVICES																				
UDYAM REGISTRATION NUMBER	UDYAM-UP-0000972																				
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SOCIAL CATEGORY OF ENTREPRENEUR	General																				
NAME OF UNIT	Unit 1 All India Federation of Master Printers																				
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Village/Town	New Delhi	Block	40																		
Street/Venue/ Lane	Indira Place	City	New Delhi																		
State	DELHI	Pincode	110011, Pin 110011																		
Mobile	9910040000	Email	http://aifmpe.com																		
DATE OF INCORPORATION / REGISTRATION OF ENTERPRISE	01.04.1993																				
DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PRODUCTION/BUSINESS																					
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ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF MASTER PRINTERS

VIRTUAL 250TH GOVERNING COUNCIL and 67TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

October 29-31, 2020

Hosted by:
AIFMP

50% discount on airfare for senior citizens flying on domestic routes

Air India has launched a scheme for senior citizens where they can book tickets at a 50 percent concession on the base fare. This scheme is only applicable to domestic flights and only fliers above the age of 60 are eligible. According to the official website, there are particular criteria only matching which people would be allowed to avail of the offer. The tickets should be booked for "a Senior citizen of Indian Nationality, permanently residing in India and should have attained the age of 60 years on the date of commencement of journey".

Shrink sleeves: inks and surface treatments

By TONY WHITE



Shrink sleeve technology, which was first introduced to the label market in Japan in the mid-1960s, has been gradually taking market share in several label-associated markets. Although the technology has been around for some time, it wasn't until the beginning of the 1980s that its presence really began to be felt in Europe and North America as well as Asia.

In the fight for attention on packed supermarket shelves, shrink sleeves offer 360 degree coverage of graphics on a product container, allowing more display area for the brand owner to get its message across to the potential consumer. Because the design is printed on the inside of the label it is much more resistant to scuffing and damage. The sleeves can be printed using several different print technologies including digital. Shrink sleeves are used in a wide range of product applications including food and beverages, pharmaceutical, household products and many more label markets.

Inks for shrink sleeve applications

According to Mark Hill, senior VP of R&D for INX International Ink, a big hurdle to be overcome in formulating inks for shrink sleeves is maintaining ink adhesion and flexibility after the shrinking process. 'The ink becomes compressed and can become rigid when it shrinks, which means that ink cracking is a major issue,' he says. 'This is compounded when using thicker ink films, so each printing process presents its own challenges because the ink film thickness is unique for each process. A major issue for shrink sleeves is in the area of product resistance. Bottles are generally filled and labeled simultaneously so

the packaged product can sometimes become trapped in between the label and the bottle. The ink needs the ability to resist bleeding when packaging household cleaners such as glass, solid surface, or bathroom cleaners.'

COF (coefficient of friction) control is another major challenge for shrink sleeves. 'When a label has 100 percent ink coverage, there is little concern for COF control because the ink surface is uniform throughout the body of the label,' continues Hill.

'But when, for example, ink coverage is 50 percent, COF can be an issue. The printed areas of a label can have a much lower COF than the unprinted areas. The difference can cause application issues on the packaging machines, so it is typical to apply a clear coating over 100 percent of the label area to make the COF consistent across the entire label.

'Brand owners typically want the clear area to look clear so the coating formulation must not contribute haze to the clear areas of the label. In digital printing, the ink films become even thicker, so ink flexibility and adhesion become even more of a challenge to be overcome.'

The film surface needs to have a certain level of treatment in order to ensure that the ink adheres and prints properly on the substrate. The level of treatment required depends on the type of ink being printed. 'Generally, water-based inks need a higher level of treatment than solvent inks due to the inherent surface tension of the ink itself,' says Hill. 'Since solvent has a lower dyne level than water, solvent inks tend to have better success in adhering and wetting out on lower dyne substrates. PET shrink films are not a film we see typically needing to be treated inline because they tend to hold their treatment level much better than olefin films.'

Inks can be formulated to have some recyclable attributes to the packaging it is printed on. 'We formulate inks to enable recycling,' says Hill. 'An ink may wash off a plastic or film substrate so that the plastic can be recovered for reuse. There are always challenges when making an ink "de-inkable". Sometimes we need to formulate inks to have certain properties such as resistance to water, chemicals or

oil. Some of these formulated resistant properties make it difficult to remove the ink from the substrate. Ink formulators sometimes need to balance the properties of ink resistance – and consider how the ink will react in a typical recycling process – in order not to inhibit the package being printed from being recycled effectively.’

Recently INX International Ink released Genesis GS washable label inks, which in March 2020 were recognized by the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) as meeting or exceeding the group’s strict testing protocol for washable and recyclable PET shrink sleeve applications. It maintains properties in accordance with APR guidelines required for shrink sleeve applications and exhibits bleed resistance in caustic bath solutions. Since the ink is separated from the substrate and removed from the label material during the bath, a complete recyclable package is a viable option.

According to Matt King, technical service manager, Pulse Roll Label Products, ink formulation plays an important role in the printing of shrink sleeve labels and producing a suitable UV flexo ink for this specific application can present certain technical challenges.

‘There are several main reasons why the ink formulation is so important,’ he says. ‘Firstly, it is critical that inks have the suitable shrink characteristics to ensure there is no distortion or cracking and that the inks maintain their flexibility after being shrunk. UV flexo inks must cure at high speed to avoid set-off or blocking and they must also retain adhesion to the thin filmic substrates used for shrink sleeves such as GPET, PVC, OPS and PLA.

‘With different surface properties, it is a technical challenge to formulate inks that can achieve optimal press and print performance on multiple film substrates. Our PureTone UV flexo ink system, with its high color strength, tailored adhesion properties and shrink characteristics, is formulated to print on a variety of shrink films as well as coated papers, films and labelstock. Due to the diverse nature of shrink films, printers are always recommended to test thoroughly prior to commercial production. But having one ink system that can print traditional self-adhesive, wrap around labels and shrink sleeve labels is a definite plus for the narrow web printer who also has shrink sleeve capabilities.’

High color strength is necessary to print high quality, bold and vivid designs that these days are often seen on shrink sleeve wrapped bottles and cans, King maintains. ‘Surface slip is a significant characteristic that needs careful consideration when formulating inks and varnishes for

shrink sleeve applications. The coefficient of friction (COF) has to be controlled to get the right balance. For best performance on high-speed bottling lines, a low COF (high slip) is required to enable sleeve labels to be seamed and then applied and shrunk at speed. This high slip characteristic is especially important for ink printed using the final station, which is usually an opaque white ink. White inks play a key role in the printing of shrink sleeves and, as well as COF, high resistance properties play a part in ensuring that the film does not scuff or scratch easily. Much like other inks, opaque whites must also have good adhesion and be able to withstand the shrinking process. Our PureWhite opaque white inks, both first down white and shrink sleeve white with low COF for high slip, were formulated to achieve the high opacity and density that was traditionally only achieved through screen printing.’

A converter’s viewpoint

Berkshire Labels is a well-known UK-based label and shrink sleeve converter. The latest conventional press to be installed is a Mark Andy P9E which was chosen initially for its ability to grow Berkshire’s shrink sleeve business. Currently the volume of paper and film-based substrates used by the company is roughly equal, with film – including shrink sleeves and roll-fed wraparound – growing faster. Although well equipped with digital print and converting technology, Berkshire Labels estimates that flexo production still accounts for about 60 percent of its output.

Berkshire Labels is undertaking an expansion program, the plan being to build the company up to a GBP 20m operation by separating the digital print and finishing operations, and housing the growing shrink sleeve label operation in a separate building.

The success and reputation of Berkshire Labels has been achieved by working closely with brand owners and design agencies, which has particularly driven new business with start-ups and ‘challenger’ brands in the soft drinks, toiletries, craft brewery and spirits segment. ‘Beer, wine and spirits has become a big area of growth for us, and particularly for shrink sleeves printed either flexo or digital with high end embellishments,’ says MD Paul Roscoe. ‘For customers who are more used to buying shrink sleeves from bigger converters we offer shorter lead times. Frequently their expectation is a 3-4 weeks lead time, but we are often capable of delivering the job in only 4-5 days after receipt of artwork.’

Berkshire’s increasing proficiency in shrink sleeve labels was recently confirmed by winning an award in the 2019 AWA International Sleeve Label Awards competition.

BRINGING COLOUR BACK! FESPA LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR MARCH 2021 EXPO First live event in 2021 aims to reconnect business communities and stimulate recovery



CEO Neil Felton says: “By the time we open the doors on FESPA next spring, many businesses will have been in a state of suspended animation for more than 12 months, closed off to real-world connections and experiences. But it’s our human instinct to meet, network, discuss and discover. Talking to print businesses, there’s a definite appetite among decision-makers to get out, come up close to new products and unearth fresh ideas. They want to be re-energised and turn their focus to the future.”

He continues: “At the same time, our exhibitors want the proven platform of FESPA to showcase a

FESPA has launched the promotional campaign for its March 2021 event, scheduled to take place at the RAI exhibition centre in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, from 9 to 12 March 2021.

With its message of cautious optimism – ‘Bringing Colour Back’ – FESPA is setting out to deliver a safe, focused event that allows the speciality printing community to reconnect face-to-face after a year of unprecedented disruption, and provides a springboard for the sector’s sustained recovery.

The event website is now live at www.fespaglobalprintexpo.com, offering initial information for exhibitors and visitors. The site includes venue details and floor plans, as well as evolving guidance around the comprehensive health and safety measures being implemented in response to COVID-19. Visitors can also now register their interest and access information about entrance fees and promotional codes for discounted entry.

For exhibitors, the site features a new online ‘showroom’ where they can publish product information and technical content to support their participation, as well as managing enquiries from prospective buyers.

The March 2021 event will comprise FESPA Global Print Expo for screen, digital wide-format and textile printing, alongside European Sign Expo for non-printed signage. Visitors can also enjoy the popular *Printeriors* and *World Wrap Masters* features, to be inspired by the latest materials and applications in interior décor and vehicle wrapping.

year’s worth of innovations and re-engage effectively with their customers and prospects, in ways that simply can’t be replicated online. We really can’t wait to play our part in bringing colour, energy and positivity back into our community, and to help everyone to move forward again.”

The choice of Amsterdam to host FESPA 2021 enables visitors from across Europe to travel easily to the event, thanks to the excellent road, rail and air connections to the Dutch city.

The March 2021 event will be the first live FESPA event to take place after all 2020 events were moved to 2021 due to the dynamic development of the COVID-19 pandemic. FESPA Mexico, Brasil, Africa and Eurasia have all moved to new dates in 2021.



Fujifilm hybrid instant camera "instax mini LiPlay" packaging wins Gold at the "Pentawards 2020"

FUJIFILM Corporation is pleased to announce that the packaging design for the hybrid instant camera "instax mini LiPlay" has won the Gold Award in the internationally-prestigious package design competition "Pentawards 2020". The company has taken out the Gold Award for the second year running following 2019.

The Pentawards, established in 2007, is an internationally-prestigious award that specifically targets package designs. Each year, an international jury panel consisting of 30 people including prominent designers and experienced design directors examine entries of excellent package designs, submitted from around the world, based on judging criteria including design quality, brand expression, creativity and innovation. This year, 56 entries won the Gold Award out of over 2000 entries submitted from more than 60 countries.

The "instax mini LiPlay" is the hybrid instant camera that features the "Sound" function. The function converts voice data into a QR code to be printed out together with a picture taken with the camera. The function has taken instax's unique value - capturing, printing, and sharing a precious moment - to a new level. The instax mini LiPlay camera is designed to be simple yet elegant while also sporting on-trend looks. The essence of the camera design has been faithfully reflected to its packaging. The award was granted in recognition of the fact that the packaging carries stylized shapes representing the camera design and is applied with an embossed finish, making it stand out in store displays and intuitively conveying the camera's stylish design features.

In the development of a variety of products and services, Fujifilm pursues functionality and performance while also



The hybrid instant camera "instax mini LiPlay"



*Pentawards 2020 Gold Award winner
Packaging of the hybrid instant camera
"instax mini LiPlay"*

striving to achieve a design that takes maximum advantage of functional excellence. The company aims to create new value with designs that not only provide external aesthetics but also facilitates ease of use and portability.

Fujifilm will continue to work on developing excellent products and designs, buoyed by the fact that its product has been chosen out of countless entries from around the world to win the Gold Award in Pentawards 2020.

TechNova: Duplo DBM-150 Bookletmaker

DBM-150 is the world's smallest fully automatic bookletmaker speeds up to 2400 booklets per hour.

The DBM-150 is a highly versatile booklet maker capable of standalone/hand-fed operation or connection to a choice of friction or suction collators and Duplo's DSF-2200 digital printed sheet feeder.

The operating speed is up to 2,400 booklets per hour and most of the setup is automatic making. This is a perfect machine for shortrun booklet production.

Featuring the Isaberg Rapid stapler and staple cartridge, the DBM-150 Bookletmaker produces a high quality, flat staple every time. Each cartridge holds 5,000 staples and wear parts are replaced each time the cartridge is changed out, providing a high level of reliability. The DBM-150 Bookletmaker can be operated via the control panel where up to 16 jobs can be saved in memory or via a PC using the optional PC Controller software.

High level of customer interest at Innovation Week – Heidelberg offers a positive assessment

- Specialist contacts on a similar scale to an international trade show
- Participants praise combination of format and content
- Digital customer discussions promote investment activity in challenging times
- Content and videos still available at: Registration

Several thousand registrations from more than 100 countries, several hundred one-to-one discussions arranged with decision-makers, and around 100,000 hits on videos – that is the upshot of the five-day Innovation Week held by Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg). This online event, unprecedented in the industry, just finished. Taking “Unfold your potential” as its slogan, it focused on transferring knowledge relating to the urgent issues in the sector. With product presentations on its latest highlights, innovation talks, and personal discussions via video chat, Heidelberg provided a comprehensive overview of its offerings in the commercial, label, and packaging segments.

“The feedback we have received so far from participants and our partners has been truly overwhelming,” says Ludwig Allgoewer, Head of Global Sales and Marketing at Heidelberg. “The participants praised the format and the content presented.” The combination of short, professionally produced videos and innovation talks with the option of follow-up live chats in which the content presented could be discussed in more detail with around 300 Heidelberg experts from around the world went down well with the participants. “As a result, Heidelberg was able to register specialist customer contacts on a similar scale to an international trade show,” Allgoewer continued. “We are confident that the numerous customer discussions will also generate business contracts in the near future.”

End-to-end production in the spotlight

At the heart of all the presentations was the optimization of the entire process in offset and digital printing, all the way through to end-to-end production. This is based on the enhanced Push to Stop technology with all its facets, including automatic optimization of job sequences and navigated printing, accompanied by user-friendliness for operators thanks to easy-to-understand user interfaces, all of which – combined with “integrated intelligence” – enables highly productive operations with fewer staff and skilled personnel. Heidelberg also provided supplementary

information about offerings in the fields of Prinect workflow, consumables, and contract business. This did not focus on presenting individual product functions, but rather on responding to the most urgent customer requirements in the respective market segments.

“The priority is no longer simply achieving the highest possible printing speed – instead we aim to make the entire process as efficient as possible. Boosting productivity offers the greatest earnings capacity for industrial print shops. Digitization is key to this – and that is precisely what we demonstrated at Innovation Week,” says Heidelberg CEO Rainer Hundsdörfer. “The response to our Innovation Week underlines how it is possible to use digital formats to successfully contact customers and get them excited about innovations, even in the middle of a global pandemic.”

All the content and videos from Innovation Week, much of it for download, continues to be available for all registered customers and other interested parties. Registration is also possible after the event.

Heidelberg launches customer campaign – expert knowledge at the push of a button during “Innovation Week”

Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg) is launching a global customer campaign this fall. Worth knowing, digital, personal – with the “Innovation Week” from October 19 to 23, 2020, the company is holding a digital event with product presentations of its current highlights, innovation talks, and one-on-one conversations via video chat. Under the motto “Unfold your potential”, Heidelberg will showcase the potential offered by the digitization of processes for the commercial, label, and packaging printing segments. The aim is to increase the productivity and competitiveness of print shops. The company will present answers to the challenges in the print media industry and how to make the industry fit for the future: with innovative technologies, new business models, and end-to-end solutions to boost performance.

Heidelberg wants to inform its customers of the latest developments quickly, flexibly, and continuously, and to provide support for investment decisions also in times of Covid-19 through digital formats with presentations on products and innovations.

Toyo Ink Europe Specialty Chemicals Develops Near-Infrared Sortable Black Masterbatch
New technology enables the sorting of black plastic packaging for recycling



September 22, 2020, Villers Saint Paul, France— Toyo Ink Europe Specialty Chemicals S.A.S. (TIESC), a member of the Toyo Ink Group, has developed a whole new range of Lioplax® black plastic masterbatch for near-infrared (NIR) sorting and subsequent material recovery. The new packaging masterbatch supports the recyclability of black plastic waste that is currently destined for landfill, thus helping our customers in closing the loop on the circular economy.

Presently, plastic waste sorting is based on automatic optical sorting methods with the majority of sorting equipment relying on the reflectance of NIR wavelengths. Standard black masterbatches are typically produced with carbon black pigments. Since carbon black absorbs infrared light, identification by optical sensors is impossible. This results in undetected black or dark-coloured packaging waste being sent to landfill or incineration. Addressing the recycling issue, TIESC developed a new alternative to standard carbon black masterbatch.

“Toyo Ink Europe Specialty Chemicals has successfully brought to market a sustainable alternative enabling your packaging to integrate the recycling loop,” commented Dr.

Xavier André, Technical & Research Manager of Toyo Ink Europe Specialty Chemicals. “Packaging using a new Lioplax® black masterbatch can be detected by NIR sensors during the sorting stage at material recovery centres. This allows dark-colour packaging to be sorted and integrated back into the value chain as a reusable raw material through recycling. Our NIR black colorants have been certified according to the Cotrep recyclability test protocol and have received positive results at both Pellenc and Tomra testing centers.”

The Lioplax® series of NIR-sorting black masterbatches are specially formulated for use in PP trays, PET preforms, films, bottles and other packaging applications. Different grades are available in varying black color shades, grades of resins (polyolefin, PET) and processing compatibility such as injection, extrusion and blow moulding. The advantage for brand owners is that they can keep their black packaging market product codes whilst becoming more sustainable.

PASSED AWAY

Sachin Shardul, ex-technical editor at PrintWeek, passed away due to Covid-related health complications.



All India Printing Inks Manufacturer's Association

Office Bearers for the year 2020-21



D N Patil
President



Dr R D Gandhi
Hon Gen Secretary



Abhay Shah
Treasurer



R Sridharan
Vice President

U.S. printer James Litho once again invests in digital and workflow technology from Heidelberg

- **Workflow integration with Prinect a success factor**
- **Subscription agreement for Prinect ensures up-to-date software and takes digitization to the next level**

In 2014, the small commercial printing business James Litho, based in Ontario in the U.S. state of California, became one of the early users of digital printing technology from Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg). Six successful years later, and with a capacity of 300,000 to 400,000 digital print sheets per month, the company recently installed a third digital press from Heidelberg – a Versafire EP – to replace an older Heidelberg system and complement the current Versafire CP.

Prinect workflow integration key to success

James Litho has a broad customer base on the Southern Californian market – from retailers and supermarkets to local manufacturers, municipalities, and universities. Although this has helped keep business steady during the COVID-19 pandemic, it also creates a dynamic range of customer demands. Supporting a wide selection of printing materials, the Versafire EP from Heidelberg offers the flexibility James Litho requires to cater to customers' individual needs. "We have not come across any job that the Versafire is not able to run," says Litho President Jeff James.

While the diverse range of substrates and high speeds of up to 135 A4 pages per minute played a key role in the decision to purchase a Versafire EP, James cites the two main factors behind the company's investment in Heidelberg digital presses as cost-efficient operation and Prinect workflow integration with the company's current Speedmaster SM 74 offset press.

A long-time Prinect user, James Litho recently upgraded its workflow to the subscription-based Prinect Production Manager, which gives the company access to the entire Prinect product portfolio while also ensuring up-to-date software at all times. The Versafire EP and Versafire CP from Heidelberg are both fully integrated into the Prinect workflow and are controlled via the Prinect Digital Frontend (DFE). Utilizing Heidelberg color management and renderers – both tried-and-tested solutions in offset



printing – the Prinect DFE enables print production to be automated and standardized for excellent efficiency.

"From imposition to color management, it's great having the Prinect integration between our offset and digital platforms. It's so efficient, in fact, that we don't have any dedicated digital press operators. Because of the common workflow platform, our prepress technicians prepare our digital jobs from their prepress workstations and send the jobs to print. With our high-capacity delivery, they just press a button and let the Versafire presses run," explains James.

James Litho continues digitization process

In addition to Versafire and Speedmaster systems and the Prinect workflow, James Litho also operates Stahlfolder and POLAR cutters and has recently signed a contract for Prinect Business Manager. This reflects the company's strategy of systematically digitizing its processes.

"I think it's an industry-wide issue that we are going to lose many technically skilled operators in printing in the very near future. Heidelberg has been thinking about this for years and is really the only company that's developed all of its products with user-friendliness and automation in mind. From press, to postpress, to prepress – everything from estimating to job tickets – it's just a complete system," emphasizes James.

As James Litho looks to expand its offset business to include the 70 × 100 format in the near future, its goal is to have complete automation and digitization in all areas. "We know that with Heidelberg technology, having automated systems is what's going to keep us successful and viable moving forward," concludes James.

Indian Companies Reported Over 25% Jump In Cyber Threats: Survey

The good news is that as businesses prepare for this hybrid workplace, cybersecurity now tops corporate priorities, with 84% of organizations in India saying that cybersecurity is now a top priority for them.

Organizations in India are seeing a significant increase in the cybersecurity challenges they face amid the shift to mass remote working, a new study by Cisco shows. According to the study, 73% of organizations in the country have experienced a 25% or more jump in either cyber threats or alerts since the start of COVID-19.

Cisco's Future of Secure Remote Work Report revealed many Indian organizations were unprepared to make the accelerated transition to a remote workforce at the outset of COVID-19. About two-thirds (65%) of organizations adopted cybersecurity measures during COVID-19 to support remote working.

The study is based on a survey of over 3,000 IT decision-makers globally, including over 1,900 respondents across 13 Asia Pacific markets, including India. It highlights the cybersecurity challenges companies faced as they shifted the majority of their employees to a remote working arrangement in a really short period of time.

With users connecting from outside the corporate walls, secure access – defined as the ability to verify identity and establish trust no matter how, where, or when users log in, is the top cybersecurity challenge faced by the largest proportion of Indian organizations (68%) when supporting remote workers. Other concerns raised by organizations include data privacy (66%) and protection against malware (62%).

"With organisations forced to shift to a new way of working almost overnight, the newly distributed workforce became a focal point for malicious actors. As a result, the pandemic has amplified the criticality of cybersecurity and brought new complexities to the fore. Now, as remote work continues to garner traction, organisations are turning their attention to building a robust cybersecurity foundation, with cloud security emerging as the top investment for 31% of companies in reinventing their workplaces post COVID-19," said Vishak Raman, Director, Security Business, Cisco India & SAARC.

Endpoints are a growing challenge for organizations to protect, as users connect from their home Wi-Fi or use their personal devices to connect to corporate applications. About two in three respondents stated that

office laptops/desktops (66%) and personal devices (58%) posed a challenge to protect in a remote environment, followed by cloud applications at 42%.

An opportunity to transform for the future

One trend that emerged in recent months is that a hybrid workplace – where employees move between working remotely and in the office – is the future. The findings of this study further underlined that. Over half (53%) of the organizations in India said they expect more than half of their workforce to continue working remotely post-pandemic. This compares to an average of just 28% of organizations with more than half of their workforce working remotely before the pandemic.

The good news is that as businesses prepare for this hybrid workplace, cybersecurity now tops corporate priorities, with 84% of organizations in India saying that cybersecurity is now a top priority for them. What is even better is that they are translating this into concrete action. The study highlights that 77% of organizations in the region plan to increase their future investment in cybersecurity due to COVID-19.

There are still challenges, though, that need to be addressed. While almost all (97%) organizations have made changes to their cybersecurity policies to support remote working, further simplicity and education are needed. According to the study, 60% of Indian organizations said that having too many tools/solutions to manage was a challenge faced in reinforcing cybersecurity protocols for remote working, followed by a lack of employee education and awareness (55%).

"Deploying multiple cybersecurity tools reinforces a fragmented and complex security environment that is prone to risks arising from human error. This calls for the implementation of a comprehensive and integrated security approach that can provide a seamless experience for users as well as IT teams. Further, greater focus must be laid on educating and building employee awareness as these endpoints will become the first line of defence for the organisation of the future," Vishak added.



Frankfurt Book Fair 2020's online edition sends a strong signal of hope to authors and activists



In a year in which book fairs have been cancelled, literary festivals and events have been called off, and authors and artists have therefore lost a significant part of their income, Frankfurter Buchmesse used its digital edition to send a signal. The fair's digital services and events were available free of charge to all users, and most of them will continue to be accessible after the fair.

Overcoming borders, bringing people together, celebrating authors and books despite the increasing number of at-risk regions and travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic — that was the goal reached by the 72nd Frankfurter Buchmesse — Special Edition, from 12 to 18 October 2020. Writers, agents,

With Covid-19 still raging, and with flight bans and social distancing norms, the biggest publishing trade show in the world came to the internet, in a Special Edition, which saw 2,00,000 users worldwide log in.

publishers and activists from around the world helped to shape the book fair's programme and participated in the fair's digital formats.

IIP announces Indiarstar 2020 Award winners

The Indian Institute of Packaging established the Indiarstar Awards in 1972 to promote and encourage excellence in packaging design, innovation and sustainability once every two years. Over the years, the Award Programme has become a premier event for India's packaging fraternity.

The economic impact of Covid-19 in India has been disruptive. In spite of the challenging atmosphere, however, Indiarstar Awards received an overwhelming response with innovative design and development in packaging from various sectors.

Out of 305 entries, the juries have picked the best of the best for Award. Nominations were received in different categories such as consumer package, eco-friendly package, food package, pharmaceutical package, Packaging Material and Adjunct, Transport Package and Packages designed by Students.

The Jury consisting of eminent persons from institutions, government bodies, and industry experts expressed their satisfaction on the manner in which the entries were selected.



Total 69 companies were named as winners of the Indiarstar 2020 Awards, the national awards for excellence in packaging, design and development.

Canon India launches mobile services



Canon India has announced the launch of Canon Care and Mobile CMP mobile applications along with the introduction of WhatsApp services.

Kazutada Kobayashi, president and CEO of Canon India, said, "At Canon India, service is an integral part of our

everyday operations and the backbone of our legacy in the country. Our service team, called Market Engineering ensures that we maintain constant communication with our customers from the point of purchase to throughout their journey with us. During these unprecedented times, brands must reinvent their service mechanism and utilise the digital platforms efficiently."

According to Canon, the new applications aim to deliver end-to-end customer support. While the WhatsApp services have been introduced to assist customers with their queries in English, Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam and Bengali languages. "Putting our customers first, we are delighted to introduce the new first-ever service-centric mobile applications along with the WhatsApp services, which understand and manage their diverse requirements. Through our impeccable service outreach backed by the latest innovations across all product segments, we will continue to strengthen our commitment towards customer delight," he added.

Paper Bag Day 2020

Millions of people have switched to paper bags which are reusable as well as recyclable. Not only are they biodegradable, they can withstand a lot of pressure. They are also easy to handle.

Paper bags are an environment-friendly alternative to the harmful plastic bags and "Paper Bag Day" is celebrated worldwide on July 12. The day aims to spread awareness about using paper bags instead of plastic to help reduce plastic waste that take thousands of years to decompose.

Paper bags are also more preferred by many who are conscious about the environment and appreciate brands that opt for paper instead of plastic. The fact that a large number of people are eco-friendly; biodegradable paper bags are much appreciated by customers.

Here are some interesting facts about paper bags:

- It takes less energy to manufacture paper bags as compared to plastic bags.
- A paper bag can hold around 10-14 items and are quite sturdy.
- Paper bags are almost 100% recyclable and can decompose within just a month.
- Paper bags can be reused at home and can even be used to make compost.
- Paper bags are safer for pets, other animals.



Gol working with States to improve Ease of Doing Business: Piyush Goyal



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal has said that the government is working with states & local bodies to deregulate and make it easier to start a business.

Addressing the students of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade through virtual interaction on Thursday, Goyal said, "India's own ease of doing business ranking has improved significantly in the five years."

Talking about India's mammoth potential, Goyal said that the real unique selling point of India should be around High Quality, Good Service and Good Pricing.

"India should get recognised the world over for its quality & competitiveness. Quality will have to be integral for the planning of our future. We believe in Transparent pricing, Transparent trade, Free Market, No price controls and No hidden subsidies", he added.

Explaining the concept of AatmaNirbharBharat, the Minister said that it is not about closing India's doors to international trade & engagement.

"In fact, it is about opening it wider looking for greater engagement in global trade. Now India has to engage with global economies from a position of strength with highly cost-competitive products of high quality", he said

On India being a huge and much-sought after market, the Minister said, "It's a market that businesses around the world want to engage with. The businesses will not only get a large Indian market but can also leverage this market to get economies of scale. Trading relations between the two countries rest on the pedestal of high reciprocity & equilibrium. More & more countries are moving towards balanced trade. India also will have to engage with other countries to expand our trading relationships but on the strength of our own competitiveness."

Goyal also said that if other countries want access to the market of 130 crore Indians then they will have to give us

equal access to their market. India is not going to be a patient receiver of unfair trade practices.

Stating that India had not been a gainer from the past FTA's, the Minister said that historical wrong will have to be corrected by our generation. Lauding the strong and decisive leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Goyal said that RCEP deal was not signed as it was not properly addressing India's concern. He said that India, Japan and Australia, all three true democracies, trusted partners and believers in rule-based trading, have recently agreed to have a supply chain initiative.

Quoting His Holiness Dalai Lama who said, "Open your arms to change but don't let go of your values", he said that this is the spirit in which India wishes to engage with the rest of the world. Goyal said that India wants to do FTAs with developed countries like the US, the UK and EU. He said that India is ready to sign a limited trade deal with the US at the earliest. He assured that the deal will entail substantive gains for the country. All the forthcoming trade deals will be undertaken after discussions with all the stakeholders, and the interests of dairy, agriculture, MSMEs and indigenous manufacturers will be properly safeguarded, he said.

AV Chaturvedi takes over as Director General of EPCES



New Delhi, Aug 13 (KNN) Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi, an IAS officer (Retd) and a former Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) takes over as Director General Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES) from August 2020, said Bhuvnesh Seth, Vice Chairman, EPCES.

EPCES, is a Council set up by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

Lok Sabha passes three labour codes on industrial relations, occupational safety and social security



New Delhi, Sept 23 (KNN) The Lok Sabha has passed the three labour codes — on industrial relations; occupational safety, health and working conditions; and social security after a debate in the Lok Sabha, and in the absence of the Opposition, who staged a walkout.

Minister of State (I/C) for Labour & Employment, Santosh Gangwar, while responding to the debate in the Lok Sabha, said that the three Bills introduced in the House for historic labour reforms in the country, will prove to be a Game Changer in the labour welfare reforms covering more than 50 crores organized and unorganized workers in the country.

"This also includes a gig, platform and also opens up the doors for social security to those in the self-employment sector," he added.

The government also expanded the definition of "inter-state migrant worker" to ensure that no one gets left out of the social security net in future.

"We have extended the definition of migrant workers, so that migrant workers moving from one state to another on their own and migrant workers who have been appointed by the employer from a different state can also be brought under the ambit of OSH code. At present, only migrant workers who had been brought through the contractor were benefiting from these provisions," the Minister added.

Gangwar also stressed that the changes and reforms in the labour laws have been conceptualized keeping in mind the changing scenario over the years and also making them futuristic so that the country marches on a faster growth trajectory. With these the peaceful and harmonious industrial relations will be promoted in the country which in turn will lead to growth of industry, employment, income, balanced regional development and will bring more disposable income in the hands of workers.

Gangwar further pointed out these path breaking reforms in the country will help our country to attract the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and also domestic investment from the entrepreneurs and will end 'inspector raj' in the country and will bring total transparency in the system.

"India will become a favourite investment destination in the world" he added.

Center grants additional borrowing permission to AP for faring better on "Ease of Doing Business"



New Delhi, Oct 3 (KNN) Ministry of Finance (MoF) has granted additional borrowing permission to Andhra Pradesh for successfully undertaking reforms in the Ease of Doing

Business.

Andhra Pradesh has become the 1st State in the country to successfully undertake "Ease of Doing Business" reforms. This has made state eligible to raise an additional amount of Rs. 2,525 crore through Open Market Borrowings.

Earlier Andhra Pradesh had also completed PDS reforms to enable One Nation One Ration Card System.

Ease of Doing Business is an important indicator of an investment friendly business climate in the country. Improvement in the ease of doing business will enable faster future growth of the state economy.

The State will implement computerized central random inspection system under the Acts as per list circulated by DPIIT wherein allocation of inspectors is done centrally, the same inspector is not assigned to the same unit in subsequent years, prior inspection notice is provided to the business owner, and inspection report is uploaded within 48 hours of inspection.

Courtesy: KNN India

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