



Green Alert



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Eco-Product

The focus of Environment Information System (ENVIS) is to disseminate environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and researchers across the world.

The CERC-ENVIS Resource Partner focuses on 'Environment Literacy - Eco-labelling and Eco-friendly Products' This bi-monthly e-bulletin features latest news, developments and innovations in the field.

Green Dot

The Green Dot is the financing symbol for the organisation of recovery, sorting and recycling of sales packaging. When you see the Green Dot on packaging it means that for such packaging, a financial contribution has been paid to a qualified national packaging recovery organisation. "The Green Dot" symbol is a worldwide protected trademark.

Today, producer responsibility organisations in 29 countries are using the Green Dot as financing symbol to finance the organisation of the collection, sorting and recovery of used (mainly household) packaging.

Green Dot is not in itself compliance or recycling symbol nor can it be used to indicate that the packaging material on which it is marked is either recycled, or made using recyclable content.

Source: <https://www.pro-e.org/the-green-dot-trademark>



Green Issue

Sustainable Packaging

Packaging is the material used for wrapping food, beverages, medications, cosmetic products, grocery items, goods etc. Containers and packaging material like plastics, wood, paper and paperboard, glass, steel, aluminium and other materials are used for shipping, storage, keeping it clean and protection of products.

According to Un-Plastic Collective (a voluntary multi-stakeholder), India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually. Of which 40 per cent of waste goes uncollected and 43 per cent is used for product packaging, most of which is single-use. (<https://bit.ly/2WckFV1>)

With the growing population, the consumption of product containers and packaging material is rising up drastically which further contributes to the problem of disposal of these materials.

According to EPA, US generated 82.2 million tons' containers and packaging waste in 2018 which is 28.1 percent of total waste generation. (EPA.gov). The discarded packaging material end up with recycled, composted, combustion with Energy Recovery or Landfilled.

Environmental impacts associated with the waste generation from packaging is a major concern and requires attention on the proper usage of packaging materials and moving towards "Green Packaging". However, the Green packaging could be the result of deforestation or poor forestry practices. In that case they pose a threat to the world's forests and indirectly in mitigating climate change. There are certification systems that help to secure a long-term source of paper and other forest products through sustainable management of forests. FSC can help businesses demonstrate their commitment to sustainability to their customers. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), are an international non-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible forestry. FSC® certifies forests all over the world to ensure they meet the highest environmental and social standards. The Government of India has instituted a scheme for labelling of environment friendly products to be known as Ecomark which is being administered by the Bureau of Indian Standards. It has 16 product categories, of which one is on Packaging materials/Package.

Source: <https://fsc.org/en/businesses/packaging>



Ecomark : India



FSC

Eco News

UKRI invests £8m in plastic packaging waste

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has announced ten university-led research projects that will receive £8m (~€8.8m) in funding as part of its Enabling Research competition in the Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging (SSPP) Challenge. The research awarded funding as part of the SSPP programme aims to find solutions to existing issues with plastic packaging, reduce plastic pollution and unlock barriers to create fundamental changes in the industry.

Innovative research projects, including increasing use of compostable plastic, utilising smart-technology to change the way food-to-go is packaged and creating new circular approaches to plastic waste management.

The SSPP Challenge aims to establish the UK as a leading innovator in smart and sustainable plastic packaging for consumer products, delivering cleaner growth across the supply chain, with a significant reduction in plastic waste entering the environment by 2025.

Source: <https://bit.ly/2Kz4KOe>



NGT directs CPCB to recover fine from Amazon, Flipkart for excessive plastic packaging

As per provisions 9(2) of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, "Primary responsibility for collection of used multi-layered plastic sachet or pouches or packaging is of producers, importers and brand owners who introduce the products in the market." The CPCB has told the NGT that e-commerce giants need to fulfil their extended producer responsibility under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and need to establish a system for collecting back the plastic waste generated due to the packaging of their products.

The National Green Tribunal has directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to conduct environmental audit and recover fine from Amazon and Flipkart for violation of environmental norms. The green panel observed that the statutory regulators were not taking coercive measures, including invoking of "polluter pays" principle for enforcing the statutory norms against the e-commerce firms.

Source: <https://bit.ly/2Wr0J0T>



Eco-Tips

Eat Healthy and Pack Environment friendly!
Do not throw away, it can be used for some other day: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!

Visit CERC-ENVIS website www.cercenvis.nic.in and <https://www.facebook.com/EcoProductsEcoLabeling> to know more about our activities.

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