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dpmai Newsletter

THE DYES & PIGMENTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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75th DPMAI Annual General Meeting & Awards function



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THE DYES & PIGMENTS
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
Newsletter

Published by
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Honorary Editor



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Prof. Vinod Kanetkar



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Mr. Sandeep Shah

Editorial

Dear Readers,

The conference organized by DPMAI at Tirupur on 11-12 September, 2025 was a grand success and well appreciated by a large member of delegates who attended the same. DPAMAI continues to take up various matters concerning the Colorants industry with the ministries concerned and receive positive responses which confirms its credibility.

The Govt. of India continued with its economic reforms in various sectors like Nuclear Power, Insurance, foreign direct investments (FDI) and many other areas. The Govt. also directs the states and releases funds to develop proper infrastructure and facilitate ease of doing business and setting up industries. All these positive steps have yielded excellent results. A number of big overseas corporations have come forward with huge investment proposals. The domestic industries also have announced substantial investment proposals. It is a matter of pride that our younger generation is getting into various business ventures like startups, particularly Artificial Intelligence and others.

Though we continue to face challenges due to prolonged political turmoil in many countries and also imposition of 50% tariffs by the US on our exports of many products which it threatens to increase further, India is striving to achieve its dream of becoming a developed country by 2047. As expected, the domestic consumption has witnessed a big jump subsequent to GST reduction and the trend is expected to continue on a bigger scale. However, our colorants industry continues to face recessionary trend mainly on account of high US tariffs on Textile exports from India. Our industry is optimistic about steady improvement in the near future with increase in exports to other countries and domestic demand. The ongoing talks on free trade agreements between India – UK and India – EU is expected to be concluded shortly, which will also give a substantial boost to our textile and apparel exports. Many well-known brands have started negotiations with Indian suppliers. The political situation in Bangladesh is also working in India's favour in this respect, as some of these big importers are considering to source from India. The Govt. is expected to announce further liberalization and simplification in various aspects concerning the business and common citizens in general in the forth coming annual budget.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Ram Ajekar
Honorary Editor

President's Page



At the outset, I wish all of you and your family a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The global economy continues to be tumultuous and in turmoil during the last few months, primarily due to the tariff war. Russia and Ukraine war, which has been raged over the last more than 3 years or so continues unabated without any cessation in the nearest future, despite talks between the countries at the aegis of USA. In the South Asian region, there is also war threats looming at large on the horizon among neighboring countries. The recent conflict in our neighbor Bangladesh has added fuel to the gloomy situation.

As far as our economy is concerned, India's merchandise exports increased by 19% to US$ 38.1 Billion during November 2025 as per the latest data released by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, GOI. Imports have also marginally declined to US$ 62.22 Billion. With surging of exports and decline in the imports, the trade deficit also narrowed to US$ 24 Billion.

Despite the additional tariff imposed by US on imports from India, it is heartening to note that shipments to US registered a hike of about 23% to US$ 7 Billion. As negotiations are going on with the US authorities for tariff reliefs, it is expected that the difficult phase regarding exports to US would be overcome sooner than later

As far as inflation is concerned, the retail inflation rose marginally to 0.71% in November 2025 compared to October 2025. Inflation on food prices has come down significantly after a very satisfactory monsoon season spread all over the country. Further, it is to be noted that the unemployment rate dropped to a new low of 4.7% in November 2025.

Reserve Bank of India reduced the Repo rate by 0.25% thereby releasing additional resources in the banking sector for lending. All these factors indicate that revival of economy is round the corner.

The 10th Edition of International Convention on Colorants -2025 was conducted by our Association on 6-7 March 2025 at The Club, Andheri (W), Mumbai. More than 200 delegates from the industry and academia attended the Convention. Mr. Deepankar Aron, Joint Secretary, DCPC, was the Chief Guest during the Inaugural Session on 6th March 2025. Dr Amol Kulkarni, Chief Scientist & Head, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune was the Keynote Speaker.
The 75th Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation function of our Association was held on Friday, the 19th September 2025 in Mumbai. Dr.Ashish Lele, Director, NCL, Pune was the Guest of Honour.

ChromaTexChem Expo was organized by DPMAI and Colour Publications Pvt.Ltd on 19-20 November 2025 at NSE Complex, Goregaon (East), Mumbai. More than 40 leading players of colorants industry had stalls in the expo. There were many footfalls to our Association's tastefully decorated stall, including a few foreign visitors.

From the industry front, I am happy to inform you that we offered our comments on FTAs with many countries in the recent past. In the Anti Dumping case regarding Resorcinol and Para Nitrotoluene (PNT), we are informed by our Solicitors that the cases were won by us. This signifies our justified stand in the matter. Our representations on various other issues are also forwarded for favourable resolution from time to time.

I also extend my sincere gratitude to DCPC and other officials for their support and co-operation extended to us in all our endeavours.

I once again extend my New Year Greetings to all of you and hope that the year ahead would be very much prosperous and productive one.

JANAK MEHTA
PRESIDENT

75th DPMAI Annual General Meeting & Awards function

The 75th Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation function of the Dyes & Pigments Manufacturers Association of India (DPMAI) was held on Friday, the 19th September 2025 at Hotel Kohinoor Continental, Andheri (East), Mumba.

Dr.Ashish Lele, Director, NCL, Pune was the Guest of Honour. More than 120 members from the Association, including their spouses, special invitees, Awardees, guests & other dignitaries and press attended the meeting.

BUSINESS SESSION



At the outset, President Mr. Janak Mehta welcomed the members. He was happy to state that quite a large number of members were present during the Session, despite inclement weather.

The proceedings were thereafter conducted as per the Agenda.

i) Adoption of Proceedings of the 74th AGM held on 27th September 2024

Proceedings of the 74th AGM held on 27th September 2024 were unanimously adopted as they were circulated earlier.

ii) Annual Report for the year 2024-2025

Dr.Shavak Bhumgara, Hon. Secretary presented the Annual Report for the year 2024-2025. He gave a summary round up of the salient activities and achievements of DPMAI during the year under review

As the Annual Report was earlier circulated among the members and there was no query received thereon from any member, the same was approved and adopted unanimously.

iii) Adoption of the Audited Statements of Account for the period 1-4-2024 to 31-3-2025 Mr.Dilip Lakhani, Hon.Treasurer presented the Audited Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2025 and Balance Sheet as on 31-3-2025. He also focused on certain highlights on the same for the information of the members. The house thereafter adopted the same unanimously.

iv) Ratification of Managing Committee decision to extend the tenure of the existing Managing Committee for the year 2024-2025 for one more year 2025-2026 as a very special case due to yearlong Platinum Jubilee Celebration.

President Mr.Janak Mehta explained the need for continuance of the existing Managing Committee without any change in the light of the 75th year celebration of our Association for its successful conduct of programs spread over the year for better control and management. After due discussion, the Managing Committee recommendation to continue the tenure of the existing Managing Committee for the year 2024-2025 for one more year i.e. 2025-2026 as a very special case was ratified unanimously.

v) Appointment of Statutory Auditors for the year 2025-2026 and to fix their remuneration

Mr.Dilip Lakhani stated that M/S. D.B. Ketkar & Co., Chartered Accountants have agreed to continue to be the statutory auditors of DPMAI for the year 2025-2026 for an annual fees of Rs 59,000/- , which includes GST, Audit fees, Income Tax and GST filing. Their appointment was accordingly approved.

In the lively Open House that followed, important and concurrent topics like tariff war initiated by US on imports from India and its effects on our exports, Anti Dumping Duty etc. were discussed at length. Mr.Anjani Prasad, Prof.(Dr.) Kanetkar and Mr.Madhu Maheshwari actively participated in the discussion.

OPEN SESSION

Dr.Shavak Bhumgara, Hon.Secretary anchored the proceedings.



Guest of Honour Dr.Ashish Lele and Mr.Dipak Patel, President, GDMA were felicitated with flower bouquets.

In his welcome address, President Mr.Janak Mehta, at the outset, welcomed the members for the 75th Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation function. He thanked Dr.Ashish Lele for having accepted our invitation to be the Guest of Honour for the function. He was happy to declare that the Association has since completed 75 years of its fruitful and successful existence. The Govt. and other agencies have recognized our Association as the apex body representing the colorant industry. Our biennial COC series jointly held with ICT and supported by DCPC, Govt. of India have proved as one the best in the world in dissemination of technology innovations.

While dwelling upon the activities of the Association, Mr.Mehta stated that at our instance, the QCO on Aniline, Acetic Acid and Methanol was withdrawn. Govt. Gazette Notification dated 28th August 2025 was also issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry extending the time limit for export obligation under advance licence scheme from the current 6 months to 18 months. He also stated that perhaps in the annals of the colorant industry, H.Acid, K.Acid and Vinyl Sulphone were excluded from the purview of QCO at our instance. He further cited about his meeting with Mr.Mansukh Mandaviya (the previous Minister for the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizer, prior to his change of ministry) along with Mr.Jitendra Patel, Imm.Past President, when the matter was discussed on urgent basis and resolved to our satisfaction.

Mr.Mehta informed the audience that at the instance of the Department, he was recently invited to attend a meeting of the stakeholders with Mr.Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India for a discussion on the exorbitant tariff of 50% imposed by the President, USA on Indian imports. Though it may not seriously and adversely affect our exports, he was hopeful that the matter would be resolved as a win-win situation, for which trade discussions are on.

Regarding rationalization of deep sea discharge, Mr.Mehta mentioned that our Association has made strong representation to CPCB and MOEF for setting up of realistic and pragmatic norms based on scientific studies carried out by eminent institutions. The matter has been referred to a Peer and Core Committee. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change also issued their letter No.Q-15017/9/20202-CPW dated 1st November 2024 regarding relaxation of deep sea discharge norms for our colorant industry.

On Foreign Trade Agreement (FTA) with various countries, Mr.Mehta stated that DPMAI submitted suggestions from time to time on change in HS Code at 2 or 4 digital levels and not 6 or 8 digit, 40% value addition to the product, continuance of the negative list for dye intermediates etc. to the concerned departments. FTAs with EU and China are likely to be finalized very soon, which would undoubtedly open up markets for our products. He thanked DCPC for seeking our inputs on various issues, which enhanced our goodwill and reputation to a great extent.

Regarding Anti-Dumping on various vital chemicals, Mr.Mehta stated that the Association is very much conscious to provide succor to members by appointing the expert solicitor, Mr.M.S. Pothal as and when required. He also touched upon the recent meeting with ADIF when it was decided to wind up the office at Shanghai, China due to restrictions imposed by the authorities there. Instead, it was decided to shift the office of ADIF to India, for which the procedure would be discussed and ascertained for registration, establishment and other related issues in consultation with our CAs. He also thanked ADIF for electing him as the Chairman for the first 5 years.

Mr.Mehta was very happy to announce about the very successful and meaningful conduct of Half Yearly Meeting in Morocco in May 2025. Trade prospects between the two countries were discussed at length so as to increase the volume in the coming days. He also thanked for the dinner hosted by the Ambassador of India, Rabat, Morocco for our team.

Mr.Mehta announced that 10th edition of COC was successfully organized on 6-7 March 2025 in Mumbai. It is a well-established venture by the industry and academia, which has opened up many new avenues for development of products. The poster session by the research students has benefited many participants and students themselves. The next edition of COC would be organised in the 1st half of 2027, wherein China and Taiwan delegates are likely to participate in large number. He appealed to the audience to participate in this mega event without fail, which would accelerate their business prospects.

As a part of the 75th Years celebration of our Association, Mr.Mehta was happy to state that a visit to NCL-CSIR, Pune was organized for our members in July 2025. He thanked Dr.Ashish Lele, Director and Dr.Amol Kulkarni, Chief Scientist & Head, NCL for this successful visit

The latest edition of ChromaTexChem Expo 2025 is to be held on 19-20 November 2025 at NSE Complex, Mumbai. Mr.Mehta mentioned that many delegates from Taiwan, China and from our own country are likely to visit this annual mega event. Stalls have also been acquired by many of them to showcase their wares for promotional activity. He solicited large participation from members as stall owners and visitors.

Mr.Mehta further informed the audience about the Conference very recently held in Tirupur, which was attended to by a large contingent of delegates from the local units and nearby areas. Excellent papers were submitted by many speakers including presentation on waterless process, which had caught the attention of the participants for less usage of the scare water resource.

In conclusion, Mr.Mehta appealed to the audience to participate in the coming events being organized to commemorate the 75 year of our Association. The inaugural function was organized in March 2025, which was attended to by many of our members. The Chief Guest Mr.Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India addressed the gathering with his inspirational and informative inputs. He was sanguine participation by our members in large numbers in the programs would be motivational and beneficial to all.

Guest of Honour thereafter presented the Annual Awards to the recipients from the industry for the years 2024-2025 for excellence in several fields like excellent performance in the exports of Dyestuffs, Dye Intermediates, Optical Whitening Agents, Merchant Exporter, developing new

products/processes, pollution control, Safety & Hazards

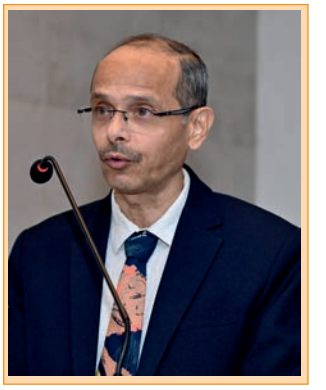
Control, Water and Energy conservation. Dr.Shavak Bhumgara, a member of the Awards Committee declared the award winners under each category. Citation was conferred on the "technical" awardees.



Cash prize of Rs.10,000 each with a trophy (sponsored by our member units) and certificate were presented to the students of ICT, Mumbai, who had topped their respective disciplines for the years 2023-2024.

Managing Committee member, Mr.Kammal Kapoor thereafter introduced the Guest of Honour Dr.Ashish Lele.

At the outset, Dr.Ashish Lele, in his address, thanked DPMAI for having invited him for the event as the Guest of Honour. While referring to the evolution of the colorants, Dr.Lele mentioned about the 1st synthetic dye having been invented by Sir William Henry Perkins in 1856 in England, which revolutionised the Dyes and Pigment sector. The early manufacturers and leading players were Hoechst in Germany, Bayer & Co in Barmen. Over the period, natural dyes started picking up with more restrictions by the regulatory authorities in environmental concerns. In India, the dyestuff industry started in 1950s.



Dr.Lele touched upon the establishment of National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) in Pune in 1950. Prof.K.Venkatraman and Prof.B.D. Tilak, considered to be renowned personalities in the dyestuff chemistry were also Directors in NCL and played a pioneering role in the development of dyestuff industry in our country, he added. Whereas dyestuffs were imported in the early stages, a large number of units (including MSMEs) started manufacturing the dyes indigenously in the subsequent period.

Regarding the size of the Indian dyetstuffs and pigments markets, Dr.Lele mentioned that there are about 1000 known dyes molecules. Whereas the global market share for the colorant industry is about US$43 Billion, India contributes about 12-13%. As per the last data, Dr.Lele stated that India exported colorants of about US$ 3.5 Billion, which is likely to reach about US$ 15 Billion by 2030. It is one of the topmost foreign exchange earners for the country.

Dr.Lele further stated that according to him, there are 5 key issues faced by the industry in India, they are Sustainability, Low value products, Input cost volatility, Regulatory compliance cost and Technology gaps. Govt regulations on effluent discharge were becoming very stringent. He also mentioned that there is an increasing pressure from foreign buyers to comply strictly with standards like REACH, OEKO-TEX, Blue-Sign enforcing the limit for export of chemicals as well as colorants.

While spelling out the strategies to overcome the hardships and expand the export markets, Dr.Lele suggested for investment in R&D and innovation. Some of the global leaders like Huntsman, BASF, Clariant, Archroma etc have deployed continuous manufacturing plants to improve

products and efficiency, consistency, meeting the demands of diverse customer base within the stringent environmental standards. He emphasized the paramount need for investment in R&D and process innovation, purity, environmental compliance and protection of their patents. The other strategies spelt out by Dr.Lele were scale and integration, stronger compliance and certification, Govt. support and collaboration among the industry, academia and research institutions like NCL, ICT, Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) etc.



In the present critical juncture, Dr.Lele exhorted the need for maintaining the sustainability, push for higher value products and improvement in innovation to sustain in the world market. To illustrate the role of the Govt, Dr.Lele cited the incidence of England's Dyestuffs Industry during the 2nd world war, when the Govt. supported the industry by extending large subsidies on imports from Germany to tide over the difficult phase very successfully.

In conclusion Dr.Lele reiterated the important role the institutions like NCL and ICT, who have played significantly for the development of the industry products with partnership. He was optimistic that the industry could transform the challenges into opportunities and maintain their supply chain undisturbed with high value sustainable colorants. He predicted that the colorant industry has a bright future in the coming days despite odds and contribute to making India Atmanirbhar. He also invited the industry participation to NCL for product innovation and development.

Mr.Kammal Kapoor thereafter proposed a vote of thanks.

The meeting was followed by cocktails and dinner as in the past.

Conference on Textiles: Business & Environment Sustainability - Challenges for the Colorants Industry

A two days conference on Textiles: Business &Environment Sustainability - Challenges for the Colorants Industry organized by The Dyes & Pigments Manufacturers Association of India (DPMAI - formerly DMAI) and supported by the Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, Govt. of India was held in Tirupur on 11-12 September 2025. It was for the 4th time that DPMAI had organized such a regional conference, the Ist being in Coimbatore in November 2013 and 2nd and 3rd being in Ludhiana in February 2016 & April 2022, which was well received and highly acclaimed. Padmashri Dr. A. Sakthivel, Hon. Chairman, Tirupur Exporters Association, was designated to be the Guest of Honour during the Inaugural Session. He, however, could not attend due to some other urgent commitments. More than 150 delegates from all over the country, mostly from Tirupur and surrounding areas, attended.



Lightening of Traditional Lamp

The function commenced in the afternoon with the traditional lighting of lamp by the Office Bearers & Managing Committee members of DPMAI to invoke Divine Blessings.

Before commencement of the proceedings, a video clip of the various activities of DPMAI released on the 75th year celebration was shown to the audience, which was greatly hailed by them.

Mr. Janak Mehta, Chairman, Organising Committee and President, DPMAI, in his brief welcome address, congratulated Mr. CP Radhakrishnan who hails from Tirupur for his election as the Vice President of India. He stated that upon invitation from the Govt. in Delhi for his swearing-in ceremony and visit, Dr. A. Sakthivel could not attend the inaugural function. He mentioned that it was for the 2nd time that DPMAI has organized a conference of such magnitude in Tirupur, Tamil Nadu after Coimbatore, which is considered to be a major textile hub having more than 1,000 varied fabrics and hosiery units in and around. In the present context of tariff war contemplated by USA, the conference has assumed greater significance and importance, which posed challenges in the global market. Whereas textiles industry accounts for US$150 billion, India stands 2nd in the world trade contributing about 4% presently. By 2030, India's share in the textile sector is estimated to increase to 8% by doubling within the next five years.


Janak Mehta

Mr. Mehta further stated that the size of the textile industry to USA exports is about 7% mostly from. Tirupur and Ludhiana and the rest from the other centres like Surat and Jodhpur. He felt that the industry has not been affected much as textiles contribute about 4% of its exports to USA. With the Govt. support, he was sanguine that exports could be sustained without much loss. Import of cotton is also made duty free. He further stated that during the recent meeting convened by the Commerce & Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal with the industry Associations and stakeholders, it was reported that many

incentives are in the pipeline, which would help the industry to minimise their effects despite the exorbitant tariff hikes for Indian imports. Mr. Mehta further stated that FTAs with many countries are already executed, including India-EU, which is on the anvil. These measures should open up sizable markets for the industry. It should therefore be considered as an opportunity in the present challenging circumstances to grow despite hardships.

He added that the fortunes of colorant industry are closely linked to textiles, and textile processing is a vital link in the entire supply and value chain. It is an area of maximum value addition, but has complexities of technology and faces challenges in terms of environmental concerns. The textile industry also forms the most important and significant sector in our country after agriculture. The organizers thought it fit to conduct the conference in Tirupur, as it would bridge connectivity for the manufacturers of colorants and the end-users, creating a unique platform to interact, share and explore new horizons for the development of business after having debated about the challenges and solutions for mutual benefits. He was happy to note that Tirupur has played a significant role in combating the ill effects of pollution greatly

While citing the role of colorant industry, Mr. Mehta stated that the size of the Indian colorant industry is about 17% of total size of global colorant industry, whereas India's overall share in the global trade is about 1-2%. Indian colorants industry is one of India's leading foreign exchange earning sectors. During the last fiscal year, exports have already crossed US$ 2.70 billion. The industry is a net foreign exchange earner and has been declared as a champion one by the Department of Commerce & Industry, Govt of India

The Conference is structured with great emphasis on environmental protection and usage of the scarce natural source of water, Mr. Mehta said. The industry has carried out commendable work towards pollution control and played a stellar role in this endeavour. He was confident that the two days Conference would be very much beneficial to both the industry and end-user to take it forward for mutual benefits. Care has been taken to select the topics and speakers having wide experience and expertise to share their knowledge with the audience.

Mr. Mehta was happy to declare that the 75 Years celebration of the Association was conducted very successfully on 11th April 2025 in Mumbai, which was graced by Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Govt of India, as the Chief Guest, who delivered an inspirational and informative address, which was well received by the participants. Shri Kanubhai Desai, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Govt. of Gujarat was the Guest of Honour. Padma Bhushan Shri Rajjubhai Shroff: Chairman & Managing Director, UPL Ltd and Shri Sunil Lalbhai, Chairman & Managing Director, Atul Ltd were the special invitees.

While dwelling on the activities of DPMAI to promote the colorant industry, Mr.Mehta stated about ChromaTexChem Expo 2025, which is scheduled to be held on 19-20 November 2025 in Mumbai, as the entire gamut of value chain. China and Taiwan are likely to participate in this expo. He appealed to the audience to participate in this mega event by acquiring stalls for display of their wares and as delegates in large numbers. This expo is considered as equal to China Interdye in its shape and promotion. He also referred to ITMA conference recently held at Milan, Italy, where he was one of the organisers of the Textile Colourants & Chemicals Forum. Mr. Mehta also mentioned about a visit to NCL, Pune by the members of the Association at their instance as a part of 75th year celebration, which surprisingly and pleasantly coincides with the 75th year celebration of NCL. Close collaboration with NCL should improve the quality of the products, he averred. Availability of the latest technological amenities and testing facilities at their end should form a nucleus for its technical upgradation.

In conclusion, Mr.Mehta stated that the industry has great potential to grow, which is designed to capture about 30% of the global market from the present 17% or so and reach the top rank by Vision

2047 document with the support of the Govt., which has opened up many policy matters for ease of doing business in the global arena He further stated that DCPC has been a facilitator to the colorant industry rather than a regulatory authority in solving many issues. He extended his best wishes to the industry and its players on its forward march.


Kammal Kapoor


Dr. Shavak Bhumgara

The Inaugural Session was moderated by Mr. Kammal Kapoor, Managing Committee member and ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Shavak Bhumgara, Hon. Secretary, DPMAI

Business Sessions were held thereafter on the 1st and 2nd day as follows :

Thursday the, 11th September 2025

Business Session was held in the afternoon as wider :

Session I - Innovation in textile technology

Session Chainnan - Dr. Shavak Bhumgara

1. Digitization and robotization Prof. Ashok Athalye





Session II : Sustainability

Session Chairman : Mr.Janak Mehta, President, DPMAI

1. Advances in Water Treatment Technologies
   - Mr. Ajay Popat - Ion Exchange India Ltd

2. Upcoming Regulations and their Implications for the Industry
   - Mr. Sumit Agrawal - Blue Sign-Certification



Friday the, 12th September 2025

Panel Discussion -Tariffs, Technology & Transformation: A New Stratet?ic Roadmap for India's Textile Industry



Panelists

1. Mr. Jayant Khera - DyStar India Pvt Ltd
2. Dr Amarnath Saligram - Reliance Retail
3. Mr. Mithun Ajekar-Astik Dyestuff Pvt. Ltd

The Session was chaired and moderated by Mr. Anjani Prasad, Managing Director and Vice President, Textile Effects, South Asia, Archroma India Pvt.I.td



In his opening remarks, Mr. Prasad complimented about the vast transformation taking place in Tirupur during the last decade. It has now become almost a green city. According to him, India's exports to USA will not be very much affected as its share is about 5% of all the exports. He was confident that with inputs and insights from the panellists representing the industry on issues like innovation, sustainability and transformation, the challenges from the tariff war could be easily overcome. He was confident that the panellists would cover circular colorant solution, REACH, PFAS and regulatory headwinds, tariff impacts, traceability and renewal energy in brand expectation, digital tools like AI & twins for process efficiency, etc in their discussion.

Mr.Jayant G. Khera, Regional Vice President (South Asia), DyStar India Pvt.Ltd

Capacity utilization, which is presently at about 70%, to the full extent of 100% without much additional investment would substantially reduce the cost, mainly on labour and water & energy consumption. Adoption of available technology is unfortunately, very low in the country. Turning to the technological upgradation would undoubtedly amplify production. DyStar has implemented

many innovative and technological upgradations in their unit, which has resulted into sustainability and reduced the cost considerably. This has enhanced the demand for colorants too.

Mr.Mithun Ajekar, Director, Stratezy & Planning, Astik Dyestuff Pvt.Ltd

Major contribution towards transformation is expected from the Government. Optimisation of every product is also to be contemplated towards reducing the cost and improving the profitability. Inventory management forms a critical factor in optimization, adding to value addition. Digitilisation and value addition of data base and updation of the same from time to time is another criteria in transformation. R&D is also an area for quality improvement with less investment. Collaboration with academia for development of products and improvement in the quality is vital. MSMEs too can also play a leading role in this respect. Responding to the client's needs without much delay should also transform industry growth.

Dr.Amarnath Saligram, Reliance Retail

Brand creation is the mantra for transformation. Skill development forms an integral part in brand creation. Men, materials and machines are three 'M' in reducing the cost and profit acceleration. Pollution free environment is the need of the hour. Dyes and pigments play a larger role in the textile sector and in maintaining the supply chain.

The panelists also debated about the benefits of AI and the advent of new synthetic fibres in the market. They were all positive in their prediction that colorants for textiles would continue to grow despite all odds.

Session Ill: Current and future trends: Brand perspective

Chairman : Mr .R. Anandharaman, Associate Director, Archroma

1. Mr Thanihai Selvan - Quality Manage, South West Asia Zone, Decathlon

2. What Brands expect from Colorant Providers
   Mr Srinivasan. K - COO - Page Industries Limited





Session IV : Recent advances in dyeing technology

Session Chairman : Prof. Prakash Bhate

1. Color Box and Indra technology for low impact garment dyeing and fading
   - Mr.Manuj Kanchan, Division Director - CEA, Jeanologia, Bangalore, Jeanologia

2. Waterless CO2 Dyeing of all Textiles using Conventional Dyes
   - Dr Swapneshu Baser, Devan Supercritical



While moderating the Concluding Session, Mr Janak Mehta gave a brief account of the proceedings of the two days conference and felicitated the Sponsors and Organising Committee members with mementoes. He also proposed a vote of thanks.

The program on both the days were followed by networking cocktails and dinner.



Sustainable innovations in colourants and colouration

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1. Introduction

The textile sector provides one of the three basic needs of human beings and is also the third largest employer worldwide. The textile wet processing industry is long labelled as one of the biggest polluters of the environment. Even though the industry has taken several measures for enhancing the overall sustainability, a large quantity of harmful chemicals is still used in the synthetic dye manufacture. The coloured effluents from dyeing with synthetic dyes remain as a serious environmental concern. So, it is important to take appropriate remedial measures and to move forward towards sustainability.

2. Synthetic dyes

Flashback: German ban on dyes and amines

The German ban of July 1994 primarily concerns azo dyes, a type of dye that can split apart under certain conditions to release amines. This ban is implemented through the German Consumer Goods Ordinance, which was amended in 1994 to include these restrictions. The regulation applies to consumer goods with prolonged skin contact, like clothing and leather items. The German government has a specific list of 20 aromatic amines that are prohibited from being released by azo dyes used in consumer goods.

This ban has badly affected the worldwide dyestuff industry. As a positive outcome, several toxic dyes were either banned or the conventional toxic chemistry is replaced by green chemistry. Moreover, textile testing and certification became a must, especally for exports. So, in the long run this ban has contributed significantly to improve the sustainability of the dyestuff industry.

Completely absorbing dyes

Heterocyclic disazo reactive dyes demonstrates good substantivity due to their reactive vinylsulphone derivatives and decreased degree of sulphonation. Higher exhaustion and overall fixation yield were consequently attained on textiles. Higher fixation efficiencies from carboxylate-activated reactive dyes also have the potential to enhance efficiency of the reactive dyeing process.

High tinctorial strength dyes

Several high tinctorial strength dyes are created to reduce the amount of dye needed. Because chromophores are present in azomethine dyes' structures, these dyes typically exhibit spectacular colour and brightness qualities.

Structural colouration of textiles

In nature, there are three major sources of colour: pigments, structural colours and bioluminescence. Structural colour is the colour produced by micro-nano-structures, and is bright and lively. They are generated by the interaction between the micro-nano structures of the material surface and the incident light, which is closely related to the sizes and periods of the structures. Structural coloration of textiles is possible by thin-film deposition, self-assembly, printing and micro-nano structuring.

Chemoinformatics for sustainable innovations

Chemoinformatics is a field that combines chemistry, computer science and information technology to study dyes and other chemical substances. Chemoinformatics can analyze how a dye's structure relates to how well the dye resists fading, bleaching and washing. It can also analyse how a dye adsorbs to a textile material. Another application area is that chemoinformatics can analyse how a dye breaks down when exposed to light. The design of new chemical structures of dyes can satisfy several requirements including dye affinity, fastness of dyeings, colour strength, and spectral properties of dyes.

3. Natural dyes

Natural dyes and dyeing techniques

Natural dyes can exhibit better biodegradability and generally have a higher compatibility with the environment. But the limited range of natural colourants often fails in the desired colour intensity and light stability and are not provided at the affordable cost. Nowadays, there is an increasing interest for renewable and sustainable resources and this includes natural dyes. Natural colours in textile can degrade and fade in the course of time due to the exposure to UV light and oxidation. As a solution to these problems, several metallic mordants, which can bind both the fibre and natural dyes together by forming a complex were traditionally used. These metallic mordants are actually creating heavy metal pollution, and the emergence of a new classification of natural mordants is inevitable.

Natural dyes from food industry waste

One of the most sustainable source for natural colorants would be the by-products from the fruits and vegetable processing industries. Several dyes for textile dyeing can be extracted from the food and beverage industry waste such as pressed berries, pressed grapes, wastes and peels from vegetable processing.

BioPolyCol is a project funded in the Bioeconomy International 2021 Call, Germany and the main objective is to develop sustainable natural dyes with good colour intensity and high fastness for industrial dyeing of biopolymers. It aims to apply the untapped potential of Amazonian natural dyes derived from renewable plant resources, secondary crops and food industry residues from the Amazon region, without harming the environment.

Smart colours from algae

Currenty, there is an interest on the untapped potential of algal colours. The marine red alga Porphyridium spp. is known for its ability to synthesize a wide array of high-value compounds such as health-promoting pigments and poly-unsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs), as well as bioactive and thickening exopolysaccharides (EPS). The Porphyridium biomass contains four major pigments namely the green Chlorophyll a, red Phycoerythin, and the blue Phycocyanin and Allophycocyanin, which can be used for dyeing textiles.

Microbial pigments

Microorganisms such as Rhodotorula, Cryptococcus, Monascus purpureus, Phaffia rhodozyma, Bacillus sp. are known to produce pigments. Microbial pigments usually have bright colours and also some functional properties such as antimicrobial, antioxidant, UV protective, etc. They can be considered as functional dyes for medical and protective textile applications.

Fungal pigments

Fungal pigments show excellent dyeabilty and colour fastness, and they are of great interest to

the sustainable textile industry. They warrant production under controlled conditions, with no seasonal fluctuations, and are biodegradable. Filamentous fungi produce pigments like carotenoids, melanins, flavins, phenazines, quinones and monascins from different chemical classes. Fungal pigments, due to their stability and consistency, have been suggested as sustainable alternatives to some of the synthetic dyes in the textile industry.

4. Colouration technologies

Digital colouration

Digital textile printing is considered as a sustainable colouration technology. In digital colouration, water soluble inks are getting more established because of their broad colour spectrum and high colour intensity. High solubility, high photo stability and good dyeing qualities are the primary requirements for the inks, and hence for the dyes used in such inks.

Microemulsion based dyeing

An acetic acid solution/Synperonic L7/benzyl alcohol microemulsion system could be used to solubilize water-insoluble natural dyes and to dye wool at an acidic pH. The results clearly showed that the dye exhaustion on the fabric took place mainly when the temperature of the dye bath promoted a change in the molecular organization of the microemulsions with the liberation of the dye solubilized in the oil droplets of the microemulsions. Both the dye exhaustion and wash fastness improved considerably for the fabrics dyed at a high temperature using a diluted microemulsion system.

Hydrolysed protein based dyeing

Hydrolyzed protiens could be used as textile auxiliaries in the dyeing of textiles and leather. Synergistic effect was evident in the dyeing of leather and wool. Cotton dye uptake was lesser but a salt free dyeing was achieved. Dye effluent was reusable as it was free from salt.

Foam dyeing and spray dyeing

Foam dyeing is a water saving technology. In foam dyeing, the dye powders are first dissolved in appropriate amount in the warm water and stirred into a smooth paste. Then foaming agent is added to the filtered dye solution. The foaming agent used in the process of foam dyeing must generate foam readily and offer a good wetting capability.

Spray dyeing also offers a sustainable alternative by reducing water and chemical usage, thus minimising waste and environmental impact. In this technology, a spray nozzle is moved with respect to the textile so that a substantially even coat of a dye is applied to the textiles.

Supercritical carbon dioxide dyeing

Supercritical fluid exhibits a dual state of suspension between gas/vapour or liquid/solid. This phenomenon is exhibited when materials hit its critical temperature and pressure in a closed-systems. Carbon dioxide as a supercritical fluid is a safe, nontoxic, nonflammable, economical, abundantly available and a natural working medium widely applied in industrial systems. It is easy to recycle in industrial process by simple depressurisation.

Research works involving scCO2 applications in the textile dyeing process have gained popularity in the last decades. The industry has shown a great interest in supercritical fluid technology, due to the many advantages that using scCO2 could bring over conventional processing with water. The highlighted improvements are the enhanced transport properties and the much easier solvent recovery, making the process faster, more cost-effective, and environmentally friendly.

Prof. Roshan Paul

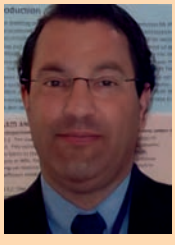


Prof. Roshan Paul completed his BSc in Chemistry in 1991. He obtained his Bachelors, Masters and Doctor of Philosophy (Technology) in Textile Chemistry from the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India.

Prof. Paul is a Chartered Engineer from the Institution of Engineers (India) and Chartered Textile Technologist from The Textile Institute, UK. In 2010, Prof. Paul was awarded Chartered Colourist by the Society of Dyers and Colourists, UK. In 2014, he became Senior Life Member of American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, USA and in 2015, Life Member and Fellow of the Textile Association, India.

Prof. Paul has a rich and varied work experience at various organisations like Scientific Investigator in IQAC-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain, Manager, Product Management in Clariant Chemicals Ltd, Thane, India, Principal Investigator - Textile Technologies in LEITAT Technological Center, Barcelona, Spain, Head of Research & Innovation in Hohenstein Institute, Boennigheim, Germany and Director of Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC), Germany/India. Presently Prof. Paul is also an Editor of Cellulose Journal, published by Springer Nature, Berlin, Germany.

Professor Nuno Belino



Nuno Belino is a Professor and Head of the Department of Textile Science and Technology at the University of Beira Interior, Covilhã, Portugal. He has vast experience in textile technology and colouration, and has several publications and conference presentations to his credit. His research areas include sustainable colouration, natural dyes, digital printing, functional design, textile functionalisation, smart textiles, medical textiles and textile circularity.

Sustainable jeans and functional denim

Conventional denim manufacture and jeans processing are not sustainable. Sustainable colouration could be achieved by printing with indigo instead of dyeing and digital printing of varied designs. In denim garment dyeing, indigo bath could be reused several times or standing baths that can be replenished are developed to reduce effluents substantially. Moreover, natural dyeing of denim garments and jeans without metallic mordants is a sustainable option.

Functional denim could be developed by applying different functional finishes. These finishes could convert jeans to a hi-tech garment. Moreover, nanotechnology and micoencapsulation offer novel possibilities. The possibilities include: cosmetic effects, odour resistance, moisture management, thermal regulation, hydrophobicity, easy care, self cleaning, mosquito repellency, antimicrobial protection, UV protection, flame retardancy, etc.

5. Conclusion

There are several sustainable innovations in the field of synthetic dyes and the dyeing technology. Chemoinformatics is an effective tool that can lead to innovations in synthetic dyes. Digital colouration, foam dyeing, spray dyeing and supercritical carbon dioxide dyeing are considered as futuristic technologies. In structural colouration, colour could be sustainably developed on textiles by micro-nano-structures. Natural dyeing of textiles should be carried out by using ecological mordants, instead of metallic mordants. Other possibilities are to use of modern technologies like microemulsions, hydrolysed protiens, etc. Even though natural dyeing is sustainable, it is not possible to replace the synthetic dyes and should focus on creating high-value, low-volume niche markets.

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- Submitted comments on Investment Liberalization in non-services sector in India-EU FTA to DCPC on 1st September 2025
- Forwarded inputs on meeting to discuss on impact of USA trade due to increased tariff on Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector submitted to DCPC on 2nd September 2025
- Submitted inputs to DCPC on 4th September 2025 regarding impact of India- UK FTA
- Inputs submitted to DCPC on 15th September 2025 for meeting of India- Brazil Trade Monitoring Mechanism Committee
- Offered comments on India-Peru Trade Agreement- Preparation of Indian Goods market access to DCPC on 16th September 2025
- Representation sent to DCPC on 16th September 2025 regarding India-Peru Trade Agreement- Preparation of Indian Goods market access
- Inputs submitted to DCPC on 17th September 2025 for 2nd India-Indonesia Working Group on Trade and Investment
- Comments submitted to DCPC on 3rd October 2025 regarding India-New Zealand FTA negotiations
- Inputs submitted to DCPC on 15th October 2025 regarding Potential India's bilateral agreements with Indonesia, Philippines and Cambodia
- Comments on India- Slovenia Joint Committee on Economic and Trade Cooperation submitted to DCPC on 11th November 2025
- Representation submitted to DCPC on 25th November 2025 for removal of 4-Dimethylaminopyridine (DEMAP) and Meta Phenylamine Diamine (M.P.D.) from BIS Quality Control Order
- Inputs forwarded to DCPC on 8-12-2025 regarding review of conditional exemptions or concessional BCD rates for imports
- Representation sent to DCPC on 8-12-2025 regarding India-Israel FTA negotiations
- Forwarded inputs to DCPC on 10-12-2025 to Lok Sabha Provisionally Admitted Unstarred Question bearing Diary No. - 12056 on Production of Pollution Free Dye-stuffs
- Proposal submitted to DCPC on 11-12-2025 for the Hon'ble Prime Minister proposed visit to Jordan and Oman for new initiatives or programs for cooperation between India and Oman/Jordan in the Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector.

Triple Honour for Professor G. D. Yadav

The Chairman of the Board of Governors of Laxminarayan Innovation Technological University (LITU), Padma Shri Professor G. D. Yadav, has received three prestigious honours.

Professor Yadav is a former Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor of Eminence, Bhatnagar Fellow of CSIR, and former National Science Chair (Government of India). He has been appointed Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Hydrocarbons by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India. In addition, the Government of Gujarat has nominated him as a Member of the Governing Board of Gujarat Technological University. Further, the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru, has conferred upon him the Honorary Professorship.

These honours reflect Professor Yadav's outstanding contributions to science, technology, higher education, and national policy.

Conference on Textiles: Business &Environment Sustainability - Challenges for the Colorants Industry

A Conference on Textiles: Business & Environment Sustainability - Challenges for the Colorants Industry was organized by our Association and supported by the Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, Govt. of India in Tirupur on 11-12 September 2025. More than 150 delegates from all over the country, mostly from Tirupur and surrounding areas, attended and acclaimed the conference and presentations on the relevant topics by the experienced speakers.

(Detailed report about the Conference included elsewhere in this issue)

75th Annual General Meeting& Awards Presentation Function

The 75th Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation function of our Association was held on Friday, the 19th September 2025 at Hotel Kohinoor Continental, Andheri (East), Mumba. Dr.Ashish Lele, Director, NCL, Pune was the Guest of Honour. More than 120 members from the Association, including their spouses, special invitees, awardees, guests & other dignitaries and press attended the meeting.

(Full coverage of the event is included elsewhere)

ChromaTexChem 2025 Expo

The 5th edition of ChromaTexChem Expo was organized by DPMAI and Colour Publications Pvt.Ltd on 19-20 November 2025 at NSE Complex, Goregaon East Mumbai. More than 40 leading players of colorants industry had stalls in the expo. Everlight Chemical Industrial Corporation, a Taiwanees firm was also having their stall.

Mr. Janak Mehta, President DPMAI along with Mr.C.K. Singhania, 1st Vice President Mr.Jitendra Patel, Imm.Past President and Managing Committee Members Mr.Jayant Khera and Mr.Anjani Prasad were the dignitaries during the inaugural function and lighted the traditional lamp to invoke His Blessings.

Panel discussion on "Building a Transparent and Responsible Textile Value Chain Linking Chemical Suppliers, Mills and Brands for a Common Sustainability Goal" was chaired by Mr. Janak Mehta. He stated that the theme of the Expo i.e. Sustainability is very relevant in the present context, particularly in the tariff war initiated by US for imports from India with a phenomenal rise of 50%. The situation warrants suitable strategy to overcome the onslaught on our exports, as we are required to increase our exports by 100% from the existing US$ 170 Million to US$ 350 Million. The Govt. has also started working on various initiatives to boost our exports. The global share of the textiles is also poised to 8% from the existing 4% by 2030. Mr.Mehta was confident that the panelists would share



their rich experience to increase the exports.



Mr.Sunil Jhunjhunwala, Co-Founder, Technosport mentioned about the best practices adopted by the units would definitely add value chain to brand name. Mr.Bhaskar Dutta, Page Industries (of Jocky Brand Fame) emphasized the need for maintaining the brand image keeping in mind the environmental and social sustainability. He was happy to mention about the enviable growth of Jocky brand apparels from their Tirupur unit.

Mr.Ganesh Srinivasan, CEO and Board Member, Resil Chemicals stressed the need for certification regarding compliance of various stipulations and adoption of green chemistry.



Consumer satisfaction is another aspect, which needs attention for sustainability. It is for the units to adopt suitable strategies for the cost rise to maintain the sustainability and quality of products. Mr.Subhash Bhargava, Managing Director, Colorant Ltd mentioned about the transparency and collaboration for maintaining the supply chain. CSIR initiative should also be considered during the processes. While regulations from the authorities in Europe are very stringent, he was happy to mention that such regulations are not very strict in our own country.

The Fireside Chat, a new concept was moderated by Mr.Sumit Agarwal, Director, CRM Bluesign. The speakers were Mr.Aditya Goyal, CEO and MD, Anubha Industries Pvt.Ltd and Mr.Girish Tandel, Director, Technical, Kiri Industries Ltd. They explained their success stories elaborating the various initiatives contemplated by their units, which were very much appreciated by the audience. They emphasized the quality and supply chain, efficient management of scarce natural resources like water, strict compliance of the regulatory norms, maximize optimisation of resources, process optimization etc, which would not only improve the sustainability, but also maintain the supply chain

There were many footfalls to our Association's tastefully decorated stall, including a few foreign visitors.





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