



The All India Glass Manufacturers Federation

Glass Packaging supporting Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan

Kolkata, June 25, 2016: After the successful sessions on Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan at Delhi, Firozabad, Jaipur and Mumbai, the Executive Committee of **The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation (AIGMF)*** decided to hold its next meeting at Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI), Kolkata.

A parallel session on Glass Packaging supporting Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was organized with CSIR-CGCRI, which provided an opportunity to debate on use of glass packaging as responsible and safe packaging, which supports Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (clean India campaign).

A presentation on 'Need of Glass Packaging for Health and Environmental Reasons' was made by Sr. Vice President AIGMF, Mr. Arun Kumar Dukkipati, which highlighted that Glass is a very important material for daily life in the entire world. It is a natural material for packaging, particularly items like food and medicines consumed in abundance by humans. The presentation covered that Glass containers made from cullet or weight reduction technology saves energy. Every ton of glass recycled saves 322KWh of energy, 246 kg of CO₂ and 1.2 tonnes of virgin raw material. Mr. Dukkipati shared some of the main characteristics of glass:

- Glass is 100% recyclable - It does not lead to generation of any solid waste, thus saving land fill space. This is a major advantage from environment point of view in the present times, when municipalities are finding it difficult to find space to dump urban waste
- Glass is resistant to chemicals and solvent - It is used for packaging of chemicals and solvents as it does not react with them
- Glass ensures hermetic seal - It provides air tight packaging for products thus providing longer shelf life. It is the most preferable product for vacuum and carbonation
- Glass is transparent - The customer is afforded the facility of visually examining the content from outside the pack
- Glass has best recycling performance - It is a cradle-to-cradle packaging - meaning it can be recycled infinitely to be re-made into new bottles or jars as good as those manufactured by using fresh raw materials

As CSR initiative, AIGMF gifted 300 glass water bottles specially manufactured by Hindustan National Glass and Industries to CSIR-CGCRI. The bottles carried a logo of Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan enabling people demand responsible and safe packaging.

Dr. K Muraleedharan, Director CSIR-CGCRI applauded advanced production techniques used by the Industry to manufacture light weight glass bottles and jars with no loss of safety or quality. This benefits not only consumers but also the environment.

It was mentioned that use of glass bottles supplements Prime Ministers' vision of Swachh Bharat Mission (**Clean India Campaign**) as waste from other packaging material are usually found in streets, drains, rivers, etc., with people having the tendency to litter anywhere and everywhere. On the other hand, Glass being 100% recyclable mostly reaches junk seller for recycling and adds to clean environment.

Mr. Sanjay Ganjoo, President, AIGMF said that apart from flat glass, container glasses are also used in modern 'Smart Cities' for tumblers, bottles, cooking wares, etc., at home and eateries. Mr. Ganjoo congratulated CSIR-CGCRI for adopting use of glass bottles in its premises, which is a step forward towards clean environment.

Presentations and select photographs of the event are available at <http://www.aigmf.com/past-events.php>

**The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation (AIGMF): The AIGMF, founded in 1944, is the only Umbrella organization of all categories of glass manufacturers from large, medium and small-scale segments of the industry in different parts of India. More details about Federation are available at www.aigmf.com*

For further details, please contact: Mr. Vinit Kapur, Secretary, AIGMF