

**Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu participated as
Chief Guest in the 47th Conference of Federation of Corrugated Box
Manufacturers' of India**

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as Chief Guest in the 47th Conference of Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers' of India organised by South India Corrugated Box Manufacturers' Association at Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai today (30.11.2018).

Hon'ble Governor said, "I am happy to be here today at the Chennai Trade Centre for the conference of the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers' of India. All of you assembled here must have seen the Federation grow in strength since its inception in 1970. The rapid growth of the Indian economy in recent years augurs well for the future and I am sure that this sector is going to witness rapid expansion in the years to come.

Corrugated boxes originally entered the packaging industry in the 19th century and replaced wooden packaging and other conventional packaging that were then in existence. Today the global corrugated packaging market is expanding due to booming e-commerce, along with the increasing industrial production in the developing countries. Increasing urbanization and growing disposable incomes are further encouraging the growth of non-durable consumer goods, which in turn is pushing up the growth of the corrugated packaging market.

According to Market Research reports, the global corrugated packaging market is expected to touch approximately USD 317 Billion by 2023, growing at a Compounded annual growth rate of slightly above 3.5% between 2017 and 2023.

In India the picture is even rosier Corrugated Packaging is among the high growth industries and growing @ 22-25% per annum.

Corrugated boxes are particularly preferred as packaging material these days because they are durable, versatile, lightweight, environmentally sustainable, graphically appealing and cost-effective.

The main ecological advantage of corrugated boxes is that they are mostly made from recycled paper. Further corrugated packaging is generally made without dyes, thus making it more eco-friendly.

I am informed that there are more than 20,000 units in India manufacturing boxes from about 3.5 to 4.0 million tones of Kraft Paper. The industry employs about 1 million people directly. The majority of corrugated box making units are small or medium in size and they are conventionally Semi Auto Manufacturing units. Only about 1% of the units have fully automated operations.

In Tamil Nadu Corrugated Box Manufacturing Industry has been growing at a steady pace to match the demands set by various Industries. Other than catering to the needs of the FMCG and Edible oil Industries the Corrugated Box Manufacturers have also supported the Automobile Industries in Chennai and contributed to the export of its components. Similarly, the Sivakasi Cracker Industries also use Corrugated Boxes instead of Wooden Boxes for Exports. The future promises to be bright for Corrugated Box Manufacturers in Tamil Nadu.

In the last 200 years, we have had many technological innovations that have improved the standard of living. The use of electricity, the use of vehicles for transportation and the use of gadgets to improve communication have definitely helped to make our living conditions better. But it is important to understand that environmental sustainability should be kept in mind when targeting industrial growth. At this juncture I am compelled to remind you of Mahatma Gandhi's quotation, "Nature has enough to satisfy every man's need but not enough to satisfy every man's greed".

Today the excessive use of petroleum products and plastics and the mindless dependence on artificial chemicals have resulted in serious environmental damage. Global warming is emerging as a major problem and threatens to wipe out large populations if left uncontrolled.

I laud the Corrugated Box Manufacturing Industry which has set a good example in manufacturing, through Re-cycling. When a corrugated box reaches its destination it is collected and sent back to paper mills and recycled. And it is heartening to hear that this recycling is done at least seven times. Moreover, the box is 100% bio-degradable

and does not affect the ground water even if it is dumped as waste material in a garbage yard.

The Corrugated Box Industry is also a provider of employment for Unskilled and Semi-Skilled labour. The level of training for skill acquisition for corrugated box manufacturing is rudimentary making the industry a fertile ground for absorbing surplus agricultural labour.

India is on the threshold of realizing the full benefits of the Demographic Dividend. The average age of our population of about 125 crores is 29 years and more than half the population is below the age of 25 years. This is an ideal endowment for short term and long term growth.

At least ten million youth enter the country's workforce each year. The benefits of the demographic dividend will be realised fully when this large workforce finds gainful employment.

Skill India is a campaign launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15 July 2015 with the aim of training about 40 crore people in different skills for gainful employment by 2022. It will be useful for the corrugated box manufacturing industry to estimate its requirements and train the required level of the workforce suitably so that expansion of box manufacturing can take place at a rapid pace.

This conference will facilitate interaction among Corrugators, Machinery Manufacturers and Kraft Paper manufacturers and others, thus creating greater opportunities for investment and growth in the sector.

I appreciate the South India Corrugated Box Manufacturers Association which is affiliated to the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India for having organised this conference in Chennai. I am sure that the deliberations at the conference will pave the way forward for the future expansion of the industry. I take this opportunity to greet you all on this special occasion and wish that success should greet you at every step along the way. May the corrugated box manufacturing units in India grow by leaps and bounds and cater not only to the domestic requirements but also to the needs of packaging in other countries of the world."

On this occasion, Thiru. Pradip Bosmaya, President, Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers', Thiru. A.P. Anburaj, Conference Chairman, Thiru. Arunachallam,

Vice President - I, Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers', Thiru K. Krishna, Conference Co-Chairman, Thiru. V.K.Dewan, Vice President - II, Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers' Thiru. K.Rajasankkar, President, South India Corrugated Box Manufacturers' Association, Thiru. Bharat Parekh, Secretary, Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers', Thiru. Vinay Patel, Treasurer, Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers' and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 22

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Sd/-

Joint Director (PR)