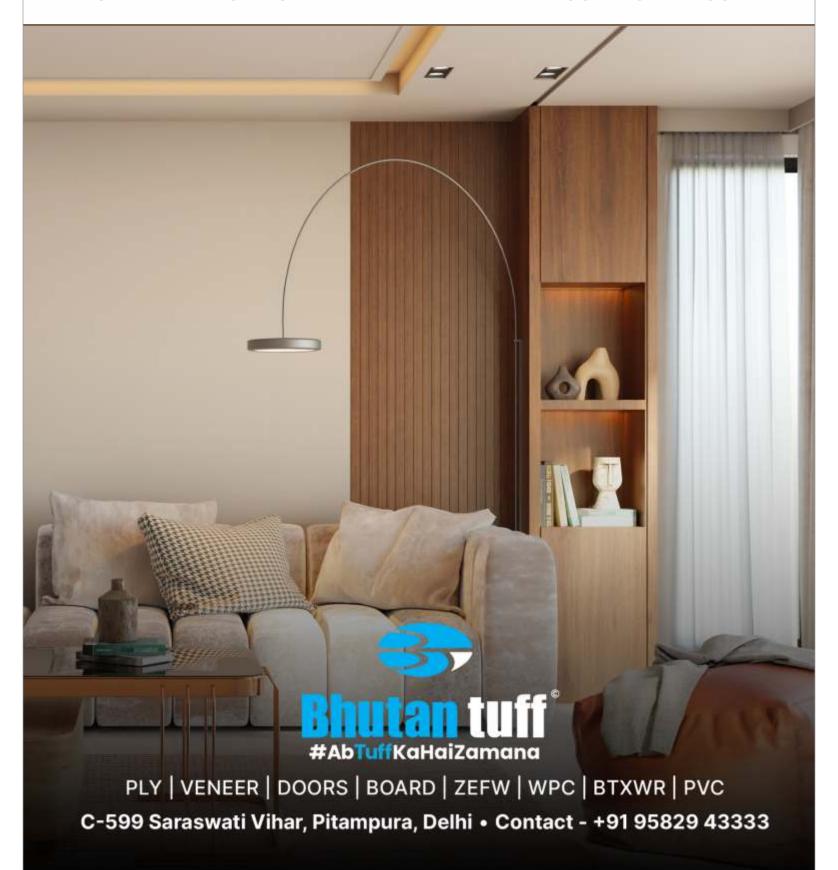
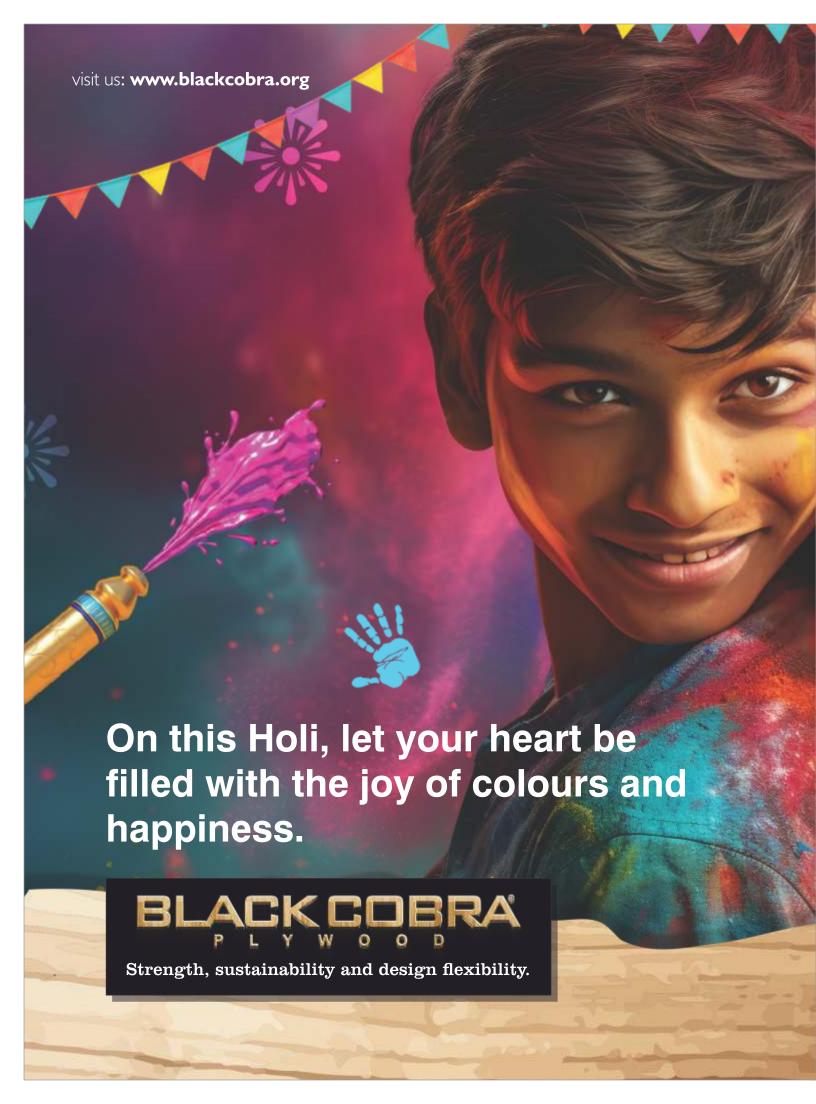
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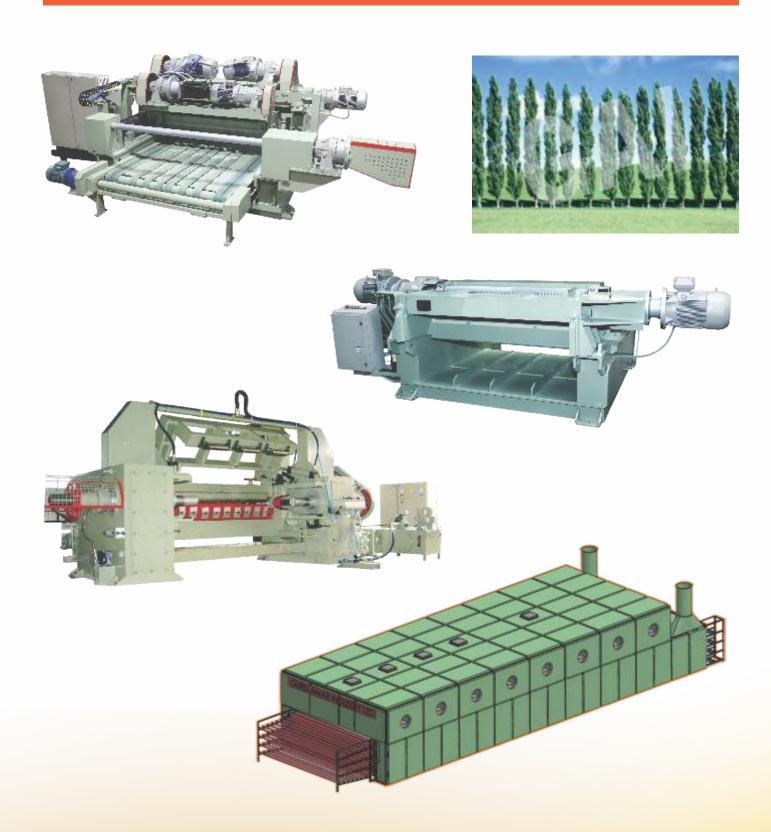
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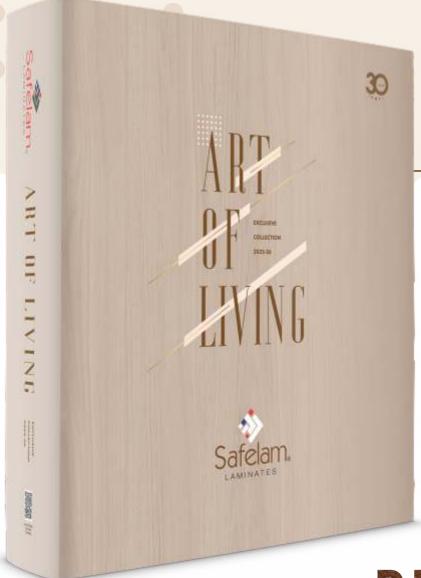
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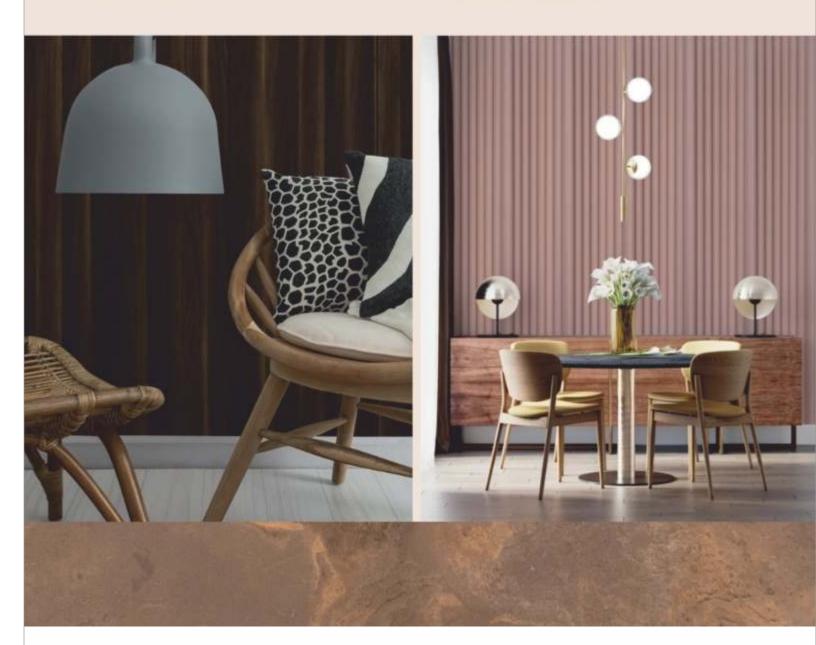
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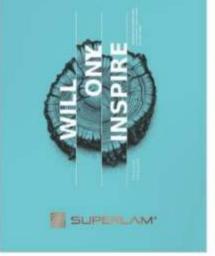
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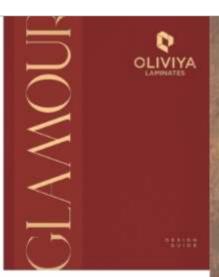


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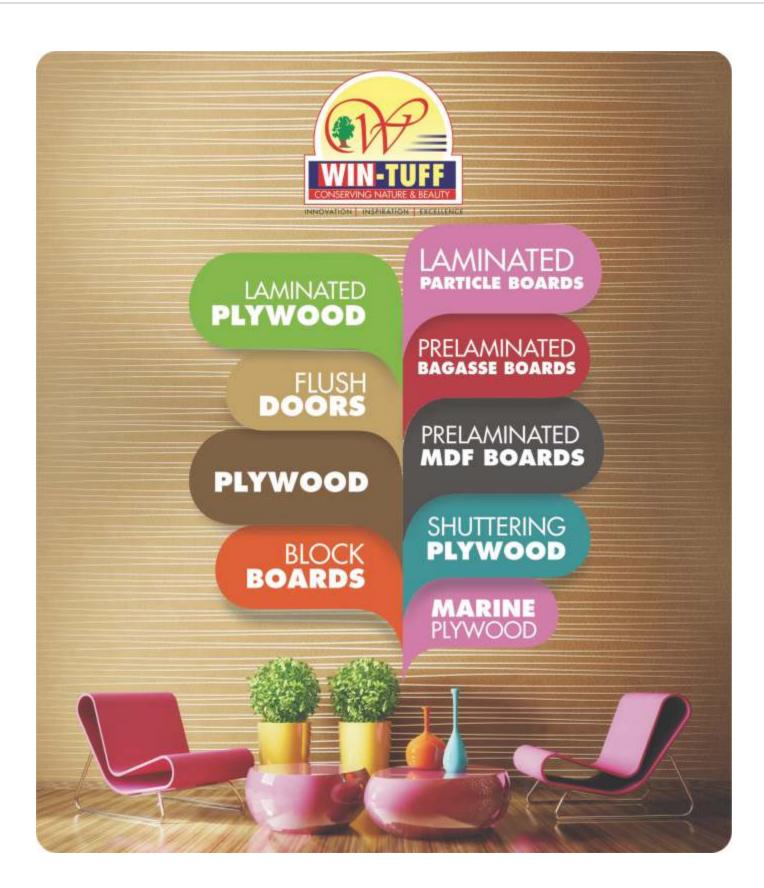




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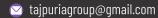






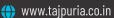


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# Market Stability and Industry Expectations amidst Financial Slowdown

As February comes to a close, the market remains in a state of stagnation. A noticeable liquidity crunch has affected cash flow, leading to sluggish demand across various sectors. Both manufacturers and traders are now pinning their hopes on April, as March marks the financial closing period. Manufacturers believe that the MSME regulations might improve cash circulation, providing some relief.

The MDF sector is facing a similar scenario, with high supply, low demand, and rising raw material costs putting pressure on manufacturers. The plywood industry is also grappling with weak market conditions. While the laminate sector does not face a shortage of raw materials, sales and cash flow remain areas of concern. In these uncertain times, businesses are closely monitoring RTGS transactions every morning to assess the market's financial health.

Another crucial factor expected to impact the industry is the upcoming Quality Control Order (QCO) implementation, which is anticipated to bring significant changes. Many businesses are hopeful that it will create market stability and standardisation in the long run.

Two major industry exhibitions are set to take place in Delhi NCR this March, offering a much-needed platform for networking,

business expansion, and growth opportunities:

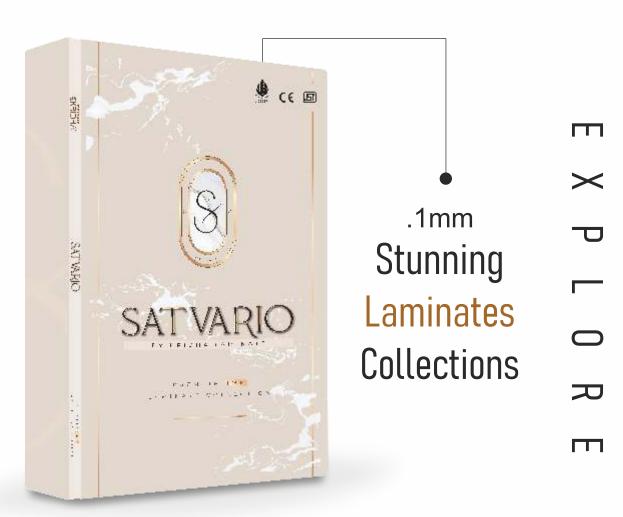
IndiaWood, a premier exhibition and Global Summit for Woodworking and Furniture Production Technology, from 6th-9th March 2025 at IEML, Greater Noida, Delhi-NCR, featuring leading players from the plywood, furniture, wooden panel, laminate, and machinery manufacturing industries. It will bring together suppliers, dealers, and distributors from across India and abroad, offering insights into emerging trends and innovations.

Next is Build Bharat Expo from 19th – 21st March 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan. This event will witness participation from manufacturers across multiple sectors, including plywood and wood, building & construction materials, agro & food processing, electronics & electricals, green & clean energy, and ODOP & exportable products. The expo aims to foster industry collaboration and business expansion by bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, and entrepreneurs.

With these major industry events on the horizon and the anticipated financial shifts in April, stakeholders across sectors are looking forward to a much-needed market revival and business acceleration.







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Equipped with the latest German technology, the facility ensures

dimensional accuracy, superior strength, and a smooth surface finish. The advanced, fully automated lamination lines provide exceptional flexibility in handling various sizes while enhancing production efficiency and turnaround time.

With a sizeable manufacturing capacity and revenue potential, Greenlam is poised to make a significant impact in the industry. Precision engineering with cuttingedge German technology and

fully automated lamination lines ensure enhanced efficiency and flexibility. As India's only integrated manufacturer offering a unified range of laminates, compacts, restroom cubicles, and pre-laminated chipboards from a single location, Greenlam stands apartinthemarket.

With the Indian board particle market expected to grow. Greenlam is well-positioned to lead this expansion with its state-ofproduction the-art capabilities and unwavering focus on quality. This landmark achievement further solidifies Greenlam's reputation as a leader in engineered surfaces, driving innovation, sustainability, and excellence in every endeavour.



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# Sajjan Bhajanka Honoured with Padma Shri for Transforming India's Plywood Industry



Sajjan Bhajanka, Chairman and Managing Director of Century Plyboards (India) Ltd, has been conferred with the prestigious Padma Shri, a recognition of his outstanding contributions to trade and industry. Expressing his gratitude, Bhajanka thanked the central government for acknowledging his and his company's relentless efforts in shaping the plywood

sector.

Starting his journey in 1976, S. Bhajanka built Century Plyboards from humble beginnings into India's largest plywood company. His leadership and vision have not only revolutionised the industry but also expanded into new ventures. He attributes this success to hard work, integrity, and a strong team that has collectively driven innovation and excellence.

The Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian honours, is awarded for distinguished service across various fields, including trade and industry. This year, 139 Padma Awards have been conferred, recognising exemplary contributions to the nation.

Sajjan Bhajanka's accolade is a recognition of his pioneering role in raising Indian manufacturing standards and accelerating industrial growth. His journey serves as an inspiration for entrepreneurs, reinforcing the impact of perseverance and visionary leadership in shaping India's economiclandscape.

Bhajanka's accolade is a recognition of his pioneering role in raising Indian manufacturing standards and accelerating industrial growth





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# India's Growth Must Be Driven by Value Creation, Not Just Raw Exports, says Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasised the need to transform India's economic model by moving away from the practice of exporting raw materials and then importing finished products. Speaking at the Utkarsh Odisha Conclave, a focused start up event, he asserted that India's rapid development depends on strengthening the service sector, enhancing product quality, and manufacturing finished goods for export.

For decades, states like Odisha, which contributes 51% of India's iron production, have exported raw iron, only for it to return as finished products. Now, the government is actively working to establish industries that add value to local resources, ensuring that India becomes a global hub for finished goods manufacturing.

PM Modi also highlighted the

significance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and India's aspirations-driven progress. He noted that the 21st century belongs to infrastructure and multi-modal connectivity, with India investing heavily in transport, logistics, and digital networks to accelerate growth.

Addressing the future of energy, Modi stressed the importance of sustainable living and eco-friendly jobs. With a growing focus on solar, wind, and green hydrogen, India is positioning itself as a leader in green technology and energy security. He reaffirmed his belief that Eastern India, led by Odisha, will be the driving force of India's future development.

With a new vision and bold reforms, India is not just exporting raw materials anymore, it is shaping the future of global trade.



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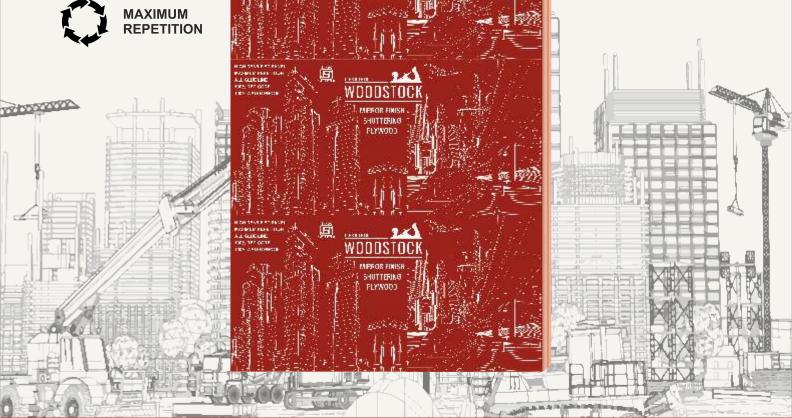


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# Wood Panel and Decorative Sector Eyes IPOs

The Wood Panel and Decorative sector, long regarded as a fragmented and unorganised space, is now undergoing a structural shift towards becoming a well-organised industry with a defined vision and modern work culture. The sector is leveraging automation, advanced technology, and brand positioning to propelits growth trajectory.

Driven by a surge in demand from housing, real estate, and furniture segments, the industry is witnessing rapid expansion. With businesses keen to scale operations, raise capital, and enhance their market footprint, the SME IPO route is emerging as a crucial enabler. Entrepreneurs in the space are looking at public listings as a strategic move to access fresh funds, fuelling both organic and in organic growth.

Over the past five years, the Wood Panel and Decorative industry has seen a wave of companies successfully entering the SME IPO market, raising capital in the range of ₹25 crore to ₹200 crore. Strong investor confidence and enthusiastic subscription rates have acted as a catalyst, further encouraging industry players to explore stock market listings.

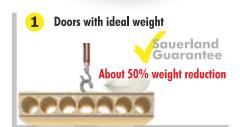
Beyond dominant names like CenturyPly and Greenply, brands such as GreenPanel, Stylam, and Rushil Décor have set new benchmarks in market performance. Meanwhile, emerging players like Eurobond and Airolam have leveraged the SME platform for expansion, triggering interest among other businesses in the ecosystem. This growing traction indicates a broader trend, with companies in related segments preparing for IPOs and fund mobilisation.

Industry insiders suggest that nearly a dozen companies are in advanced stages of compliance, aiming to launch SME IPOs in the next couple of years. The sector has consistently registered double-digit growth over the last five years, with significant capacity additions across categories such as MDF, plywood, particle boards, decorative laminates, ACP, hardware, louvers, and acryliclaminates.

This influx of investment is not confined to sector-specific players alone. Investors from adjacent industries, ranging from paint, tiles, cement, ceramics, and textiles to real estate, footwear, garments, and leather, are also showing a keen interest in the wood panel market. This cross-sector participation highlights the industry's lucrative potential and its evolving stature within the broader building materials ecosystem.

As the industry pivots towards a more structured and investment-friendly landscape, the move towards IPOs signals a new chapter, which is likely to define the next phase of growth for India's wood panel and decorative sector.





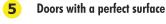




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# QCO to be implemented on Schedule, confirms Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal

In a key development for the wood-based panel industry, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has reaffirmed that the Quality Control Order (QCO) will be implemented on time, without further extensions. The assurance came during a high-level meeting with a delegation of plywood and panel industrialists representing various associations across the country.

The delegation, which included leading figures such as N.K. Agarwal, Patron of the Federation of Indian Plywood and Panel Industry (FIPPI) and Chairman of Balaji Action Buildwell Pvt. Ltd., Dr. M.P. Singh, Director General of FIPPI, and representatives from multiple state and national industry bodies, engaged in extensive discussions with the minister to address key concerns and ensure a smooth transition under the new regulations.

During the meeting, the delegation presented a detailed submission outlining the challenges faced by the sector and sought clarity on the QCO framework. Minister Goyal, while acknowledging the industry's concerns, reiterated the government's commitment to maintaining quality standards and ensuring fair trade practices. He categorically stated that there would be no

further delay in the implementation of QCO/BIS, with the new regulations set to take effect from 1st March, 2025.

The new QCO norms will be mandatory for both domestic manufacturers and importers, signaling a major shift in regulatory compliance for the industry. However, finer details of the implementation process are yet to be finalised.

The meeting was attended by industry leaders including Ramesh Kumar Agarwal, President of the Association of Indian Plywood and Laminate Industries, Sonu Agarwal, Secretary of AIPLI, Inderjit Singh, President of Punjab Plywood Manufacturers Association, Ajay Garg, Secretary of All India MDF Manufacturer Association, and representatives from organisations such as the Bihar Plywood Manufacturers Association. Delhi-NCR Plywood Manufacturers Association, and the U.P. Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association.

With the government standing firm on quality enforcement, the industry is now gearing up to alignits operations with the new compliance landscape, marking a significant step towards enhanced standards and global competitiveness in the plywood and panel sector.





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## Stricter Import Rules Under QCO Regulations

The government has implemented stringent Quality Control Orders (QCOs) covering around 800 products across various sectors, including construction materials like plywood and cement, consumer goods such as electrical appliances and batteries, food products including honey, edible oils, and milk powder, as well as chemicals, automotive parts, textiles, and metals.

Designed to safeguard consumer interests, these regulations mandate that imports of the specified items can only be sourced from suppliers holding a licence from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Effectively functioning as non-tariff barriers, these measures aim to ensure compliance with domestic quality standards.

However, exceptions exist for exportoriented units operating in Special Economic Zones (SEZs), which are allowed to procure such goods from foreign suppliers lacking BIS certification, provided they meet specific conditions for export production.

Industry observers note that many international suppliers are reluctant to navigate the complexities of obtaining a BIS licence, adding to import challenges. For product varieties not covered under QCOs, importers must secure a no-objection certificate (NOC). This requires a declaration proving that the specific grade is unavailable domestically and cannot be substituted by local alternatives.

With these regulations tightening, businesses reliant on imports may face additional hurdles, potentially impacting supplychains and costs.







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## BIS Pushes for Stringent Quality Standards in Plywood Industry

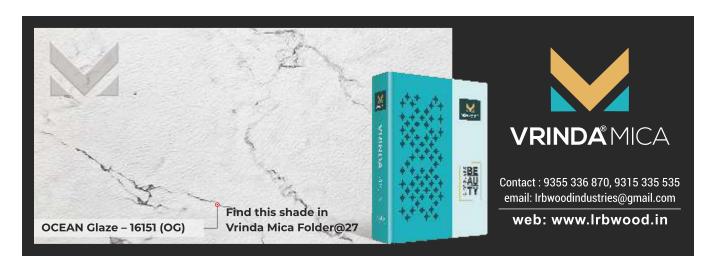
The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Lucknow Branch Office, conducted a specialised training session for quality control personnel from leading plywood manufacturers in the second week of February 2025. The initiative aimed to enforce strict compliance with Indian standards in plywood production, ensuring higher product quality and consistency.

Addressing the session, Sudhir Bishnoi, Senior Director and Head of BIS Lucknow, emphasised the urgent need for corrective measures in the manufacturing process. He highlighted that licenced manufacturers must uphold quality benchmarks by maintaining accurate stock records, conducting regular retesting,

adhering to production schedules and addressing quality failures.

Jitesh Kumar, Deputy Director of BIS, provided insights on the appropriate use of resins and adhesives, along with key measures to maintain the quality of both general-purpose and specialty plywood. The training witnessed participation from industry leaders, including Greenply, Zoya Industries, New Dua Industries, Austin Plywood, Wood Fab, Wafi, Wood Prime, and Jindal Agro Industries.

With BIS reinforcing stringent guidelines, the plywood industry is set to witness improved quality standards, ensuring better products for consumers and a more structured manufacturing ecosystem.







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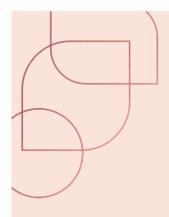
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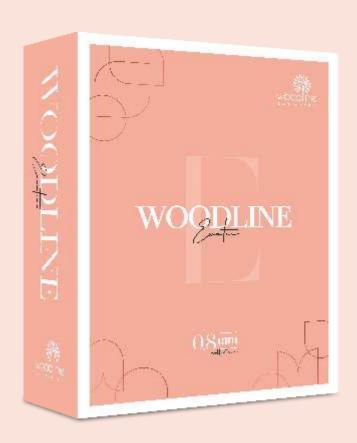






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## Ministry of Commerce and Industry Enforces Mandatory BIS-QCO for Furniture Industry, Effective February 2026

In a bold step aimed at ensuring the safety, quality, and reliability of furniture products in India, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced the enforcement of the mandatory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)-Quality Control Order (QCO) for the furniture's industry. The Furniture Quality Control, 2025 order, published on 13th February 2025 by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), will come into effect 12 months later, on 13th February 2026, giving manufacturers ampletime to adapt to the new regulations.

The order mandates that specific furniture items must conform to established Indian Standards (IS), ensuring their

durability, safety, and performance. The products specified under the order include work chairs, general-purpose chairs and stools, tables and desks, storage units, beds, and bunk beds, all of which must meet the corresponding IS standards listed in the notification. For instance, work chairs must comply with IS 17631:2022, while bunk beds must meet IS 17636:2022. These products will need to bear the Standard Markissued under a licence from the Bureau of Indian Standards as per the Scheme-I of Schedule-II to the BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018.

While the enforcement of these standards aims to raise the quality of domestic furniture and ensure consumers



receive safe, high-quality products, there are certain exemptions. The regulations will not apply to goods manufactured for export. Additionally, micro and small enterprises, as defined in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, will have an 18-month grace period from the date of the notification's publication to comply with the new standards. Enterprises registered under the "Udyam Portal" of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with investments in plant and machinery under ₹25 lakh or turnovers not exceeding ₹2 crore, will also be exempt from the compliance requirements.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will be responsible for certifying products and ensuring compliance with the new order. Any entity found in violation of the provisions

of this order will face penalties under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016, reinforcing the government's commitment to maintaining stringent standards.

This regulatory move by the government not only enhances consumer safety and satisfaction but also strengthens India's position in the global furniture market. By aligning with international safety and quality benchmarks, India is poised to improve the competitiveness of its furniture sector while ensuring that consumers have access to reliable, high-quality products.

With the implementation of this order, the Indian furniture industry is set to undergo a significant transformation, driven by the government's push to regulate and uplift industry standards in a way that benefits both manufacturers and consumers alike.

The regulations will not apply to goods manufactured for export.

Additionally, micro and small enterprises, as defined in the Micro,

Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, will have an

18-month grace period from the date of the notification's publication to

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## Fire Retardant Plywood



Dr. S.K. Nath

The article reproduced below is Chapter 37 – "Fire Retardant

Plywood" from the book entitled

Plywood Manufacturing Practices in India - 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. The book

has been compiled and edited by Dr. S.K. Nath,

Joint Director (now Retd.),

Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute

(IPIRTI) Rengalury (Karnataka). The book covers the entire

Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru (Karnataka). The book covers the entire production line of plywood manufacture suitable for small and medium scale industry under the Indian conditions.

Fire retardant treatment of plywood can be of special value in public buildings and ship work or where high fire hazard exist because the plywood is usually thin and therefore ignition may occur. However, any article made of wood is combustible, but inflammability can be varied depending upon sizes. Thus dust and wood shavings are a serious fire hazard compared to solid wood and plywood.

Solid timber or plywood, although combustible material, fire hazard is not as much as fuels of other type, plastic, etc. Timber may burn, but it does so slowly, about 0.63 mm penetration per minute and in such a way as to provide a layer of charcoal which leads to protect the inner layers. Thermal conductivity is low and structural failure, buckling or expansion of timber structural members is satisfactory in comparison with steel, which twists, expands, loses strength and conducts heat or concrete which cracks

and fails under heat.

Still then, timber in any form may be fire hazard and on ignition may create flame to spread fire. There is no known treatment which will render wood non- combustible. Fire retardant treatment do not reduce the combustible content but only make the material more difficult to ignite. The purpose of treating plywood with fire retardant chemicals is to reduce flaming by reducing the temperature at which wood becomes exothermic or by producing non-combustible gases or by forming an insulating barrier between the flame and the wood. But such treatment will not prevent decomposition damage, so that the treated wood loses its strength just as fast as the untreated wood by destructive distillation.

The term fire retardant merely indicates delayed or reduced burning and does not mean fire proof or even fire resistance. The first stage of spreading fire

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VILL. HAFIZPUR, DISTT. YAMUNA NAGAR - 135 001 (HARYANA) MOBILE: +91 98026 70305 constitutes the most serious threat to life. The fire services have the best chance of controlling a fire during the first stage. Therefore, the measures which retard the rate of spread of fire and delay the onset of the second stage are of great value for reducing the hazard to persons and minimising damage and loss.

It is convenient to consider the fire properties of panel products under the heading combustibility, ignitability, flame spread, heat evolution and the contribution of panel products to fire resistance of structure.

A material is deemed to be combustible if, when heated in a furnace under specified conditions at a temperature comparable to fire temperature its flame, produces flammable vapours or has an exothermic reaction. At temperature above 2500C, decomposition of wood begins with the distillation of inflammable gases which on burning gives flame. On removal of gases, carbon is left behind. A piece of treated wood will retard spreading of fire and if the source is removed further ignition may stop. retardant chemicals also retard in raising the temperature so that decomposition of wood does not take place as it happens in untreated wood. But if the temperature is already too high e.g. 8000-9000C, little difference remains between a treated and an untreated wood as both will decompose at the same rate even if there is no flame as seen in case of treated wood. It can be seen that any wood based panel material will, under the above conditions, behave as a combustible material.

All combustible materials do not ignite

with equal readiness. The longer the time to ignite, the greater is the time during which corrective action can be taken. Wood or a panel material having density less than 400 kg/m³ may show sustained ignition indicating that the product is easily ignitable. But plywood does not ignite so easily and can be classified as not easily ignitable.

Ignition of a combustible panel is associated with flaming on the affected surface. This flaming tends to spread fire – initially vertically and then all around. Different materials show different flame spread characteristics. Flames may not reach ceiling height in a room when panels are treated with or coated to minimise flame spread. Factors such as ventilation and thermal properties of the materials also influencethespread of flame.

The heat evolved during combustion in a room would raise the overall temperature level and the rate of heat evolution will influence the rate at which hazardous temperature will build up. The time/temperature relationship for evolution of heat depends on 1) the ease of ignition of the material and the possibility of rapid flame spread during the early stage of a fire and 2) the contribution of heat evolved from the material under fire conditions.

#### How does a fire retardant act

When wood is heated beyond 2500C, destructive distillation of wood begins. In this process, a mixture of volatile chemicals such as carbon monoxide, methane, etc., evolves leaving behind charcoal. Charcoalis a non-conductor of heat and although it ignites

by itself, it does not carry heat to the un-burnt portion of wood and thus acting as a barrier between burnt and un-burnt wood. On the other hand, the volatiles which evolve from wood under heat are highly inflammable and burns exothermically producing flame. It is this flame which carried heat of ignition to the un-brunt portion of the wood or to other inflammable nearby.

During burning of a fire retardant treated wood, part of these volatile chemicals are oxidised by the action of the treated chemicals. As a result, flammability of the treated wood is reduced.

A second way by which fire retardant chemicals protect timber from spread of fire is by formation of a fusible material barrier over the treated wood. On heating, fire retardants chemicals are converted to fusible mass and the molten mass forms a coating over the treated timber material. Oxygen necessary for ignition is thus being prevented to reach the timber and thus propagation of combustion is stopped. Boron compound are examples of this type.

The third effect is thermal. On heating the treated wood, fire retardant chemicals undergo endothermic changes. The protective layer of fused material formed, as mentioned above, absorbs heat. In either way heat is being disseminated and is not allowed to reach the timber inside, so that minimum heat required to rise to the ignition temperature of wood for combustion is not attained.

#### Fire retardant chemicals and their properties

Usually inorganic salts are used as fire

retardant for plywood. These salts may be used as a single component or a mixture of two or more from the following list. Sometimes, a group of compounds may serve both as fire retardant and preservative. The inorganic chemicals belong to:

- 1. Ammonium salts, phosphates and sulphate
- 2. Boric acid and other boron compounds
- 3. Zinc chloride, sodium fluoride and sulphate

Organic chemicals have also been developed to protect wood from fire. Such chemicals contain sufficient amount of nitrogen, halide or phosphate so that when plywood treated with such chemicals, act as fire retardant. A dicyandiamide – phosphoric acid treatment has been found to be compatible with urea and resorcinol formaldehydeglues.

One way of imparting fire retardant property to plywood is by incorporating fire retardant chemicals into resins and by applying and curing the resin on plywood surface. Chemicals which are used for this purpose are boric acid, phosphoric acid or organophosphorous halide. This process also make plywood surface non-hygroscopic and leach resistant.

The first quality of a fire retardant is its ability to retard flame when treated plywood is subjected to fire. In order of effectiveness in fire retardant property, the above noted chemicals may be arranged:

Phosphates > Zinc salt > Sulphate > Borates

At low retentions, phosphate







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compounds only retard for flame spread, while at higher loadings, they also prevent smouldering (glowing). Zinc chloride or ammonium sulphate requires slightly heavier loadings than ammonium phosphates. Boron compounds are reported to inhibit smouldering, even at low retentions, but high loading is required to obtain satisfactory control of flame spread.

Most inorganic salts used as fire retardant are hygroscopic and consequently render the treated plywood surface somewhat more hydroscopic than normal plywood. This may lead to swelling of timber and thus affect bonding, warping of plywood sheet and corrosion of metal fittings. With mono-ammonium phosphate, a widely used fire retardant chemical, hygroscopic occurs above 93% humidity, a condition which only occasionally arises inside buildings. other chemicals such as ammonium sulphate and zinc chloride, deliquescence will occur below 81% and 30% relative humidity Moreover most of the respectively. commercial salts contain impurities which make them to be deliquescent even at lower R.H. The deliquescent properties of the chemicals used in fire retardants require that usualinterior non-water proof type adhesives should not be used and only exterior grade adhesive which permit limited dimensional change on stress should only be used.

If veneers are treated with fire retardant chemicals, the treated veneers poses problem in bonding. Most of the chemicals are acid releasing and thereby brings down pH of the adhesive. This has the tremendous effect on

flow characteristics, wettability and curing nature. Ultimately bond is affected. The problem is serious with cold set resin than withhot set resin. However, when plywood is treated with fire retardant chemicals, the above mentioned problem is no more, but other effects are there. These salts substantially reduce the toughness of plywood and cause moderate reduction in their bonding strength and stiffness. It is only due to the presence of the salts and not its particular concentration or retention which affects the property concerned.

#### **Method of Application**

Fire retardant chemicals are applied to plywood in aqueous solution. Application may be done in any one of the three ways.

- 1. Dipping of plywood in solution
- 2. Pressure impregnation
- 3. Application by coating

Since treating veneers with fire retardant chemicals poses problems in bonding, as has been referred already, normally finished plywood are treated with fire retardant chemicals.

Dipping: Plywood samples directly from the hot press are dipped into fire retardant solution and kept immersed for 1-2 hours. The treated boards are taken out from the solution, wiped off excess solution and dried at 60 – 650C in seasoning kiln until moisture content comes down to 10-15%, mild sanding will help in removing superficially absorbed fire retardant chemicals and thus reducing hygroscopic nature of the board.

Pressure impregnation: Plywood boards may be treated with full cell process.

The method is same as described under preservative treatment of plywood.

Coating: A concentrated solution of the fire retardants may be applied on plywood surface by a brush or by spraying. Spraying is preferred to brushing because the former ensures more uniform coating. A roller spreader can be used for surface coating of plywood with FR chemicals. When a chemical is feebly soluble in water, the chemical in Nano form, taken in suspension a low boiling liquid and applied on surface of plywood. Nano particle penetrates easily into wood surface as the solvent evaporate.

When comparing impregnation against coating, it is necessary to consider other factors besides fire retardant effects. Impregnation process affects all parts of the plywood, whereas in surface coating the inner parts remain inaccessible by fire retardants. Impregnated plywood last indefinitely in the absence of leaching, whereas fire retardant surface coatings need more frequent maintenance. On the other hand, failure of surface coatings is more evident than the

leaching out of an impregnating chemical. A further point is that surface coating may develop a tendency to flake off in an actual fire.

As regards the stage of treating, most authorities are with the opinion that treatment of finished boards are of most practical and reliable method. If special manufacturing method is adopted, satisfactory glue line may be produced using fire retardant treated veneer, but in view of the very limited scientific information about the gluing of fire retardant treated veneers, the greatest caution should be exercised when attempted to make plywood. Veneer treatment with fire retardant chemicals is an alternative way, but most of the FR chemicals may interfere into bonding.

The cost involved in pressure impregnation treatment is higher than other method but being compensated by the thorough protection of the boards obtained by treating boards in this way.

**Fire retardant composition:** A number of fire retardant compositions and other characteristics are listed in Table 37.1.



Table 37.1 Fire Retardant Composition and their Application

Sl. No.	Treatment formulation	Treatment method	Leachable / Non-leachable
1.	Tetrakis (hydroxymethyl) phosphonium chloride (80% in water) 44.1%, ethanolamine, 2% trimethylolmelamine 19.6%, urea 11.7%, water 22.6%	Brush coating	Leachable
2.	Ashes (boiler) 14%, mica powder 12%, borax 6%, asbestos powder 4%, zinc oxide 4%, urea formaldehyde glue 10%, water 50%	Brush coating	Non-leachable
3.	Sodium tetrabornate decahydrate 25.3%, monoammonium phosphate 6.6%, water 68.1%	Pressure impregnation	Leachable
4.	Monoammonium phosphate 18.2%, ammonium sulphate 1.3%, boric acid 7.7%, water 72.7%	Pressure impregnation	Leachable
5.	Dicyandiamine 9.1%, phosphoric acid (85%) 12.5%, formaldehyde (37%) 0.88%, water 77.52%, solution pre-reacted.	Pressure impregnation	Non-leachable
	Preservative-cum-fire retardants		
6.	Zinc chloride 5.95%, ammonium sulphate 5.95%, boric acid 4.26%, sodium dichromate 0.85%, water 83.0%	Pressure impregnation	Leachable
7.	Monoammonium phosphate 2.50%, boric acid 2.50%, zinc chloride 4.30%, copper sulphate (anhydrous) 1.40%, sodium dichromate (anhydrous) 2.60% water 86,70%	Pressure impregnation	Partially leachable

Fire retardant coating: Fire retardant surface coatings are very effective in providing improved fire resistance by reducing tendencies to flame spread and are generally less expensive than other treatment. However, they are likely to suffer more from mechanical damage and abrasion and may have to be removed from time to time. So dium silicate, ammonium phosphate, synthetic resin phosphate, calcium phosphate, borax linseed oil mixes are some chemicals used for fire retardant surface coating.

Precautionary measures during the use of fire

#### retardant chemicals:

Some of the chemicals used as fire retardant for plywood are more or less toxic to human and precautions against accidental assimilation are necessary. Caution is necessary during handling of the treated veneer or plywood, especially when wet and during the machining (trimming and sanding) of treated plywood panels. Operators and supervisors should familiarise themselves with the symptoms of poisoning and first aid measures should be taken. Precautions should be taken against any accident that may occur and should be carried

out in accordance with the best medical and technical advice available. Care is also needed in the disposal of a number of toxicants to prevent harm from poisonous waste, effluents and combustion products (solvent).

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## Two Indias. Two Diverging Realities.

Recent remarks from senior executives in leading FMCG companies have reignited a pressing question: Is the Indian economy splitting into two distinct trajectories? The concern is not just about a slowdown in overall demand but a deeper divergence, where premium products continue to thrive, even as mass-market consumption weakens.

The idea of a "K-shaped recovery", where different segments of the economy rebound at vastly different rates, has been discussed since the pandemic. But now, the worry is whether India is settling into a "K-shaped economy", where these disparities become permanent.

Unlike traditional economic divisions, this emerging trend does not pit urban prosperity against rural distress. Instead, it suggests a sharper split between India's top decile of consumers, who drive premium product sales, and the middle and lower-income segments, where demand remains sluggish. This shift is not just theoretical; FMCG companies have noted that while rural demand appears to be stabilising after a decent monsoon season, the real weakness is emerging from urban centres, particularly metro cities rather than smaller Tier-I and Tier-II towns.

Perhaps the most unsettling

observation comes from one of the FMCG sector's leading voices, who recently warned that India's middle class is eroding. A country where the elite continue to expand and spend is not necessarily in trouble but if that growth coincides with a shrinking middle class, the long-termimplications could be severe.

Urban poverty, often harder to define and measure, remains a blind spot in economic assessments. Understanding how wealth and hardship coexist within India's cities will require deeper data and more nuanced policymaking. The question now is whether these two Indias will continue to drift apart or whether economic policy and market dynamics can realign them toward a more balanced future.

Recent remarks by senior management in various fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies have brought to the fore a problem: Is the Indian economy diverging?

In other words, are two different India experiencing two very different economic paths? That demand is no longer as dynamic as it was, but that premium products are doing well and may continue to do well.

Talk of a "K-shaped recovery" from the pandemic has been around for years; but the question now is whether that is causing India

to settle into a "K-shaped economy."

Are two different segments of the economy growing at different paces and through different mechanisms?

It is worth noting that, if this narrative is correct, it is considerably more complicated than the usual. If a division exists and is growing, it is not one of urban prosperity and rural distress. It is one between premium categories, the top decile or less of the Indian economy and those much further down the income chain.

Indeed, at this time, it appears that rural demand might be recovering, with a reasonably good monsoon behind it and the weakness comes from urban demand. In fact, according to some of the companies, the

weakness comes from metro cities in particular, not even from Tier-I and Tier-II towns.

In fact, one of the FMCG leaders has gone on record recently, warning that India's middle class was eroding. This is certainly an unexpected and troubling direction. A country in which the elite is growing and consuming premium products is not necessarily in trouble; when that is happening alongside a middle class that is stagnant or shrinking, it is quite another matter.

There is also the fact that urban poverty is not clearly understood or visible in India. More data on how urban prosperity and poverty are being experienced is needed.

## Market Slows as Per Capita Consumption Drops

Experts believe that consumers are delaying purchases or extending the use of daily household and personal products, and when a large number of people make these small adjustments, it collectively leads to a slowdown in the overall market.

"Consumers tend to ration or postpone their usage intuitively when they feel financial pressure. Instead of focusing on macroeconomic indicators beyond our control, our priority should be on increasing per capita consumption, which still has significant growth potential," an industry expert noted.

While urban growth has faced some headwinds, experts remain optimistic that this slowdown is temporary. A report by NielsenIQ indicates that urban demand grew by 2.8% year-on-year in the July-September period, whereas rural demand surged at more than twice that rate, reaching 6%.

# Action TESA Redefines the Wood Panel Industry with 'KOI NAHI AISA'

Action TESA continues to raise the bar in the wood panel industry, staying ahead through innovation, quality, and an unwavering commitment to customer satisfaction. The brand's philosophy, encapsulated in the slogan "KOI NAHI AISA," reflects its relentless pursuit of excellence, pushing boundaries to create products that standapart from the competition.

#### A Philosophy Rooted in Excellence

From its inception, Action TESA has focused on delivering best-in-class products that redefine industry standards. "KOI NAHI AISA" is not just a tagline, it represents the company's ethos of leading rather than following. Whether its HDHMR boards, known for their superior moisture resistance, or BOILO, designed for extreme

environments, Action TESA consistently introduces groundbreaking solutions that outshinetraditional alternatives.

#### Pioneering Innovation in Engineered Wood

Over the past decade, Action TESA has revolutionized the engineered wood market. The introduction of HDHMR significantly expanded the reach of engineered wood, securing a strong foothold in the plywood and MDF segments. With an ever-expanding product range, including Particle Boards and the advanced Moist Master, the company continues to cater to diverse customer needs, reinforcing its position as an industry leader.

### Marvel Studio-on-Wheels: A Unique CustomerExperience

As a testament to its "KOI NAHI AISA" philosophy, Action TESA has launched the



Marvel Studio-on-Wheels (SOW) BUS—a mobile showroom designed to bring its innovative products directly to customers. This initiative offers consumers a hands-on experience with the brand's full range of offerings, making it easier than ever to explore and appreciate the quality of Action TESA's solutions.

#### Sustainability: Growth with Responsibility

Action TESA's commitment to sustainability goes beyond business. The company's state-of-the-art Clonal Production Center (CPC) in Sitarganj produces 70 lakh high-yield eucalyptus clones annually, supporting reforestation and environmental conservation. Additionally, Action TESA works closely with farmers, guiding them through plantation

management while offering a buy-back scheme, an initiative that not only supports livelihoods but also contributes to the preservation of the National Forest Reserve.

### Corporate Social Responsibility: Giving Back to Communities

Beyond innovation and sustainability, Action TESA actively engages in social responsibility initiatives, focusing on education, healthcare, and basic community needs. Its efforts are driven by a genuine desire to make a meaningful impact rather than seek recognition.

With its pioneering products, customer-centric approach, and commitment to sustainability, Action TESA truly embodies its motto, "KOINAHIAISA."





## Action TESA's Studio-on-Wheels: Bringing Innovation to Your Doorstep

Driving the boundaries of product engagement, Action TESA has redefined on-the-go promotions with its Studio-on-Wheels initiative. Covering an impressive 37,510 km across 14 states in 2024, the mobile showroom has brought an immersive product experience directly to customers, architects, and designers.

Building on this success, Studio-on-Wheels 3.0 is set to roll out in early 2025 with an expanded range of innovative wood panel solutions and applications. This upgraded version will make its debut at Matecia in Bengaluru and IndiaWood at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, offering visitors a first-hand look at Action TESA's latest offerings.

Designed to showcase the full spectrum of Action TESA's products, Studio-

on-Wheels presents inspiring setups, including kitchens, toilet cubicles, office interiors, and more. Visitors can explore 71 new designs, gaining fresh ideas to transform interiors with cutting-edge materials.

A dedicated Action TESA representative ensures a personalised tour, guiding visitors through product features, applications, and customisation options. Additionally, customers can engage in insightful discussions about Action TESA's services, quality assurance, and ongoing industry schemes, right in their own cities.

With Studio-on-Wheels, Action TESA brings innovation, convenience, and expertise directly to customers, making premium wood solutions more accessible than ever before.



## Sustainable and Durable - Century Prowud's Lower Emission Premium Plus Boards

In interior design, homeowners often face a dilemma between aesthetics and durability. However, industry experts believe that Century Prowud's Lower Emission Premium Plus Boards offer a seamless blend of both, eliminating the need for compromise. These boards, designed for those who prioritise elegance without overlooking performance and budget, are emerging as a preferred choice for modern interiors.

Industry professionals highlight the eco-friendly innovation behind these boards, emphasising their significantly lower formaldehyde emissions compared to conventional options. As sustainability becomes an essential consideration in construction and interior design, these boards cater to environmentally conscious consumers looking to enhance their spaces while minimising their carbon footprint.

Beyond sustainability, the boards are

recognised for their exceptional durability. Experts note that their resistance to moisture, termites, and borers ensures longevity, making them suitable for both residential and commercial spaces. The ability to withstand everyday wear and tear further strengthens their appeal.

Despite offering superior quality, the affordability of these boards remains a key factor driving their popularity. Observers point out that they provide a cost-effective solution for those seeking high-performance materials without stretching their budgets.

With a combination of ecofriendliness, resilience, and affordability, Century Prowud's Lower Emission Premium Plus Boards are seen as a game-changer in interior solutions. Professionals suggest that they are well-positioned to redefine industry standards, offering consumers an unmatched blend of beauty and strength.



### Merino Hosts Exclusive Design Evening with Kolkata's Top Architects and Designers

Merino Industries Ltd. inaugurated Merino Manan, an exclusive evening celebrating thoughtful design solutions, recently in Kolkata, in the presence of leading architects, interior designers, industry leaders and key influencers, to explore how innovative designs can enhance user experiences.

Manoj Lohia, Director, Merino Industries Ltd., emphasised the brand's design philosophy: "At Merino, we believe design is not just about aesthetics or functionality; it's about creating meaningful solutions that resonate with users' diverse needs. Through Merino Manan, we seek to foster conversations that inspire empathy and thoughtfulness in design, ensuring it meets both stated and unstated user expectations. This journey begins here in Kolkata, acity with a rich cultural heritage and

vibrant design sensibilities."

Also, showcased was Merino's latest innovations. The Sampada Laminate Collection, inspired by traditional Indian textiles like Ikkat and Chikankari, celebrated heritage craftsmanship blended with modern aesthetics. Another highlight was Mystik, a cutting-edge restroom cubicle model offering full-height privacy with a glossy finish, an industry-first in India, demonstrating Merino's commitment to balancing functionality with design excellence.

With its successful debut in Kolkata, Merino Manan is set to evolve into a traveling platform, engaging the design community across India's major cities. By fostering collaborations and pushing the boundaries of designinnovation, Merino continues to shape the future of thoughtful, user-centric spaces.



#### **INDIAWOOD 2025**

## 25th Anniversary Celebration from 6th to 9th March



As 2025 begins, industry professionals are looking forward to a year filled with growth, success, and new opportunities. Among the most anticipated events in the sector is INDIAWOOD 2025, which is set to mark a significant milestone, its 25th Anniversary Edition.

Celebrating a quarter-century of progress, INDIAWOOD 2025 is expected to bring together industry leaders, cutting-edge technologies, and fresh ideas that continue to shape the future of woodworking and furniture manufacturing. Organisers have highlighted that this edition will not only showcase innovations but also honour the industry's remarkable journey over the past 25 years.

A special anniversary celebration has been scheduled for Thursday, 6th March 2025, from 18:00 hrs onwards at the India Expo Centre & Mart (IEML). Attendees can look forward to an evening dedicated to reflecting on key milestones and successes while looking a head at the evolving landscape of the industry.

With excitement building around INDIAWOOD 2025, industry stakeholders have been invited to be part of this grand occasion. The event is set to take place from 6th to 9th March 2025 at IEML, Greater Noida, and promises to be an unmissable gathering for professionals keen on driving the future of woodworking.

### Frederik Meyer Appointed as New Eumabois President

Frederik Meyer has been named the new President of Eumabois, the European Federation representing woodworking machinery manufacturers. With a strong background in wood technology engineering from Rosenheim University and 27 years of industry experience, Meyer brings deep expertise and leadership to his new role.

Meyer began his career as a carpenter in Eastern Westphalia, Germany, and has spent the last 18 years at Homag Group, where he currently serves as Executive Vice President of CNC Processing. Having previously held the position of Eumabois Vice President since 2022, he officially took over as President on 16th January, succeeding Luigi De Vito, who stepped down to pursue new professional challenges. Enrico Aureli, President of Acimall and Vice President of SCM Group, has been appointed as the new Vice President of Eumabois.

Expressing his commitment, Meyer acknowledged the significant changes facing the industry and emphasised the importance of innovation, safety, and performance in maintaining Europe's leadership in woodworking technologies. "Today, more



than ever, the European industry must carefully analyse the global scenario and continue to support cutting-edge advancements,"hestated.

Eumabois represents over 800 companies across 11 national associations, employing 35,000 people with combined revenues of €7 billion. Under Meyer's leadership, the federation aims to strengthen its global presence and advance technology-driven solutions for the wood and furniture industries.



# Formica Expands Accessibility with New E-Commerce Platform

Formica Corporation has introduced e-commerce capabilities to its website, making its extensive range of laminate products more accessible than ever. With over 1,000 residential and commercial design options now available for purchase in the United States through Formica.com, the company aims to streamline the process of bringing design concepts to life.

Company officials have emphasised that the new online platform serves as a complement to existing purchasing options, offering a more convenient solution for customers seeking Formica products. According to a company spokesperson, the initiative is expected to expand access for those who may face challenges in sourcing the ideal design solution locally.

The online store features laminate sheets in 4-by-8 feet and 5-by-12 feet dimensions, with deliveries reaching customers within an average of three to five days. The platform also enables users to filter products by type, texture, and colour, ensuring a seamless selection process. Additionally, free samples and swatch downloads remain available, while a new project management feature allows architects and designers to name projects, trackorder history, and reorder with ease.

With this latest expansion, Formica aims to enhance the customer experience and broaden its reach, reinforcing its commitment to innovation in surface design. More details and purchasing options can be explored on the official Formica website.



## Amulya Mica Hosts Grand Dealers Meet in Ludhiana, Unveils Exquisite C4 1mm Catalogue



Amulya Mica marked a significant milestone with a spectacular Dealers Meet at Maharaja Regency, Ludhiana, on 16th December, 2024. The event brought together the company's esteemed dealers, distributors, and partners from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Chandigarh. The gathering was graced by S.K. Tharad, Vice President - Sales (North-East), alongside Vikas Choudhary, Senior RSM

(North), and the dedicated sales team. Adding to the evening's prestige, Managing Director Rakesh Agarwal personally welcomed the delegates, underscoring the company's deeprooted commitment to its partners.

A highlight of the event was the muchanticipated launch of Amulya Mica's C4 1mm Catalogue Collection. Drawing inspiration from the brilliance of diamonds, the collection is built on four defining pillars,



Classic, Contemporary, Creative & Colour, and Superiority. Designed to bring a perfect blend of elegance and affordability, the C4 series received an overwhelmingly positive response from attendees.

During his address, S.K. Tharad shared insights into Amulya Mica's impressive growth journey, its strategic expansions, and the company's dedication to staying ahead in an ever-evolving market. MDRakesh Agarwal took the opportunity to express heartfelt gratitude to the channel partners, recognising their pivotal role in the brand's success. He reaffirmed Amulya Mica's unwavering commitment to quality, innovation, and sustainable practices, inviting valuable

feedbacktofurtherrefinetheC4collection.

The evening concluded on a high note with a gala dinner and a mesmerising musical night, ensuring an unforgettable experience for all present.







## Registration Opens for interzum 2025 Cologne Prepares for a Global Industry Showcase



Cologne is set to once again become the centre of the international furniture and interior design industry as preparations for interzum 2025 gain momentum. Scheduled to take place from 20th to 23rd May, the biennial trade fair is expected to surpass the success of its 2023 edition, according to event organisers.

This year's theme, 'Rethinking Resources: Circular and Biobased Solutions,' will serve as the guiding focus of the event, emphasising pioneering innovations, technological advancements, and sustainable material concepts. Organisers have indicated that the industry-relevant theme will be reflected across all aspects of

the fair, from an extensive event lineup to cutting-edge bio-circular innovations showcased by leading exhibitors.

Recognised as a global platform for business, inspiration, and knowledge exchange, interzum continues to provide exclusive product debuts, thought-provoking discussions, and opportunities for direct engagement with industry experts. Officials have urged professionals from across the sector to make plans to attend, highlighting the fair's role in shaping the future of living andworking spaces.

For more information and registration details, interested participants can visit the official interzum website.

## Tajpuria PF Series - The Ultimate Shuttering Plywood for Strength and Sustainability

In the evolving landscape of modern construction, durability and sustainability are no longer optional, they are essential. Engineers, architects, and builders are constantly on the lookout for materials that offer strength without compromising on environmental responsibility. Tajpuria answers this call with its PF Series Boiling Water Proof (BWP) Shuttering Plywood, a revolutionary solution designed to maximise durability, performance, and ecofriendliness.

Construction projects require shuttering plywood that can endure multiple cycles of use without deterioration. The PF Series is crafted from high-density hardwood and bonded with premium phenolformaldehyde (PF) resin, ensuring superior strength and resilience through repeated casting and de-shuttering processes.

Moisture damage is one of the biggest challenges in construction, especially in high-exposure areas such as slabs, columns, and beams. Tajpuria PF Series plywood is fully waterproof, meaning it remains structurally sound and warp-free even under extreme weather conditions.

Strength is paramount when it comes

to shuttering plywood. The advanced composition of the PF Series ensures minimal deflection and smooth concrete surfaces, making it the ideal choice for high-rise buildings, bridges, and large-scale infrastructure projects.

Tajpuria, doesn't just build strong structures, it builds responsibly. The PF Series is manufactured from sustainably sourced materials, minimising environmental impact while ensuring maximum performance. Stronger buildings, a greener planet, it's a win-win.

With Tajpuria PF Series Shuttering Plywood, one doesn't have to choose between performance and sustainability. Whether for commercial, residential, or infrastructure projects, the plywood ensures maximum repetitions, waterproof resilience, and superior strength, all while being environmentally conscious.

Join the revolution in smart, sustainable construction with #StyleWithSustainability. Upgrade to PF Series Shuttering Plywood today and experience the future of durable, eco-friendly building solutions. Explore Tajpuria for more innovations in construction materials!

### Riyom Industries Pvt. Ltd.

#### **Emerging Leader in the Laminates Sector**

Riyom Industries Pvt. Ltd., based in the Sanga Reddy district of Telangana, has rapidly made its mark in the laminates industry since its establishment in January 2023. Specialising in liner-grade mica and laminates ranging from 0.75 mm to 0.8 mm, the company has set its sights on expanding its product range and enhancing quality standards by 2024.

Managing Director Sencha Yatendra Kumar Choudhary emphasised the company's commitment to continuous improvement, revealing that Industries currently operates two presses with an 18-day light cycle. He noted that the company is already utilising 60% of its production capacity and is focused on scaling



M.D. SENCHA YATENDRA CHOUDHARY

operations efficiently.

A strong emphasis on research and development underpins the company's





approach, ensuring that its products meet market expectations before launch. The production unit, strategically located in the Munipally Mandal area, 70 km from Hyderabad, plays a crucial role in maintaining quality control and innovation.

Riyom Industries is set to unveil its highly anticipated 1 mm folder under the brand name Riyom B'One at a launch event in Goa from 28th February to 2nd March, 2025.

The company has successfully introduced 0.72 mm, 0.75 mm, 0.8 mm, and 1 mm products to the market within just two years.

Additionally, its Riyom Sleek liner folder and POWER 0.8 mm folder are already available and well-received by consumers. The company is also developing a product with a thickness exceeding 1 mm, a project that has been in the works for the past six months.



Beyond laminates, Riyom Industries has maintained a strong presence in the paint product sector for nearly two decades. Choudhary reaffirmed the company's unwavering commitment to quality, stating that its liner-grade sunmica has a precise thickness of 0.72+ mm and is 100% phenolic. This dedication to superior craftsmanship has resulted in strong demand for Riyom products in Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Rajasthan, as well as across South India. Looking ahead, the company is now targeting expansion into North Indian markets.

With a clear vision for growth and a

relentless pursuit of excellence, Riyom Industries Pvt. Ltd. is poised to redefine industry standards and establish itself as a majorplayerinthelaminates sector.







### S Satish Reddy

#### A Leading Name in the Telangana Wood Sector



For the past three decades, S Satish Reddy has played a pivotal role in the plywood, laminates, and glass industry in Telangana. Through his extensive network of agencies, he has successfully established his business Latha Agencies, as a well-recognised name in the market.

His journey with the Telangana Plywood, Laminates and Glass Dealers Welfare Association, Hyderabad has been equally remarkable. Over the years,

held multiple leadership positions, serving as a Committee Member for eight years, Joint Secretary for four years, General Secretary for another four years, and President for a decade. For the last four years, he has been leading the association as its Chairman. guiding industry professionals and addressing market challenges.

Reflecting on Hyderabad's real estate trends, he observes that property prices have remained relatively stable over the past 1.5 years. While there was a significant surge in real estate values, he believes the market has now settled into a defined range. Additionally, the sluggish pace of project execution has led to a quieter phase for the city's construction sector, affecting demand for plywood, laminates, and related materials.

As the industry navigates these economic shifts, S Satish Reddy's leadership continues to provide direction and stability for traders and dealersin Telangana.



### Bhandari Agencies Pvt. Ltd.

### A Legacy of Excellence in Laminates and Plywood





Bhandari Agencies Pvt. Ltd. was founded by Dilip Bhandari, a visionary entrepreneur, who established the company in Hyderabad in 1989 with the aim of redefining the laminate and plywood industry.

Today, Rang Decor stands as a symbol of innovation, offering interior

solutions that enhance both spaces and lifestyles.

With its base in Aghapura, the brand has established distinct identity in Telangana and across India.

Company Director Vinay Bhandari, a dynamic businessman, has propelled the company to new heights intheplywoodandlaminates industry. His visionary leadership and strategic insight have positioned the company as a key player in the laminates sector across India.

Apart from Rang Laminates, the company also



offers PVC, acrylic, louvres, charcoal panels, 8x1ft louvers, and several other premium products.

Rang Decor is South India's leading brand for acrylic, louvers, and charcoal panels," reflecting its spirit of diversity and innovation.



### Shankeshwara Laminates & Plywood

#### A Trusted Name in Hyderabad's Plywood Market

Shankeshwara Laminates & Plywood has established itself as a leading name in the laminates and plywood sector, operating from a bustling area in Hyderabad's Gosha Mahal. Under the guidance of Lalit Kumar Jain, the company has built a strong reputation for quality and reliability in the industry.

Apart from his leadership in business, L K Jain plays a crucial role in Telangana Plywood Laminates and Glass Dealers Association, where he serves as the General Secretary. Industry insiders note that

his involvement goes beyond commercial interests, as he actively engages in social and welfare initiatives through the Association, contributing to the betterment of the trade community.

Shankeshwara Laminates is also a recognised distributor of Tajpuria Laminates, a wellknown name in the laminate sector across North India. Additionally he's company is



**LALIT KUMAR JAIN** 

the Talangana distributor of Oliviya Mica, Superlam and Sudecore Laminates.

With industry stalwarts like L.K. Jain driving the trade forward, Shankeshwara Laminates & Plywood remains a name synonymous with trust and excellence in Hyderabad's plywood and laminates sector.

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#### Laminate Hub

#### A Leading Name in the Laminates Market

Laminate Hub has emerged as a pioneer in the laminate business. establishing itself as a wellknown name across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Founded in 2002. the company initially operated from Gosha Mahal, Hyderabad, before relocating to the Shamshabad highway area two years ago to expand its operations.

According to company director Vinodbhai Patel, Laminate Hub specialises in providing laminates in various thicknesses, including 0.72mm, 0.75mm,

0.8mm, and 1mm. The company is closely associated with Neptune Laminates Pvt. Ltd. and Snap Decor Pvt. Ltd. based in Rajkot, Gujarat, both of which are renowned brands in the laminate sector.

With nearly three decades of experience in the industry, Patel has been actively involved in the laminates business since 1993. He emphasises that Laminate Hub operates exclusively in wholesale, catering to large-scale buyers and distributors. The company, along with



Neptune Laminates and Snap Decor, functions as part of a unified group, ensuring high-quality products and reliable service for its customers.

With its strong industry connections and commitment to quality, Laminate Hub continues to strengthen its presence as a key player in the laminates market.



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### Manish Plywood

### A Key Laminates & Plywood Distributor

Manish Plywood has established itself as a prominent name in plywood and laminates sector. Operating as the Telangana distributor of the North India Based Virgo Group's Croma laminates, a brand that has built a strong market presence over the years.

In addition to Croma laminates, Manish Plywood deals in under the AISLING DEKORE brand acrylic laminates, as well as Louvers PVC and Charcoal panels, which are among its key product offerings. The company is also a major seller of Modak-brand plywood from Yamuna Nagar and plays a crucial role in distributing Saffron decorative veneers from Green Wood Crafts, based in Sampla, Haryana.

Furthermore, the company holds a significant



position as leading distributor of Silicon decorative veneers from Ahmedabad. Under the leadership of Manish Jain, the company has expanded its reach, operating multiple outlets for a diverse range of brands. His expertise and strategic partnerships have positioned Manish Plywood as a trusted name in the laminates and plywood industry.



### Sai Plywoods

#### Top Plywood Name in Andhra & Telangana

Sai Plywoods, based in Hyderabad, has earned a distinguished reputation across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Since its establishment in 1994, the company has carved a niche for itself in the plywood sector, maintaining a legacy of excellence for three decades.

Under the leadership of its director, Vijay Agrawal, Sai Plywoods has grown into a trusted name, particularly in the wholesale market. The widely company is

recognised across South India for its commitment to reliability and quality.

In the MDF segment, Sai Plywoods primarily deals in products from the reputed GREEN brand while also serving as the distributor for TRENOX, a well-known MDF brand from North India. Additionally, the company is a key promoter of the DUNA brand plywood from Yamuna Nagar.

the laminates In sector, Sai Plywoods offers products under the DECADE



brand, catering to a growing demand for high-quality finishes. It also plays a crucial role in the market for AK Boards, a renowned plywood brand from the A K Group in South India.

With deep a understanding of market dynamics, Vijay Agrawal believes that consistency and commitment are the keys to long-term success. His customer-centric approach and strategic vision continue to drive Sai Plywoods as a leader in the region's plywood and laminates industry.



### **Kunal Enterprises**

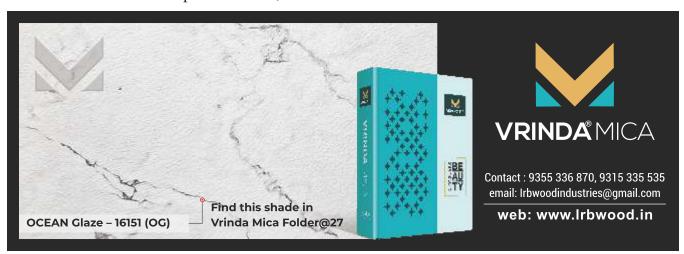
#### Trusted in Hyderabad's Plywood & Laminates Sector

Located in the commercial hub of Gosha Mahal, Hyderabad, Kunal Enterprises has established itself as a well-known name in the plywood and laminates sector. Under the leadership of young entrepreneur Anish Agarwal, the company has built a strong reputation for offering high-quality products to customers across the region.

Since its inception in 2000, Kunal Enterprises has been a key player in Telangana's laminate market. The company holds the distributorship for Merino, one of

the leading laminate brands in India. In addition to Merino, they specialise in selling premium products from Green's MIKASA Ply and Archid Ply, further solidifying their position as a trusted supplier in the industry.

With a commitment to quality and customer satisfaction, Kunal Enterprises continues to cater to the needs of architects, interior designers, and construction professionals, providing top-tier laminates and plywood solutions in Hyderabad.





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### Suman Plywood

#### Reliable Name in Hyderabad's Plywood Industry

Established in 1988, Suman Plywood has grown into a well-recognised name in Hyderabad's plywood and laminates market. Situated in the bustling business hub of Gosha Mahal, the company operates under the leadership of Manoj Kumar, who has played a crucial role in its steady growth and reputation.

Suman Plywood specialises in a diverse range of products, including plywood, boards, laminates, and WPC. The company deals in some of the most trusted brands in the industry, such as Green, Austin, and Century, catering to the growing demands of quality-conscious consumers.

In addition to serving Hyderabad, the company also oversees the Hyderabad region's distribution for Bareilly based DOMESTIC brand, well-known in plywoodandblockboards.

Their expertise extends into the laminates sector as well, where they supply CATCH brand laminates along with premium products from DURIAN. Furthermore. Suman Plywood holds the distributorship Telangana's **NEW-MIKA** brand, strengthening its foothold in the region's laminate industry.

With decades of experience and a commitment to quality, Suman Plywood continues to



be a reliable choice for builders, architects, and homeowners looking for premium wood and laminate solutions in Hyderabad.



#### Sai Laminart

# Leading Name in Hyderabad's Plywood & Laminates Industry

For over 25 years, Sai Laminart has been a wellrecognised name in the plywood and laminates market of Hyderabad. Located in Gosha Mahal, the company has established itself as a key player under the leadership of Sanjay Agarwal. Beyond managing the business, Sanjay Agarwal also serves as the General Secretary of the Telangana

Plywood and Laminate Dealers Association, contributing actively to industry discussions and developments.

Sai Laminart primarily deals in acrylic mica from the CATCH brand, alongside major laminate brands like Century, Green, and Merino. Additionally, the company plays a significant role as the Telangana



distributor for Century's veneerproducts.

While speaking about the market scenario, Sanjay Agarwal highlights growing concerns regarding liquidity issues in the city. He noted that an increasing number of non-payer at retail counters has become a pressing challenge, affecting business operations and financial stability. His observations reflect the broader concerns of the industry, where businesses are striving to navigate economic while uncertainties maintaining growth.



### प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा, ''भारत की वृद्धि केवल कच्चे निर्यात से नहीं, बल्कि मूल्य निर्माण से प्रेरित होनी चाहिए''

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने भारत के आर्थिक मॉडल को बदलने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया, जिसमें कच्चे माल के निर्यात की प्रथा को समाप्त कर, तैयार उत्पादों के निर्यात पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया जाए। उत्कर्ष ओडिशा कॉन्क्लेव में एक विशेष स्टार्टअप कार्यक्रम में बोलते हुए, उन्होंने कहा कि भारत का तेजी से विकास इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि हम सेवा क्षेत्र को मजबूत करें, उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाएं और तैयार माल का निर्माण करके निर्यात करें।

कई दशकों से, ओडिशा जैसे राज्य, जो भारत के लोहा उत्पादन का 51% योगदान करता है, कच्चा लोहा निर्यात करते रहे हैं, जो बाद में तैयार उत्पादों के रूप में लौटता है। अब सरकार स्थानीय संसाधनों को मूल्य जोड़ने वाली उद्योगों की स्थापना में सक्रिय रूप से काम कर रही है, ताकि भारत तैयार माल निर्माण के लिए एक वैश्विक हब बन सके।

पीएम मोदी ने आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) और भारत की आकांक्षाओं-प्रेरित प्रगति के महत्व पर भी प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने कहा कि 21वीं सदी बुनियादी ढांचे और मल्टी-मोडल कनेक्टिविटी की है, और भारत परिवहन, लॉजिस्टिक्स और डिजिटल नेटवर्क्स में भारी निवेश कर रहा है ताकि विकास को तेज किया जा सके।

ऊर्जा के भविष्य पर बात करते हुए, मोदी ने सतत जीवन और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल रोजगार के महत्व को रेखांकित किया। सौर, पवन, और ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन पर ध्यान देने के साथ, भारत ग्रीन प्रौद्योगिकी और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में एक अग्रणी के रूप में अपनी स्थिति बना रहा है। उन्होंने यह भी दोहराया कि पूर्वी भारत, विशेष रूप से ओडिशा, भारत के भविष्य के विकास का प्रमुख धुरी बनेगा।

एक नए दृष्टिकोण और साहसिक सुधारों के साथ, भारत अब केवल कच्चे माल का निर्यात नहीं कर रहा है, बल्कि वह वैश्विक व्यापार के भविष्य को आकार दे रहा है।



### सज्जन भजनका को भारत की प्लाइवुड उद्योग को बदलने के लिए पद्मश्री से सम्मानित किया गया



सज्जन भजनका, सेंचुरी प्लायबोर्ड्स (इंडिया) लिमिटेड के चेयरमैन और प्रबंध निदेशक, को उनके व्यापार और उद्योग के क्षेत्र में उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए प्रतिष्ठित पद्मश्री पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है। अपना आभार व्यक्त करते हुए, भजनका ने केंद्रीय सरकार का धन्यवाद किया कि उसने उनकी और उनकी कंपनी की कड़ी मेहनत को मान्यता दी, जो उन्होंने प्लाइवुड क्षेत्र को आकार देने में की है। 1976 में अपनी यात्रा की शुरुआत करने वाले भजनका ने सेंचुरी प्लायबोर्ड्स को मामूली शुरुआत से भारत की सबसे बड़ी प्लाइवुड कंपनी बना दिया। उनके नेतृत्व और दृष्टिकोण ने न केवल इस उद्योग में क्रांति लाई, बल्कि नए उद्यमों में भी विस्तार किया, जिसमें उत्तर-पूर्व का सबसे बड़ा सीमेंट संयंत्र भी शामिल है। वे इस सफलता का श्रेय कड़ी मेहनत, ईमानदारी और एक मजबूत टीम को देते हैं, जिसने मिलकर नवीनता और उत्कृष्टता की दिशा में काम किया।

पद्मश्री, भारत के सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान में से एक है, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों, जिसमें व्यापार और उद्योग भी शामिल है, में विशिष्ट सेवा के लिए दिया जाता है। इस वर्ष, 139 पद्म पुरस्कार प्रदान किए गए हैं, जो राष्ट्र के प्रति असाधारण योगदान को मान्यता देते हैं।

भजनका का यह सम्मान भारतीय विनिर्माण मानकों को बढ़ाने और औद्योगिक विकास को तेज करने में उनके अग्रणी भूमिका को पहचानने के रूप में है। उनकी यात्रा उद्यमियों के लिए प्रेरणा का स्रोत है, जो भारत की आर्थिक स्थिति को आकार देने में दृढ़ता और दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व के प्रभाव को मजबूत करती है।

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**MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY** 

### QCO नियमों के तहत कड़े आयात नियम

सरकार ने विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में लगभग 800 उत्पादों को कवर करते हुए कड़े गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCOs) लागू किए हैं, जिनमें निर्माण सामग्री जैसे कि प्लाईवुड और सीमेंट, उपभोक्ता वस्त्र, विद्युत उपकरण और बैटरियां, खाद्य उत्पाद, शहद, खाद्य तेल और दूध पाउडर, साथ ही रसायन, ऑटोमोटिव पार्ट्स, वस्त्र और धातु शामिल हैं।

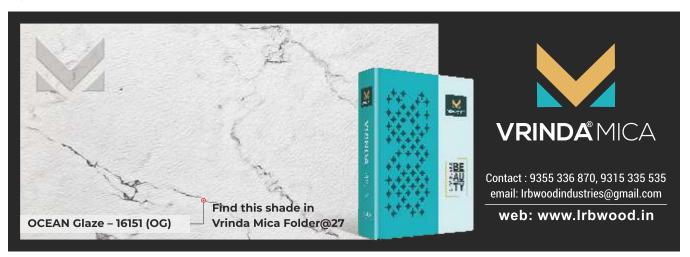
उपभोक्ता हितों की रक्षा के लिए बनाये गए, ये नियम यह अनिवार्य करते हैं कि निर्दिष्ट वस्तुओं का आयात केवल उन आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से किया जा सकता है, जिनके पास भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS) से लाइसेंस हो। ये उपाय प्रभावी रूप से गैर-शुल्क बाधाओं के रूप में काम करते हैं और घरेलू गुणवत्ता मानकों के अनुपालन को सुनिश्चित करने का उद्देश्य रखते हैं।

हालांकि, विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्र (SEZs) में संचालित निर्यात-उन्मुख इकाइयों के लिए अपवाद हैं, जिन्हें BIS प्रमाणन के बिना विदेशी

आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से ऐसे सामान खरीदने की अनुमित है, बशर्ते वे निर्यात उत्पादन के लिए विशिष्ट शर्तों को पूरा करते हों।

उद्योग पर्यवेक्षकों का कहना है कि कई अंतरराष्ट्रीय आपूर्तिकर्ता BIS लाइसेंस प्राप्त करने की जिटलताओं से बचने के लिए हिचिकचा रहे हैं, जो आयात में अतिरिक्त चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न कर रहा है। उन उत्पाद किस्मों के लिए जो QCOs के तहत कवर नहीं हैं, आयातकों को एक असहमित प्रमाणपत्र (NOC) प्राप्त करना आवश्यक है। इसके लिए यह घोषणा करनी होती है कि विशिष्ट ग्रेड घरेलू रूप से उपलब्ध नहीं है और इसे स्थानीय विकल्पों द्वारा प्रतिस्थापित नहीं किया जा सकता।

इन नियमों के कड़े होने के साथ, आयात पर निर्भर व्यवसायों को अतिरिक्त समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है, जो आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं और लागतों पर प्रभाव डाल सकता है।



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## वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय ने फर्नीचर उद्योग के लिए अनिवार्य BIS-QCO लागू किया, जो फरवरी 2026 से प्रभावी होगा

भारत में फर्नीचर उत्पादों की सुरक्षा, गुणवत्ता और विश्वसनीयता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक साहिसक कदम उठाते हुए, वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय ने फर्नीचर उद्योग के लिए अनिवार्य भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS)-गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) लागू करने की घोषणा की है। उद्योग एवं आंतरिक व्यापार संवर्धन विभाग (DPIIT) द्वारा 13 फरवरी 2025 को प्रकाशित ''फर्नीचर गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण, 2025'' आदेश, 13 फरवरी 2026 से प्रभावी होगा, जो निर्माताओं को नए नियमों के अनुरूप अनुकूलित होने के लिए पर्याप्त समय प्रदान करेगा।

यह आदेश यह अनिवार्य करता है कि विशेष फर्नीचर उत्पादों को स्थापित भारतीय मानकों (IS) के अनुसार होना चाहिए, तािक उनकी टिकाऊपन, सुरक्षा और प्रदर्शन सुनिश्चित किया जा सके। आदेश के तहत निर्दिष्ट उत्पादों में कार्य कुर्सियाँ, सामान्य प्रयोजन की कुर्सियाँ और स्टूल, मेज और डेस्क, भंडारण इकाइयाँ, अलमारी, बेड शािमल हैं, जिन्हें संबंधित IS मानकों के अनुरूप होना चाहिए, जो अधिसूचना में सूचीबद्ध हैं। उदाहरण के लिए, कार्य कुर्सियाँ IS 17631:2022 के अनुसार होनी चाहिए, जबिक बंक बेड IS 17636:2022 के अनुसार होने चाहिए। इन उत्पादों को भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो द्वारा जारी मानक चिह्न को बीआईएस (अनुपालन

मूल्यांकन) विनियम, 2018 के अनुसूची-II के योजना-I के तहत लाइसेंस के तहत चिह्नित करना होगा।

इन मानकों के लागू होने का उद्देश्य घरेलू फर्नीचर की गुणवत्ता बढ़ाना और यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि उपभोक्ताओं को सुरक्षित, उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पाद प्राप्त हों, लेकिन कुछ छूटें भी दी गई हैं। ये विनियम निर्यात के लिए निर्मित उत्पादों पर लागू नहीं होंगे। इसके अलावा, सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यमों को, जैसा कि सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम विकास अधिनियम, 2006 में परिभाषित किया गया है, अधिसूचना के प्रकाशन की तारीख से 18 महीने का मोहलत समय मिलेगा ताकि वे नए मानकों का पालन कर सकें। ''उध्यम पोर्टल'' के तहत पंजीकृत उद्यमों, जिनकी संयंत्र और मशीनरी में निवेश ₹25 लाख से कम है या जिनका टर्नओवर ₹2 करोड़ से अधिक नहीं है, उन्हें भी अनुपालन आवश्यकताओं से छूट दी जाएगी।

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS) उत्पादों का प्रमाणन करने और नए आदेश के अनुपालन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए जिम्मेदार होगा। इस आदेश के प्रावधानों का उल्लंघन करने वाली किसी भी संस्था को भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो अधिनियम, 2016 के तहत दंड का सामना करना पड़ेगा, जो सरकार की कड़े मानकों को बनाए रखने की प्रतिबद्धता को मजबूत करता है।

सरकार का यह नियामक कदम न केवल उपभोक्ता सुरक्षा और संतुष्टि को बढ़ाता है, बल्कि भारत की वैश्विक फर्नीचर बाजार में स्थिति को भी मजबूत करता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और गुणवत्ता मानकों के साथ मेल खाकर, भारत अपने फर्नीचर क्षेत्र की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में सुधार करने के लिए तैयार है, जबिक यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि उपभोक्ताओं को विश्वसनीय, उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पादों तक पहुंच प्राप्त हो।

इस आदेश के लागू होने के साथ, भारतीय फर्नीचर उद्योग में एक महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन होने जा रहा है, जो सरकार के द्वारा उद्योग मानकों को नियंत्रित और उन्नत करने के प्रयासों द्वारा प्रेरित होगा, जो निर्माताओं और उपभोक्ताओं दोनों के लिए लाभकारी साबित होगा।

### BIS प्लाईवुड उद्योग में कड़े गुणवत्ता मानकों को बढ़ावा देता है

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS), लखनऊ शाखा कार्यालय ने फरवरी 2025 के दूसरे सप्ताह में प्रमुख प्लाईवुड निर्माताओं के गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण कर्मचारियों के लिए एक विशेष प्रशिक्षण सत्र आयोजित किया। इस पहल का उद्देश्य प्लाईवुड उत्पादन में भारतीय मानकों का कड़ाई से पालन करना था, ताकि उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता और सुसंगतता में सुधार हो सके।

सत्र को संबोधित करते हुए, सुदीर बिश्नोई, विरष्ठ निदेशक और BIS लखनऊ के प्रमुख, ने निर्माण प्रक्रिया में सुधारात्मक उपायों की तत्काल आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने यह रेखांकित किया कि लाइसेंस प्राप्त निर्माताओं को गुणवत्ता मानकों को बनाए रखने के लिए सही स्टॉक रिकॉर्ड बनाए रखने, नियमित पुन: परीक्षण करने, उत्पादन कार्यक्रमों का पालन करने और गुणवत्ता विफलताओं को संबोधित करने की आवश्यकता है।

BIS के उप निदेशक जितेश कुमार ने रेजिन्स और एडहेसिव्स के उचित उपयोग के बारे में जानकारी दी, साथ ही सामान्य उपयोग और विशेष प्लाईवुड की गुणवत्ता बनाए रखने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण उपायों पर चर्चा की। इस प्रशिक्षण में ग्रीनप्लाई, जोया इंडस्ट्रीज, न्यू दुआ इंडस्ट्रीज, ऑस्टिन प्लाईवुड, वुड फैब, वाफी, वुड प्राइम, और जिंदल एग्रो इंडस्ट्रीज जैसे उद्योग के नेताओं ने भाग लिया।

BIS द्वारा कड़े दिशानिर्देशों को मजबूत किए जाने के साथ, प्लाईवुड उद्योग में बेहतर गुणवत्ता मानकों का पालन होगा, जो उपभोक्ताओं के लिए बेहतर उत्पाद और एक अधिक संरचित निर्माण पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र सुनिश्चित करेगा।

## कौशल गुणवत्ता मानक (QCO) शेड्यूल के अनुसार लागू किया जाएगा, वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने की पुष्टि

लकड़ी आधारित पैनल उद्योग के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण विकास में, वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने पुन: पुष्टि की है कि गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) समय पर लागू किया जाएगा, बिना किसी अतिरिक्त विस्तार के। यह आश्वासन एक उच्च-स्तरीय बैठक के दौरान दिया गया, जिसमें देशभर के विभिन्न संघों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाले प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योगपतियों का एक दल उपस्थित था।

इस दल में प्रमुख व्यक्तित्व जैसे FIPPI (फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन प्लाईवुड एंड पैनल इंडस्ट्री) के संरक्षक एन.के. अग्रवाल, बालाजी एक्शन बिल्डवेल प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के चेयरमैन, डॉ. एम.पी. सिंह, एफआईपीपीआई के निदेशक जनरल, और कई राज्य और राष्ट्रीय उद्योग निकायों के प्रतिनिधि शामिल थे, जिन्होंने मंत्री के साथ महत्वपूर्ण चिंताओं को संबोधित करने और नए नियमों के तहत सुगम परिवर्तन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए विस्तृत चर्चा की।

बैठक के दौरान, दल ने क्षेत्र द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों को रेखांकित करते हुए QCO ढांचे पर स्पष्टता मांगी। मंत्री गोयल ने उद्योग की चिंताओं को स्वीकार करते हुए, गुणवत्ता मानकों को बनाए रखने और उचित व्यापार प्रथाओं को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराया। उन्होंने

स्पष्ट रूप से कहा कि QCO/BIS के कार्यान्वयन में कोई और देरी नहीं होगी, और नए नियम 1 मार्च, 2025 से प्रभावी होंगे।

नए QCO मानक घरेलू निर्माताओं और आयातकों दोनों के लिए अनिवार्य होंगे, जो उद्योग के लिए नियामक अनुपालन में एक महत्वपूर्ण बदलाव का संकेत देते हैं। हालांकि, कार्यान्वयन प्रक्रिया के विवरण अभी तक अंतिम रूप से तय नहीं किए गए हैं।

बैठक में उद्योग के नेताओं ने भाग लिया, जिनमें भारतीय प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट उद्योग संघ के अध्यक्ष रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल, एआईपीएलआई के सचिव सोनू अग्रवाल, पंजाब प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ के अध्यक्ष इंदरजीत सिंह, ऑल इंडिया MDF निर्माता संघ के सचिव अजय गर्ग, और बिहार प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ, दिल्ली-एनसीआर प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ, और यूपी प्लाईवुड निर्माता कल्याण संघ जैसे संगठनों के प्रतिनिधि शामिल थे।

सरकार के गुणवत्ता प्रवर्तन पर दृढ़ रहने के साथ, उद्योग अब नए अनुपालन परिदृश्य के साथ अपनी संचालन को संरेखित करने के लिए तैयार हो रहा है, जो प्लाईवुड और पैनल क्षेत्र में बेहतर मानकों और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।

### वुड पैनल और डेकोरेटिव माईका, लूवर्स क्षेत्र की नजरें आईपीओ पर हैं

लकड़ी पैनल और सजावटी क्षेत्र, जिसे लंबे समय से एक विखंडित और अप्रबंधित क्षेत्र माना जाता था, अब एक संरचनात्मक बदलाव से गुजर रहा है, जो इसे एक सुव्यवस्थित उद्योग में बदलने की दिशा में बढ़ रहा है, जिसमें एक स्पष्ट दृष्टिकोण और आधुनिक कार्य संस्कृति है। यह क्षेत्र अपनी वृद्धि की दिशा को प्रौद्योगिकी, स्वचालन और ब्रांड पोजिशनिंग के माध्यम से बढ़ावा दे रहा है।

आवास, रियल एस्टेट और फर्नीचर क्षेत्रों से मांग में वृद्धि के चलते उद्योग तेज़ी से विस्तार कर रहा है। व्यापार में अपने संचालन को बढ़ाने, पूंजी जुटाने और बाजार में अपनी पैठ को मजबूत करने की इच्छा है, जिससे एसएमई आईपीओ मार्ग एक महत्वपूर्ण सहायक के रूप में उभर रहा है। इस क्षेत्र के उद्यमी सार्वजनिक सूचीकरण को ताजे फंड तक पहुंचने के लिए एक रणनीतिक कदम के रूप में देख रहे हैं, जो जैविक और अजैविक दोनों प्रकार की वृद्धि को प्रोत्साहित कर रहा है।

पिछले पांच वर्षों में, लकड़ी पैनल और सजावटी उद्योग ने एसएमई आईपीओ बाजार में सफलतापूर्वक प्रवेश करने वाली कंपनियों की लहर देखी है, जिन्होंने ₹25 करोड़ से ₹200 करोड़ के बीच पूंजी जुटाई। मजबूत निवेशक विश्वास और उत्साही सदस्यता दरों ने एक उत्प्रेरक के रूप में कार्य किया है, जिससे उद्योग के खिलाड़ी स्टॉक मार्केट सूचीकरण की दिशा में अधिक रुचि दिखा रहे हैं।

सेंचुरीप्लाई और ग्रीनप्लाई जैसे प्रमुख नामों के अलावा, ग्रीनपैनल, स्टाइलेम और रिशल डेकोर जैसी ब्रांड्स ने बाजार प्रदर्शन में नए मानक स्थापित किए हैं। इस बीच, यूरोबॉन्ड और एयरोलेम जैसे उभरते हुए खिलाड़ियों ने एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म का उपयोग विस्तार के लिए किया है, जिससे अन्य व्यवसायों में भी रुचि उत्पन्न हो रही है। यह बढ़ती रुचि एक व्यापक प्रवृत्ति को दर्शाती है, जिसमें संबंधित



क्षेत्रों की कंपनियां आईपीओ और पूंजी जुटाने के लिए तैयारी कर रही हैं।

उद्योग के अंदरूनी सूत्रों का कहना है कि लगभग दर्जन भर कंपनियां अनुपालन के उन्नत चरणों में हैं, और अगले कुछ वर्षों में वे एसएमई आईपीओ लॉन्च करने का लक्ष्य रखती हैं। पिछले पांच वर्षों में इस क्षेत्र ने लगातार दोहरे अंकों में वृद्धि दर्ज की है, और इसमें MDF, प्लाईवुड, पार्टिकल बोर्ड, सजावटी लैमिनेट, एसीपी, हार्डवेयर, लूवर्स और ऐक्रेलिक लैमिनेट्स जैसी श्रेणियों में महत्वपूर्ण क्षमता बढ़ोतरी हुई है।

यह निवेश का प्रवाह केवल क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट खिलाड़ियों तक सीमित नहीं है। पेंट, टाइल्स, सीमेंट, सिरेमिक और वस्त्र से लेकर रियल एस्टेट, फुटिवयर, वस्त्र और चमड़े तक के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र से जुड़े उद्योगों के निवेशक भी लकड़ी पैनल बाजार में गहरी रुचि दिखा रहे हैं। यह क्रॉस-सेक्टर भागीदारी उद्योग की आकर्षक संभावनाओं और इसके व्यापक निर्माण सामग्री पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में विकसित होते स्थान को उजागर करती है।

जैसे-जैसे उद्योग एक अधिक संरचित और निवेश-अनुकूल परिदृश्य की ओर बढ़ रहा है, आईपीओ की दिशा में यह कदम एक नए अध्याय की शुरुआत का संकेत देता है, जो भारत के लकड़ी पैनल और सजावटी क्षेत्र के लिए वृद्धि के अगले चरण को परिभाषित करेगा।

### प्रति व्यक्ति उपभोग में गिरावट के कारण बाजार धीमा हुआ

विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि उपभोक्ता खरीदारी को टाल रहे हैं या दैनिक घरेलू और व्यक्तिगत उत्पादों के उपयोग को बढ़ा रहे हैं, और जब एक बड़ी संख्या में लोग ये छोटे समायोजन करते हैं, तो यह सामूहिक रूप से समग्र बाजार में मंदी का कारण बनता है।

''जब उपभोक्ताओं को वित्तीय दबाव महसूस होता है, तो वे स्वाभाविक रूप से अपने उपयोग को सिमित या स्थिगित कर देते हैं। हमारे नियंत्रण से बाहर के मैक्रोइकोनॉमिक संकेतकों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के बजाय, हमारी प्राथमिकता प्रति व्यक्ति उपभोग को बढ़ाना होना चाहिए, जिसमें अभी भी महत्वपूर्ण वृद्धि की संभावनाएँ हैं,''एक उद्योग विशेषज्ञ ने कहा।

हालांकि शहरी विकास को कुछ अड़चनों का सामना करना पड़ा है, विशेषज्ञ इस मंदी को अस्थायी मानते हैं। नीलसनाQ की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, जुलाई-सितंबर अवधि में शहरी मांग वर्ष दर वर्ष 2.8% बढ़ी, जबिक ग्रामीण मांग उस दर से दो गुना अधिक बढ़कर 6% तक पहुंच गई।

### मेरिनो ने कोलकाता के शीर्ष आर्किटेक्ट्स और डिज़ाइनरों के साथ एक विशेष डिज़ाइन शाम का आयोजन किया

मेरिनो इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड ने हाल ही में कोलकाता में ''मेरिनो मनन'' का उद्घाटन किया, जो एक विशेष शाम थी जिसमें विचारशील डिजाइन समाधानों का उत्सव मनाया गया। इस अवसर पर प्रमुख आर्किटेक्ट्स, इंटीरियर डिजाइनर्स, उद्योग के नेताओं और प्रमुख प्रभावशाली व्यक्तियों की उपस्थिति थी, ताकि यह जानने की कोशिश की जा सके कि नये डिजाइन उपयोगकर्ता अनुभवों को कैसे बेहतर बना सकते हैं।

मनोज लोहिया, निदेशक, मेरिनो इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड, ने ब्रांड की डिज़ाइन दर्शन पर जोर दिया: "मेरिनो में, हम मानते हैं कि डिज़ाइन केवल सौंदर्यशास्त्र या कार्यक्षमता के बारे में नहीं है; यह उन उपयोगकर्ताओं की विविध आवश्यकताओं के साथ मेल खाने वाले सार्थक समाधानों को बनाने के बारे में है। मेरिनो मनन के माध्यम से, हम ऐसे संवादों को बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं जो डिज़ाइन में सहानुभूति और विचारशीलता को प्रेरित करें, यह सुनिश्चित करते हुए कि यह उपयोगकर्ता की घोषित और अप्रकट अपेक्षाओं दोनों को पूरा करता है। यह यात्रा कोलकाता से शुरू होती है, जो एक समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक धरोहर और जीवंत डिजाइन संवेदनाओं वाला शहर है।"

साथ ही, मेरिनो की नवीनतम उत्पादों को भी प्रदर्शित किया गया। ''सम्पदा लैमिनेट कलेक्शन,'' जो पारंपरिक भारतीय वस्त्रों जैसे इकत और चिकनकारी से प्रेरित था, ने विरासत शिल्पकला और आधुनिक सौंदर्यशास्त्र का सम्मिलन प्रस्तुत किया। एक अन्य आकर्षण था ''मिस्टिक,'' जो एक अत्याधुनिक रेस्ट रूम क्यूबिकल मॉडल था, जो पूरी ऊंचाई वाली गोपनीयता और चमकदार फिनिश प्रदान करता है, जो भारत में उद्योग का पहला उदाहरण है, और यह मेरिनो की कार्यक्षमता और डिज़ाइन उत्कृष्टता के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखने की प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है।

कोलकाता में अपनी सफल शुरुआत के साथ, मेरिनो मनन अब एक यात्रा मंच के रूप में विकसित होने के लिए तैयार है, जो भारत के प्रमुख शहरों में डिज़ाइन समुदाय को जोड़ने का काम करेगा। सहयोग को बढ़ावा देकर और डिज़ाइन नवाचार की सीमाओं को चुनौती देते हुए, मेरिनो विचारशील, उपयोगकर्ता– केंद्रित स्थानों के भविष्य को आकार देता रहेगा।

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MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY

### 25वीं वार्षिक प्रदर्शनी 6 से 9 मार्च तक



2025 की शुरुआत होते ही, उद्योग पेशेवरों को एक ऐसे वर्ष का इंतजार है जिसमें विकास, सफलता और नए अवसरों की भरमार हो। इस क्षेत्र में सबसे प्रत्याशित आयोजनों में से एक है इंडियावुड 2025 जो अपनी 25वीं वार्षिक दिवस संस्करण के साथ एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर साबित होगा।

2.5 दशक की प्रगित का जश्न मनाते हुए, इंडियावुड 2025 का उद्देश्य उद्योग के दिशाकारों, अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों और नए विचारों को एक साथ लाना है, जो वुडवर्किंग और फर्नीचर निर्माण के भविष्य को आकार देने में मदद कर रहे हैं। आयोजकों ने यह स्पष्ट किया है कि इस संस्करण में केवल नवाचारों को ही प्रदर्शित नहीं किया जाएगा, बल्कि पिछले 25 वर्षों में उद्योग की शानदार यात्रा को भी सम्लित किया जाएगा।

एक विशेष वार्षिक दिवस उत्सव का आयोजन गुरुवार, 6 मार्च 2025 को शाम 6:00 बजे से इंडिया एक्सपो सेंटर एंड मार्ट (IEML) में किया जाएगा। उपस्थित लोग इस शाम का इंतजार कर सकते हैं, जो महत्वपूर्ण मील के पत्थरों और सफलताओं पर विचार करते हुए उद्योग के विकासशील परिदृश्य को देखने का अवसर प्रदान करेगी।

इंडियावुड 2025 के चारों ओर बढ़ती उत्साह के साथ, उद्योग के हितधारकों को इस भव्य अवसर का हिस्सा बनने के लिए आमंत्रित किया गया है। यह कार्यक्रम 6 से 9 मार्च 2025 तक IEML, ग्रेटर नोएडा में आयोजित होगा और यह वुडवर्किंग के भविष्य को दिशा देने के लिए उत्सुक पेशेवरों के लिए एक अनमोल अवसर साबित होगा।

### सतत और टिकाऊ - सेंचुरी प्रोवुड के लोअर इमिशन प्रीमियम प्लस बोर्ड्स

इंटीरियर डिजाइन में, गृहस्वामी अक्सर सौंदर्य और टिकाऊपन के बीच दुविधा का सामना करते हैं। हालांकि, उद्योग विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि सेंचुरी प्रोवुड के लोअर इमिशन प्रीमियम प्लस बोर्ड्स दोनों का सहज मिश्रण प्रदान करते हैं, जिससे समझौते की आवश्यकता समाप्त हो जाती है। ये बोर्ड्स उन लोगों के लिए डिजाइन किए गए हैं जो सुंदरता को प्राथमिकता देते हुए सजावट और बजट को नज्रअंदाज़ नहीं करना चाहते, और आधुनिक इंटीरियर्स के लिए एक पसंदीदा विकल्प बन रहे हैं।

उद्योग के पेशेवर इन बोर्ड्स के पारिस्थितिकीय नवीनता पर जोर देते हैं, और पारंपिरक विकल्पों की तुलना में इनकी कम फॉर्मलडीहाइड उत्सर्जन की महत्ता को रेखांकित करते हैं। जैसे-जैसे स्थिरता निर्माण और इंटीरियर डिज़ाइन में एक आवश्यक विचार बनती जा रही है, ये बोर्ड्स पर्यावरण के प्रति जागरूक उपभोक्ताओं के लिए आदर्श साबित हो रहे हैं जो अपने स्थानों को बेहतर बनाते हुए अपने कार्बन फुटप्रिंट को कम करना चाहते हैं।

स्थिरता के अलावा, ये बोर्ड्स अपनी

असाधारण टिकाऊपन के लिए भी पहचाने जाते हैं। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि इनकी नमी, दीमक और बोरेर से प्रतिरोध क्षमता लंबी उम्र सुनिश्चित करती है, जिससे ये आवासीय और वाणिज्यिक स्थानों दोनों के लिए उपयुक्त बनते हैं। रोज़मर्रा के उपयोग से होने वाली घिसावट का सामना करने की उनकी क्षमता उनकी अपील को और बढ़ाती है।

बेहतर गुणवत्ता के बावजूद, इन बोर्ड्स की सस्ती कीमत उनकी लोकप्रियता का एक महत्वपूर्ण कारण बनी हुई है। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि ये बोर्ड्स उच्च-प्रदर्शन सामग्री की तलाश में उन लोगों के लिए एक किफायती समाधान प्रदान करते हैं, जिनका बजट सीमित है।

पारिस्थितिकीय मित्रता, टिकाऊपन और किफायती कीमत का संयोजन होने के कारण, सेंचुरी प्रोवुड के लोअर इमिशन प्रीमियम प्लस बोर्ड्स इंटीरियर्स के समाधान में एक क्रांतिकारी बदलाव के रूप में देखे जा रहे हैं। पेशेवरों का कहना है कि ये उद्योग मानकों को फिर से परिभाषित करने के लिए तैयार हैं, और उपभोक्ताओं को सुंदरता और मजबूती का अदितीय मिश्रण प्रदान करते हैं।



#### एक्शन टेसा

### डिजिटल परिवर्तनः TESA CONNECT उद्योग संलग्नता को नया आकार देता है।

डिजिटलीकरण की दिशा में एक क्रांतिकारी बदलाव में, एक्शन TESA ने TESA CONNECT ऐप के माध्यम से भौतिक कूपन को डिजिटल समाधान से बदलकर इंजीनियर लकड़ी उद्योग में क्रांति ला दी है। यह नवीन प्लेटफ़ॉर्म प्रक्रियाओं को सरल बनाता है, दक्षता बढ़ाता है, और देशभर में बढ़ईयों, डीलरों और वितरकों के बीच संलग्नता को मजबूत करता है।

TESA CONNECT सिर्फ एक ऐप नहीं है, बिल्क यह एक परिवर्तनकारी उपकरण है जो देशभर के प्रमुख हितधारकों को एक साथ लाता है। एकीकृत डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म प्रदान करने वाला भारत का एकमात्र इंजीनियर लकड़ी ब्रांड होने के नाते, एक्शन TESA ने पहुंच, सुविधा और उद्योग-व्यापी सहयोग में एक नया मानक स्थापित किया है।

नवाचार के प्रति समर्पित, एक्शन TESA यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि TESA CONNECT डिजिटल परिवर्तन के अग्रिम मोर्चे पर बना रहे। लगातार अपडेट्स, नई सुविधाओं और विशेष ऑफ़रों के साथ, ऐप उपयोगकर्ताओं की गतिशील आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए विकसित होता है, और उन्हें उद्योग प्रवृत्तियों से आगे रखता है।

अपनी कार्यक्षमता के अलावा, TESA CONNECT ऐप एक्शन TESA के उत्पादों में विश्वास और प्रामाणिकता का प्रतीक है। डिजिटल ट्रैकिंग, निर्बाध लेन-देन और रियल-टाइम अपडेट्स को एकीकृत करके, यह प्लेटफ़ॉर्म ब्रांड की पारदर्शिता और ग्राहक संतुष्टि के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता को मजबूत करता है।

जैसे-जैसे अधिक खुदरा विक्रेता और बढ़ई TESA CONNECT समुदाय से जुड़ते हैं, उद्योग एक स्मार्ट, अधिक जुड़े भविष्य की ओर बढ़ रहा है। एक्शन TESA का नवाचार के प्रति समर्पण बाजार को नया आकार दे रहा है, और उत्कृष्टता का वादा सुनिश्चित कर रहा है।



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