

## Day 1 – FoodTekPack 2025 debates food wastage

### SPOT COVERAGE

Discussions on food loss and waste and preventive measures

True to its promise, the IPP group's FoodTekPack conference, held alongside the Intrapac India show in Greater Noida, began on a strong note with serious discussions on tackling food waste, circular economy, the history of packaging, the difference between food loss and food waste, and how responsible packaging can help tackle the problem.

Other topics included upcycling food, innovations in the supply chain to prevent waste, integrating forensics and digital traceability to counter counterfeiting, FSSAI's packaging update, and using data intelligence to predict and prevent food waste in the supply chain.

Welcoming the delegates, Ainan Shahhidi, director of 4 Sixes Group, spoke about the need for responsible food packaging and processing to eliminate food waste. Explaining the need and necessity of the conference, Naresh Khanna, editor of Packaging South Asia and IndiFoodBev, said he hoped to connect all stakeholders in the food and packaging industries to find feasible solutions to tackle the problem of food waste.

Elaborating on the size of India's food economy, Khanna said the food industry is estimated to be around Rs 86 lakh crore or US\$950 billion, which is roughly about 20% of India's GDP of US\$4 trillion. Food loss and waste are also humongous in nature, roughly as high as 75 million tons or 51 kilograms per capita per year (UNEP's Food Waste Report 2024), he said, which is a huge challenge to the food and beverages industry. Food loss contributes to around 10% of climate change, which points to the need for the industry, from farm to fork, to find ways and means to reduce food waste, which can feed millions, he said.

Sandeep Ghosh, business head, DS Spiceco, spoke from a consumer perspective, putting the spotlight on responsible and sustainable



Naresh Khanna, editor, Packaging South Asia, IndiFoodBev and Indian Printer and Publisher inaugurated the FoodTekPack conference alongside Ainan Shahhidi, director 4 Sixes Group and other dignitaries

food processing and packaging and its impact on new markets and exports. In an interesting presentation, Ghosh traced the history of food processing and packaging to elucidate how the produce of one country became the staple of another and explained how food products evolved over the centuries, keeping in mind the key aspects of preserving and packaging.

Explaining the difference between food waste and food loss, Rijota Basu, program head food loss and waste, WRI India, said 40% of food produced is either lost or wasted, adding around 24% of the global calories are wasted annually. Sanjay Gupta, senior vice president, packaging development and procurement DS Group unveiled his book, **Responsible Packaging - An Indian guidebook to the future**.

Other speakers in the first two sessions included Aditi Jhala of The Misfits, who promotes a circular economy by converting farm rejects such as an odd-shaped pumpkin

or carrot leaves or twin-onions into dips and spreads; and Nitin Sanduja, sales manager, Buhler India, who delivered a presentation on the upcycling of food products and byproducts such as wheat husk, rice bran, and spent grain in brewery in modern retail.

This was followed by a panel discussion on the 'circular food economy from farm to thali,' where Aditi Jhala, Nitin Sanduja, moderator Bhushan Namderao Yengade, founder, Binder Technology Consultancy, Himanshi Mahajan, packaging head - R&D, Mother Dairy and Prem Garg, national president, Indian Rice Exporters Federation, discussed innovations in the food supply chain to prevent wastage. The discussions ranged from rice exports to challenges in managing waste.

In an engaging discussion, Ainan Shahhidi, Naresh Khanna, Swapnil Bharadwaj, Central Quality & Regulatory Affairs Manager, Haldiram and Raman Sharma, IT Head, Vinsak, discussed and debated on integrating



forensics and digital traceability into the food supply chain.

In the post-lunch sessions, Priyanka Sharma, associate manager, technical regulatory affairs, Marico talked about FSSAI's updates,

followed by a panel discussion on the topic. K Ravi, founder of Raas Intellisolution, Ashish Pinto from Nesco, Shrikanth Ramamurthy from Parksons Packaging and Sushil Sharma from Sealed Air discussed the urgent challeng-

es in India's packaging and cold-chain ecosystem. The last session of the day discussed innovations in food and beverage marketing, retail, hospitality and restaurants.

– Nilutpal Thakur



The IPP Group felicitated IPAMA members at the FoodTekPack 2025 Conference



Sanjay Gupta, senior vice president, packaging development and procurement DS Group unveiled his book *Responsible Packaging - An Indian guidebook to the future* at the FoodTekPack conference in Greater Noida



At the FoodTekPack conference, Rijota Basu, program head food loss and waste, WRI India, spoke about food loss and waste and how around 24% of the global calories are lost annually. Basu highlighted preventive measures to safeguard food and create awareness among consumers on the impact of wasting food.

During her presentation, she explained the difference between food loss and food waste. She said inefficient harvesting practices, outdated machinery, and other factors damage crops. In transit, poor infrastructure and lack of cold storage increase the chances of spoilage. During food processing, poor planning, outdated equipment, lack of measurement and data to show hot spots, lack of food-handling skills, and awareness could lead to food wastage. In stores or restaurants, inefficient stock management is a leading cause of wastage, as a result of which surplus food is thrown away. At home, awareness about food safety and its impact is a significant concern.



On Day 1 of the IPP Group's FoodTekPack conference, co-located with the Intrapac exhibition in Greater Noida, Sandeep Ghosh, business head, DS Spiceco, spoke from a consumer perspective, highlighting the impact of responsible and sustainable food processing on new markets and exports.

Ghosh said, "Mankind has always been challenged for food packaging that offers freshness, safety from contamination, convenience, waste elimination, and logical synergy, which can be mass-distributed and, at the same time, is highly affordable. masale ka kharcha murgi se zyada nhi hona chahiye (the spices should not cost more than the chicken, he said.)"

Food packaging is essential to humans because it is the biggest attempt to preserve freshness, ensure safety, physical protection, and convenience, he said, adding that the gathering at the FoodTekPack conference reflects the same thought. "Food packaging delivers critical information for consumers and the complex supply chain, making modern food distribution feasible and reliable," he said.



## Power-packed agenda for Day 2

### The speakers and agenda

**Extended producer responsibility:** Presentation by Dr Tribhuvan Singh Bisht of Center for Science and Environment.

**How to Make the Indian Food Supply Chain Carbon Positive:** Presentation by Dr Ishita Bhatnagar, cofounder - Zissions Phd Water Resources.

**Panel discussion on EPR – Moderator:** Ainain Shahhidi. Panel members – Achintya Lahiri of Sidel. Kalpam Chauhan of Mother Dairy. Plastic packaging waste recycling opportunity in India: Presentation by Nitanshi Agarwal, business development head-North, Banyan Nation.

**Panel discussion – Moderator:** Naresh Khanna. Panel members – Ashish Jain of Indian Pollution Control Association, and Sanjay Gupta of DS Group.

**Modernization of packaging machines for sustainable materials** – Presentation on Digitizing Legacy Packaging Machines and Workflow: Data, IoT & AI for Sustainable and Predictive Operations by K Ravi, founder, RAS Intellisolutions.

**Panel discussion – Moderator:** Ainain Shahhidi. Panel members – Achintya Lahiri of Sidel; Avinash Bangle of Mamata Machinery; Arijit Mondal of Nestlé.

**Designing for Sustainability** – New recyclable structures for flexible packaging – Presentation on New Recyclable Flexible Packaging Films, Structures and Laminates by Ajay Kumar Nema of Alok Masterbatches.

Presentation on The Improvements and Possibilities of Paperization for Food Packaging by Professor Kirtiraj K Gaikwad of IIT Roorkee.

**Panel Discussion** – Moderator: Madhab Chakraborty of IIP. Panel members – Rajesh Kumar Srivastava of UFlex Chemicals; Nayandeep Banerjee of Pernod Ricard; Himanshi Mahajan of Mother Dairy; and Abhishek Arora of LT Foods.

**Smart Packaging, Brand Protection & Track n Trace** – Presentation on From Counterfeit Drugs to Counterfeit Foods: Lessons in Regulation, Enforcement, and Forensic Readiness by Keshav Kumar (Ex-IPS and forensic expert) and another presentation by Jatin Talwar, operations director, Fasiculus.

**Panel discussion - Moderator:** Barun Banerjee of Monofix Packaging Solutions. Panel members – Nagesh Bakshi of Bakshi Marks; Nayandeep Banerjee of Pernod Ricard India; Kalpam Chauhan of Mother Dairy; Abhishek Arora of LT Foods; Soumyanath Mishra of Mankind Pharma; and Padma Jaiswal, Government of Puducherry.

# Conference

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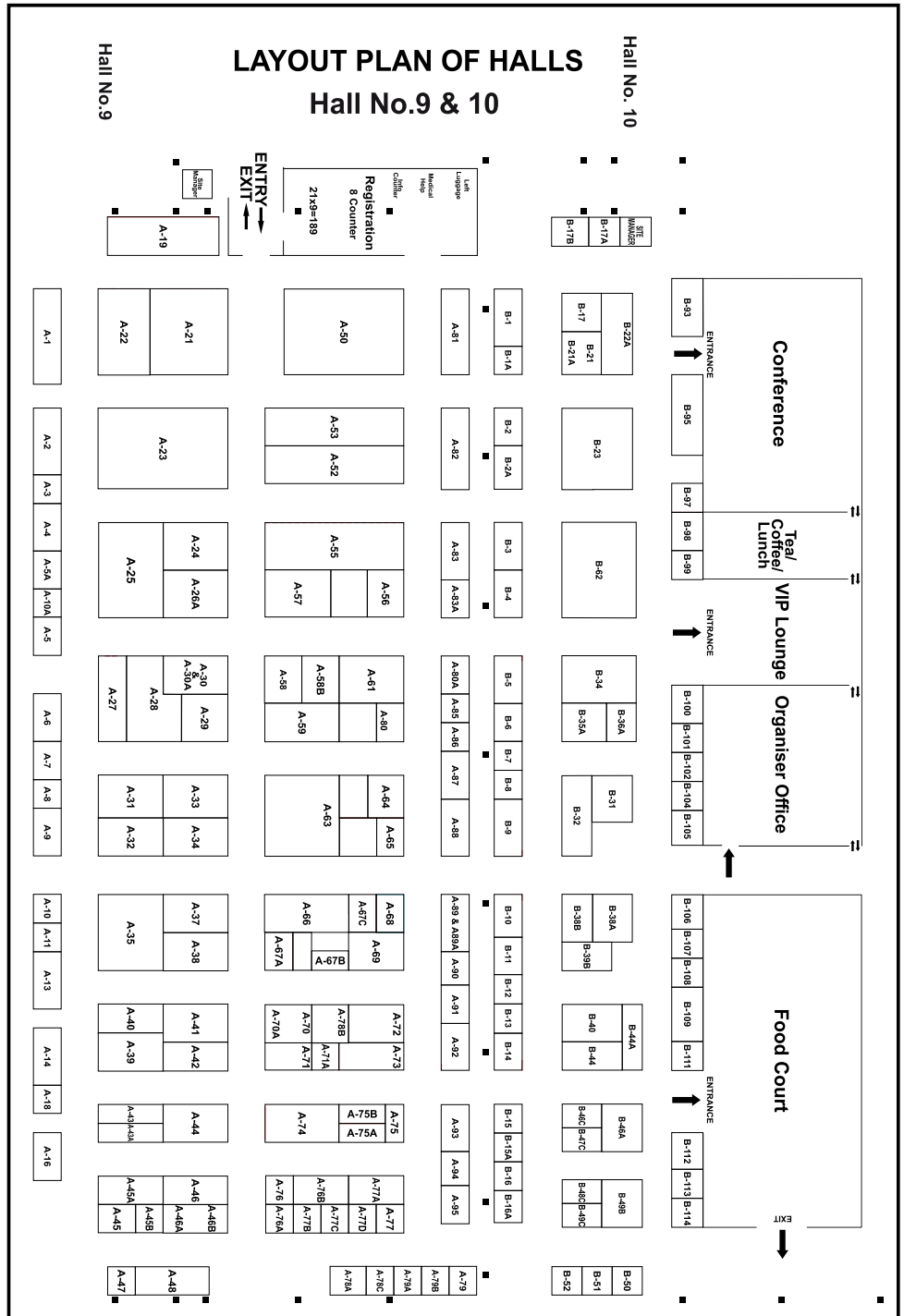
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Volume 47 • Issue 11 • November 2025 • Monthly • Rs. 200



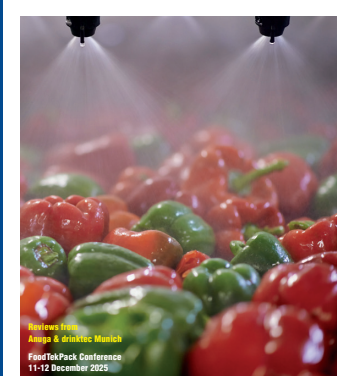
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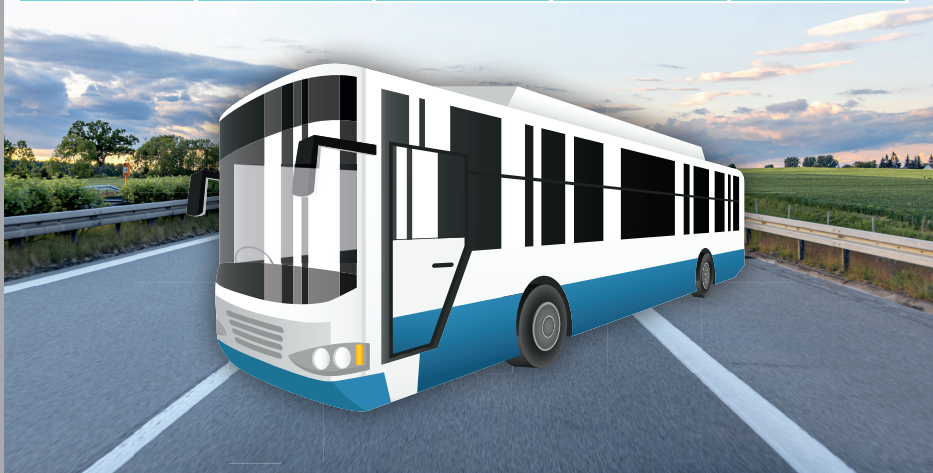
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#### Botanical Garden to IEML

09:00 AM	09:30 AM	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM
11:30 AM	12:00 PM	12:30 PM	01:00 PM	

#### IEML to Botanical Garden

04:00 PM	05:15 PM	05:30 PM	05:45 PM	06:00 PM
06:10 PM	06:15 PM	06:20 PM	06:30 PM	



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Parksons Packaging is the official hydration partner at the FoodTekPack conference. The innovative water packs are sustainable aseptic cartons, which are 100% recyclable a huge feat in itself. The aseptic cartons are composed of 67% renewably resourced materials contributing 0% net forest cover loss as per the certification by FSC. The company is also the gold partner for the two-day conference.



Asian Organics displayed its range of water-based inks for the flexo and gravure printing industries at IntraPac India 2025



Samples on display at various stands at IntraPac India 2025



Sudarshan Book Distributors displayed its range of Pantone colours at IntraPac, along with some books on the art and science of color design in printing and packaging



# Ample Graphics' food packaging machinery at IntraPac 2025

## SPOT COVERAGE

Future is bright for food packaging in India  
— Sachin Kala

At the second edition of IntraPac 2025 in Noida, Ample Graphics showcased a range of machinery to meet the evolving needs of the food and packaging industry. In an interaction with *Packaging South Asia*, Sachin Kala, director, Ample Graphics, shared insights into the company's product portfolio, market expectations, and industry trends shaping the future of packaging in India.

"We are exhibiting three of our key machines, a carton box erecting machine, a manual foil stamping machine and a rigid box forming machine. The machine at our stand is the proof of our capability in providing reliable solutions for both conventional and premium packaging applications," Sachin Kala, director, Ample Graphics, said.

Participating for the second time at IntraPac, the company has already witnessed a promising response. "We have received three to four enquiries so far, and I hope this will be the best exhibition," Kala said. He noted that compared to the previous edition, this year's event has seen noticeably better footfall, attributing the rise to stronger promotion and growing interest from end users and food packaging converters.

For Ample Graphics, IntraPac serves primarily as a branding platform—an opportunity to reinforce market presence while connecting with potential customers. Discussing industry trends, Kala pointed out that India's packaging sector is rapidly transitioning from conventional solutions to high-end, sophisticated packaging, driven largely by growth in online food delivery platforms and rising consumer expectations.

While North India naturally leads in volume due to its population, regions such as the West and South are experiencing robust growth, with the Eastern markets gradually catching up.

With India's packaging landscape undergoing swift modernisation, Kala remains optimistic and says, "The future is bright for food packaging in India."

— Rajesh Kumar



The Ample Graphics team at the IntraPac India 2025

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## Megabound's array of binding equipment at IntraPac

### SPOT COVERAGE

Company eyes 200 machine installations in FY 25-26

Indian binding specialist Megabound manufactures complete solutions for rigid boxes and hard case making. The Bangalore-based company displayed its automatic casemaker active dual, automatic top gluing conveyor, rigid box V grooving machine, and automatic rigid box wrapping and folding machine at the second edition of the IntraPac exhibition, organized by IPAMA (Indian Printing Packaging & Allied Machinery Manufacturers' Association) in Greater Noida's India Expo Centre.

Established in 2001, Megabound is exporting Make in India binding equipment to more than 40 countries across the globe, including the UAE, Russia, and a lot of companies in the US as well as many European countries.

Megabound has a widespread network of sales and service centres across the length and breadth of India. Many established Indian book printers and exporters, such as Kundli-based Replika and The Orient Litho Press in Sivakasi, are Megabound's clients.

The company's director of marketing, N Srinivasa Reddy, spoke to the IPP Group about its growing presence in Northeastern India. Megabound's sales and service centre in Kolkata serves the region with at least 3-4 installations in the region every month. The binding major recently sold 11 machines worth more than Rs 1.2 crore to the 50-year-old Saraighat Offset Press in the Bamunimaidan industrial area of Guwahati.

"Earlier, the Northeast region was a little behind. However, this year, machine sales have increased to the Northeast region. That is a good sign," he added.

The company, which is celebrating its Silver Jubilee this year, had a steady flow of business visitors and prospective customers to its 75-square-meter stand at IntraPac. "We always receive a great response at the IPAMA exhibitions. Whenever we are doing the Print-Pack, it is our big show. Our next exhibition is PAMEX from 27-30 January in Mumbai, where we have a 140 square meter stand," Reddy said.

"IPAMA is a brand – It's like the Indian drupa," he said, adding that wherever IPAMA organizes exhibitions, the footfall is steady because they have a standard customer base.

The rigid box machine showcased at the show can do both short-run and long-run jobs, and that is the primary reason we have designed these machines, Reddy noted. "India is a growing country, but still many new brands



N Srinivasa Reddy (Left), director of marketing, Megabound, at Intrapac India.

and startups require small quantities as well."

Megabound is a pioneer in the Indian book binding segment, Reddy said. Even if you have to put a tag, we have the solution available. Indian book printers and exporters, thus, need not go abroad and import foreign-made machines as we are providing Indian-made machines with better after-sales and spare parts services. "We regularly take feedback from book printers and incorporate required features in our upcoming models."

Reddy talked about his twelve-year association with Replika and the recent installation of a specialized round case machine to support their Kolbus machine.

According to him, Megabound has sold more than 140 machines in the financial year 2025-26. Our target is to cross 200 installations in this financial year, he said.

– Priyanka Tanwar

### IPP Startalkies



**Chandrasekhar Rajagopalan at Intrapac 2025**



Chandrasekhar Rajagopalan, president of the Indian Flexible Packaging and Folding Carton Manufacturers Association reflects on the evolution of Intrapac, the dynamic growth of the Indian packaging industry ...