

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR 92nd MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL REVIEW
COMMITTEE (TRC)**

Date: 28th February, 2025
Time: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Venue: Online mode

Agenda.1. Crumb rubber modifier to be blended in bitumen for use in road construction in view of the recommendation given in circular Economy Report on ‘Tyre and Rubber Recycling Industry’ and subsequent Circular Economy Action Plan Finalized by NITI Aayog.

The use of crumb rubber modifier to be blended in bitumen for use in road construction at refinery level and also took opinions of various stakeholders on its production, constraints, facility upgrades, techno-economic viability issues, safety, extent of limit for blending etc. The views and recent updates on R&D were taken from various delegates of organization like Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways (MoRTH), BPCL, IRC, NHAI etc.

According to NHAI, in India, around 3 Lac MT/ annum of CRMB (mostly grade 55 & 60) are used as per IRC 107 specification i.e. for Bitumen Concrete (BC) and are being projected for more use. It was also informed that MoRTH has already issued guidelines regarding the usage of CRMB, PMB etc. for construction of roads in August, 2023 in consultation to the CRRI and other stakeholders.

The matter was discussed in 91st TRC, and after deliberation upon the issue the committee noted the concerns expressed by the representative of MoRTH, but also felt that a definite plan for mitigating those concerns and increasing the use of CRMB needs to be made. After detailed deliberation, the committee felt that more discussion is required on the matter and stakeholders especially from the refineries and recyclers associations, like IOCL, CRRI, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas etc. may be called in the next meeting. Further, more details viz. ground reality, logistics issues and any other constraints may also be obtained from Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways. The matter may be taken up in the next meeting of TRC.

Agenda.2. Misuse of 10 mesh license by tyre recyclers – Representation from All India Rubber & Tyre Recyclers Association

All India Rubber & Tyre Recycler Association has raised an issue regarding the misuse of 10 mesh license by Tyre recycler by taking support of MoEFCC Letter no. 23-3/2019-HSMD dated 13th May, 2020, which states that rubber crumb/granules having mesh size finer than 10-mesh and devoid of iron/steel & most of the fibers, are product and does not require permission form this ministry. It is mentioned that some of the members of their association apply for import of 10 mesh license from DGFT and after obtaining the license these recyclers are actually importing baled and multicut material by giving mis-declaration as rubber crumb/granules having mesh size finer than 10 mesh. DGFT issues the license without checking actual consumption, electricity bills etc. which is done by MoEF while issuing regular import license of shreds and bales.

They also informed that the current rate of rubber crumb size finer than 10 mesh is ranging in between \$265 per M.T. to \$280 per M.T., whereas the current rate of baled tyres and multicut is USD 100 and USD 130 respectively. Further, the importers are declaring an

invoice value of bale scrap which is 50% of the 10 mesh value. Therefore, they are also involved in mis-declaration of invoice value. In view of this, the following is suggested to stop this malpractice:

- i. DGFT should not issue 10 mesh licenses as there is no actual importer of this product and people are only using this loophole.
- ii. Custom should not clear the material under 10 mesh license and put the Red alert, insist upon 100 % inspection of the material and upload the pictures with containers numbers on custom portal.
- iii. MoEF to take note of this and get data from customs to check data.

Agenda.3. Request to allow import of PET Bottle Waste (Post consumed water & cold drink bottles) – Representation from All India Recycled Fiber and Yarn Manufacturer Association

All India Recycle Fiber & Yarn Manufacturers Association *vide* letter dated 27th December, 2024 has requested the Ministry to allow import of PET Bottle Waste (Post consumed water & cold drink bottles) to actual Pet bottle recyclers who are manufacturing recycle polyester staple fiber (RPS) and Polyester Filament Yarn (ROY & RPFY) for the development of textile industry and to increase the export of RPOY & RPFY from India.

2. It is mentioned that All India Recycled Fiber and Yarn Manufacturers Association" is an industry association of manufacturers of recycled polyester staple fiber (PSF) and recycled polyester filament yarn (POY & PTY) which is produced from thrown away drinking water & beverages PET Bottles collected by rag pickers. These post consumed PET bottles are transformed in to a new product i.e. recycled polyester staple fiber (PSF) and recycled polyester filament yarn (POY & PTY), which is raw material for textile industry. At present, the import of waste PET bottles is not allowed into India and it is prohibited as per the Hazardous and Other Waste (Management Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules under item B3010 in schedule VI.

3. In view of export possibility of recycled polyester staple fiber (PSF) and recycled polyester filament yarn (POY & PTY) and garments made from it, it is requested to allow import of waste PET bottles (Post consumed PET Waste) to actual PET Bottle recyclers to the extent of 20% only of their annual production or to the extent of waste consumed in export of recycled polyester staple fiber (PSF) and recycled polyester filament yarn (POY & PTY) under restricted category.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4: ANY OTHER ITEMS WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR