

Press Release

Indian Alkali Industry thanks the Government for support that will boost domestic manufacturing

A delegation of industry chlor-alkali representatives led by Shri Anil Kumar, President of Alkali Manufacturers Association of India met Shri Ananth Kumar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India and requested for government regulation on making superior quality caustic soda mandatory. The Minister assured the industry of the government's support and announced that a regulation making revised quality standard for caustic soda mandatory for domestic production as well as imports is being introduced.

The entire Indian industry produces caustic soda using the superior membrane cell technology which is energy efficient and eco-friendly, making us the second country in the world (after Japan) to achieve complete conversion. However, there is no restriction on the quality of caustic soda imported into the country with the result that caustic soda produced by mercury cell and diaphragm technology which are inferior continue to enter the country.

The Indian alkali industry welcomes the government's decision to make the revised caustic soda standard (produced from membrane cell technology) mandatory and thanks the Hon'ble Minister for extending wholehearted support to the domestic industry.

Imports of caustic soda constitute about 15% of demand which is affecting the capacity utilisation of domestic manufacturers. The Indian industry has been pressing for stopping inferior caustic soda imports that is adversely affecting health and environment.

The government's decision will also give a fillip to the "Make in India" programme by encouraging the domestic industry to invest in superior manufacturing technology and augmenting capacity to meet the growing local demand as well as harnessing export potential.

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Secretary General

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