

**Interactive Session with Shri Rajeev Kapoor, IAS  
Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals,  
Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers**

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Alkali Manufacturers Association of India  
held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in New Delhi**

**Press Release**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Alkali Manufacturers Association of India was held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in New Delhi. Coinciding with the AGM, an interactive session on issues and challenges of the Indian alkali and Chlorovinyl industry was organised in which Shri Rajeev Kapoor, IAS, Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Govt. of India participated.

**Overview of the Indian alkali and Chlorovinyl industries – Issues and Challenges**

Shri Anil Kumar, President of AMAI made a presentation, providing an overview of the Indian alkali and Chlorovinyl industries and the issues and challenges that retard its progress. The industry comprises nearly 50 plants spread throughout the country, with a collective turnover of over Rs.25,000 crores and providing employment to nearly 2 lakh people.

Caustic soda production is energy intensive and a major challenge facing the industry is the high cost of power. Due to non-availability of quality power at competitive rates, the industry has invested substantially in setting up captive power plants. However, various state governments have been imposing electricity duty and cess on captive power generation. These add to production costs despite the most efficient technology used across the industry, making them uncompetitive against cheap imports, specially from the Middle East.

The Association has been representing on this issue for a long time without success. Subsuming the electricity duties and cesses in GST will provide the much needed relief and add to its competitive strength.

**Secretary's response encourages the Industry**

In his interaction with the industry, the Secretary acknowledged that the sector faces challenges that need to be addressed. He assured the industry representatives present to extend all support by taking up these issues with relevant ministries/departments for early resolution.

**AMAI re-elects Mr. Anil Kumar as President and Mr. Jayantibhai Patel as Vice President**

Earlier in the day, the Association, in its 40<sup>th</sup> AGM re-elected Shri Anil Kumar, Executive Director – Chemicals at DCM Shriram Ltd. as President of the Association for a second term. Shri Jayantibhai Patel, Executive Chairman of Meghmani Group was re-elected Vice President.

**For favour of publication please.**

K Srinivasan  
Secretary General

New Delhi  
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For further details, please contact:

K Srinivasan

Secretary General

Alkali Manufacturers Association of India

Mob: 9811298718

Email: [ksrinivasan@ama-india.org](mailto:ksrinivasan@ama-india.org)