



EASTERN INDIA CORRUGATED BOX MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

Bharat Chamber of Commerce

'BHARAT CHAMBERS'

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31st March, 2017

Dear Friends,

You are aware of the unreasonable and steep hike in the price of kraft paper since end-January this year and still continuing unabated. The situation has gone from bad to worse, with the Paper Mills increasing their prices almost every week. With many large Consumers resisting enhancement in box prices on one side and the unprecedented and adamant price hike by the Paper Mills on the other side, have put the Corrugators in a precarious state. So much so that, many of us are facing imminent closure.

The General Body of your Association had, in its Meeting held on 29th March, 2017, deliberated on the issue, threadbare. It was unanimously decided to observe a **One-Day Protest Strike on Monday, the 3rd April, 2017 to send the message to –**

- (a) the Paper Mills – that we cannot remain silent observers to such irrational and indiscriminate price escalation and**
- (b) our Customers, including large corporate houses, that they understand our predicament and give justifiable enhancement to our rates.**

It was also decided in the said Meeting that, we will review the situation again within a fortnight. Should this rise in kraft prices continue, we shall be compelled to resort to more harsher options of seeking the Government's intervention, including approaching The Competition Commission of India and resorting to indefinite shutdowns in the future.

Corrugators are requested to extend their solidarity by keeping their **production (manufacturing), despatch (sales) and receipt (purchase) activities shut on 3rd April, 2017**. However, maintenance, house-keeping and office work may continue at their premises on the day.

For the larger interest of the industry, please inform and convince corrugators who are not members of the Association, to participate in the token **strike called by EICMA on 3rd April, 2017**. Individually we may appear to be small – sandwiched between large Consumers and Paper Mills, but collectively we can make the change and demand the respect, this industry deserves. It is encouraging to note that, following our meeting on 29th March, many of our friends have already informed Paper Mills/Dealers and Customers about the **Strike Call on Monday, the 3rd April, 2017**.

United we stand, divided we fall....

(Milan Kumar Dey)
President
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