

## ILLUMINATION

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### **CHEMICAL INDUSTRY - AN OVERVIEW**



Since the pandemic, chemical companies are continuing to respond to a consistently turbulent market. Although the U.S. economy is looking more favorable going into 2025 and demand for chemicals is projected to improve, the only thing chemical companies can really be sure of is the continued need to navigate an unpredictable market.

Every company in the chemical industry will likely be affected by issues related to macroeconomic and geopolitical uncertainties, changing markets, advanced technologies, and new ecosystems. It's clear companies need strategies that will allow them to both weather this uncertainty but also position themselves for long-term competitiveness and growth in a high-tech, low carbon future.

Global industrial production grew moderately in the last year with a 1.3% increase and is expected to continue growing in 2025 with a projected 2.6% increase.

While there is decline projected across most chemical segment output globally, the projected output of U.S. chemical production volumes is expected to increase in most segments, with an estimated 1.9% gain in overall chemical volumes.

With the uncertainty in the market and a turbulent macroeconomic environment over the last few years, more and more companies have adopted cost efficiency programs, a trend expected to continue in 2025. Overcapacity issues are affecting different production and regional sectors, driving companies to rethink cost efficiency. Inflation and high feedstock and energy prices are putting pressure on European companies; low demand from China and a volatile liquified natural gas (LNG) market are impacting Asia-Pacific companies; and even in the U.S. and Middle East, where energy and feedstock prices are lower, companies are still adopting cost-cutting measures to make up for lacking margins.

"In the petrochemical sector specifically, excess production capacity in combination with lower-than-expected demand has contributed to lower operating rates."

Mergers and acquisitions have been an opportunity to facilitate cost efficiency for companies in recent years, and that will likely continue, particularly if interest rates continue to rise. Additionally, an increase in operations consolidation and closures, specifically in Europe, is trending as a cost-efficiency measure and is expected to continue in 2025.

Mr. Ashish Patel
Regional Marketing Head
Editor for the Month





# - Sep 2025 - PCAPL Events

## Our MD Dilip Shah's Birthday Celebration with Joyful Cake Cutting, Gift Sharing, and Special Moments with Children at Arpan Charitable Trust













## Our MD, Mr. Dilip Shah, was invited to join the Aarti across different Ganesh Pandals















Ms. Sangita Kale

Ms. Rinam Shah

Mr. Anil Rabari

Butthday



# - Sep 2025 - CSR Activities

## Celebrating World Heart Day: CSR Team Hosts Heart Health Awareness Session for 10th–12th Students with Apollo Foundation









World Teachers' Day Celebration with Recognition of Dedicated Educators by Prakash CSR from Adopted Anganwadi Centers and Schools in Gorwa









Eye Check-Up Camp conducted for School Students of Gorwa Area in Coordinaon with Rotary Club of Cosmopolitan Baroda







Poshan Utsav Celebration with Engaging Activities at Our Adopted Anganwadi Center for Aanganwadi benificiaries







Healthy Product Distribution to School Students from Gorwa in Collaboration with Dabur India









- Dow Chemical International (Dow India) has been recognized as one of India's Best Companies To Work For, among the top 100 and has earned the distinction of Best Workplaces in Chemicals in India 2025
- BASF is further strengthening its position as an innovation leader and provider of essential ingredients for the home care and I&I industry by expanding its product portfolio for liquid enzymes.
- India's Chemical Industry is the sixth largest in the world and 3rd in Asia. While this seems prima facie impressive, the fact is that the industry purchases far below its weight given its population, with a piffling 3-3.5% share of global chemical consumption.
- Wevo, a globally established manufacturer and supplier of resins and polyurethane (PU) chemicals for high quality potting compounds, adhesives and sealants, has announced that it is setting up a new company in India at Gurugram (Haryana), with a focus on PU systems for electronics potting.
- Canadian recycling technologies firm, Loop Industries, has announced that its 50:50 joint venture with Ester Industries, a Gurgaon-based manufacturer of polyester films and speciality polymers, has reached an agreement to acquire a 93acre site in Gujarat.
- Vipul Organics, a leading speciality chemicals company in the Pigments and Dyes Segment, has announced the successful fulfillment of the first part of its first commercial order for its newly developed Organic Intermediate to be used in the Automobile Industry.
- The Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) has sought alignment of GST rates on both active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and formulations to reduce complexity and enhance compliance.
- Mumbai-based Somaiya Vidya vihar University (SVU), in collaboration with Frontier Laboratories Ltd. Of Japan, has set up a Centre of Excellence in Analytical Pyrolysis (CoE-AnPy).

- Manali Petrochemicals Limited (MPL), a leading petrochemical manufacturing company and part of AM International, Singapore, has marked a significant milestone by expanding its propylene glycol (PG)Plant. The newly established, state-of-the-art facility will commence operations upon receipt of the Consent to Operate (CTO) from the Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board.
- Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd. (GACL) flagged off the first consignments of benzyl alcohol and benzal dehyde from its newly commissioned chlorotoluenes plant at Dahej (Gujarat) on July 5, 2025.
- Industries Chlor-alkali major, DCM Shriram, and Aarti Industries Ltd (AIL) have announced a long-term strategic agreement for the supply of chlorine. Under this arrangement, DCM Shriram Chemicals will serve as the exclusive supplier of chlorine from its chlor-alkali plant.
- Grasim Industries, part of the Aditya Birla Group, will commission two major facilities, one for Epichlorohydrin (ECH) and another for chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) at Vilayat, in FY26, reinforcing its integrated value chain in advanced material.
- BASF India has announced the hosting of its 'Kids' Lab' programme from A August 4-14, 2025, bringing hands-on chemistry learning to Nashik. This CSR initiative is aimed at helping students understand the importance of chemistry and how it can be applied to protect the environment.
- Hyderabad-based Sigachi Industries, a leading manufacturer of pharmaceutical excipients, APIs, and specialty ingredients, has announced the initiation of civil works for its next phase of capacity expansion – a 12,000-mtpa Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC) project at its Dahej SEZ unit in Gujarat.

### **The Empty Chair**



In a small town, there lived a boy named Anil. He was very sincere and smart. He always loved talking and sharing ideas.

His teacher often advised him, "Anil, Listening is as important as speaking" But he never took it seriously.

One day, their school introduced a new activity called "The Empty Chair." In every discussion, one chair would be kept vacant in the center. Whoever wanted to speak, had to sit on that chair and share their thoughts. Everyone else was expected to listen quietly.

At first, Anil was excited. He sat on the empty chair almost every time, sharing his ideas quickly and confidently. But he noticed something strange—when other students sat on the chair, they brought up creative solutions and wonderful ideas that he had never thought of. Many times, their answers were even better than his.

Slowly, Anil realized that because he always wanted to speak first, he missed the chance to learn from others. The empty chair was not just for talking, but also for reminding everyone that listening was equally valuable.

Anil changed. He began to listen carefully, noting down the points of others before sharing his own. Over time, his answers became richer, his ideas more meaningful, and his friends respected him more.

The teacher smiled one day and said, "Anil, now you understand—the Empty Chair teaches us that Wisdom grows not only from Speaking, but also from listening."

# MORAL OF THE STORY

"True learning happens when we balance speaking with listening. When we respect and value the voices of others, we open the door to deeper understanding. Listening not only enriches our knowledge but also makes our own words more meaningful, powerful, and respected."



# Leading with Clarity in the Age of Complexity



Today's business environment is marked by constant disruption—rapid technological changes, shifting market demands, global uncertainties, and an increasingly diverse workforce. In such an atmosphere, leaders often find themselves surrounded by noise, complexity, and conflicting priorities. The true mark of effective leadership in this era is not adding more complexity, but bringing clarity.

Clarity in leadership is about simplifying the Vision, articulating priorities, and ensuring everyone understands the "why" behind the work. When employees are clear about Direction, Values, and Outcomes, they become more focused, engaged, and confident in their contributions. Confusion, on the other hand, breeds hesitation and disengagement.

A leader's role is to act as a compass, not a map. While maps become outdated in fast-changing terrain, a compass provides orientation and stability. Leaders should define what success looks like, communicate goals in plain language, and create alignment across teams. This does not mean oversimplifying reality; rather, it means filtering out the clutter and highlighting what matters most.

Practical ways to lead with clarity include:

Setting Priorities: Instead of pursuing ten goals poorly, focus on three that truly move the needle.

Transparent Communication: Share decisions and their rationale, reducing uncertainty.

**Empowering Teams:** Give autonomy within a clear framework of values and objectives.

Regular Check-ins: Ensure alignment is maintained as conditions evolve.

In the age of complexity, clarity is not a luxury—it is a necessity. Teams look to leaders not just for answers, but for direction and meaning. By leading with clarity, managers foster resilience, trust, and performance. When the world outside is uncertain, clarity inside the organization becomes the strongest competitive advantage. In short, Complexity is inevitable, but confusion is optional. Leaders who bring clarity inspire confidence, reduce stress, and drive results that matter.







Q2- Guess the phrase given below : OLD......OLD

Q3- 624:12 :: 933: ?

Q4- Which is the smallest even number?

Q5- How many days are there in a leap year?



Answer to the Puzzles of Aug 2025 Q. 1) Permission

Q. 2) 8

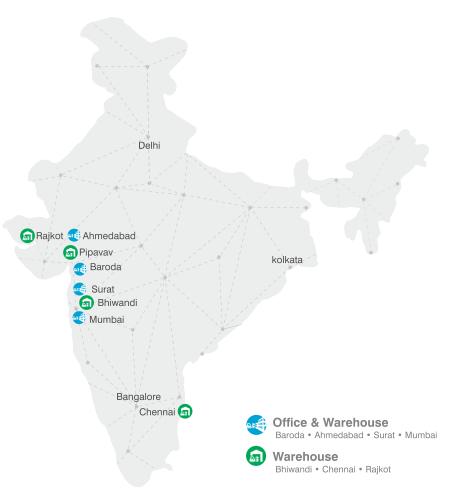
Q. 3) Elephant

Q. 4) Pacific

Q. 5) 219



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