

Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India

# India's Corrugated Box Industry

ICCA Global Summit 2025  
Osaka, Japan

Speaker – **Mr. ML Agarwal**

ICCA Vice Chairman I

Federation of Corrugated Box Mfrs of India

Past President







# India's Economic Resurgence

The **World Trade Organisation** commissioned **Dr. Angus Maddison of Groningen University, Netherlands**, to compile a comprehensive history of global GDP over the past two millennia. **India emerged as the world's leading economy during the first millennium.** However, successive invasions—first by Islamic rulers and later by European colonial powers—significantly impacted its economic standing. The most profound disruption occurred during the 200-year British colonial rule. **Today, India is steadily rebuilding and reclaiming its position on the global economic stage.**



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# India's Economic Resurgence

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## Rome's Trade Deficit with India

Between **100 BC and 300 AD**, Rome faced repeated financial strain due to **heavy imports of luxury goods such as spices and silk from India**. On multiple occasions, Roman authorities urged senators to curb their wives' extravagant consumption, but these efforts had little effect.

In a desperate attempt to protect its economy, Rome even attempted to ban trade with India—a policy that ultimately failed. By around **300 AD**, the empire had **depleted its gold reserves, forcing it to mint coins using base metals, signaling a severe economic decline**.



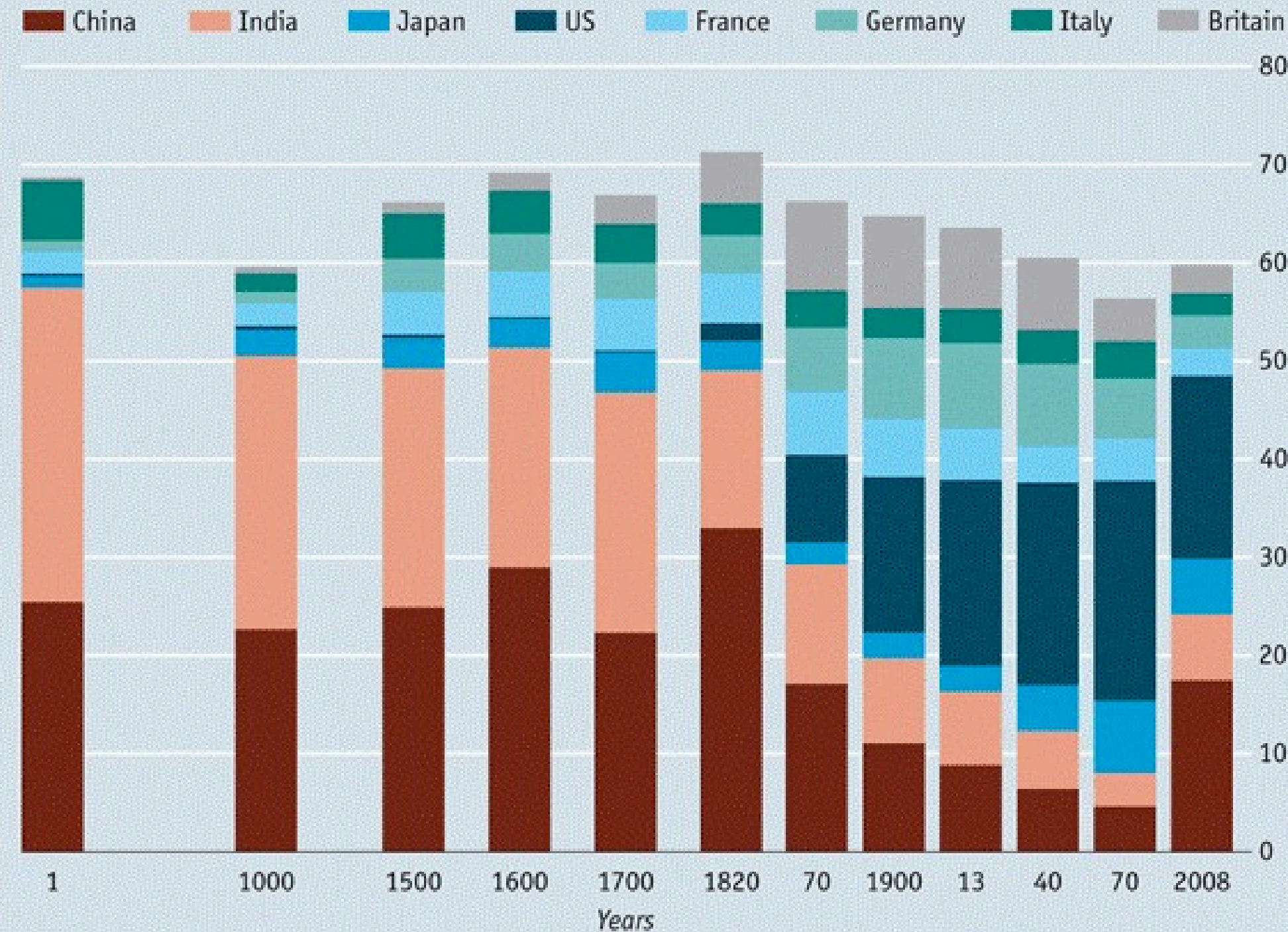
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## A history of world GDP

Percentage of total, 1990 \$ at PPP\*



Sources: Angus Maddison, University of Groningen; *The Economist*

\*Purchasing-power parity

# India's Economic Resurgence

India is the fastest-growing among the world's large economies. It has steadily climbed the global GDP rankings and currently holds the position of the **5th largest economy** and is **projected to rise to 3rd in the coming years**.

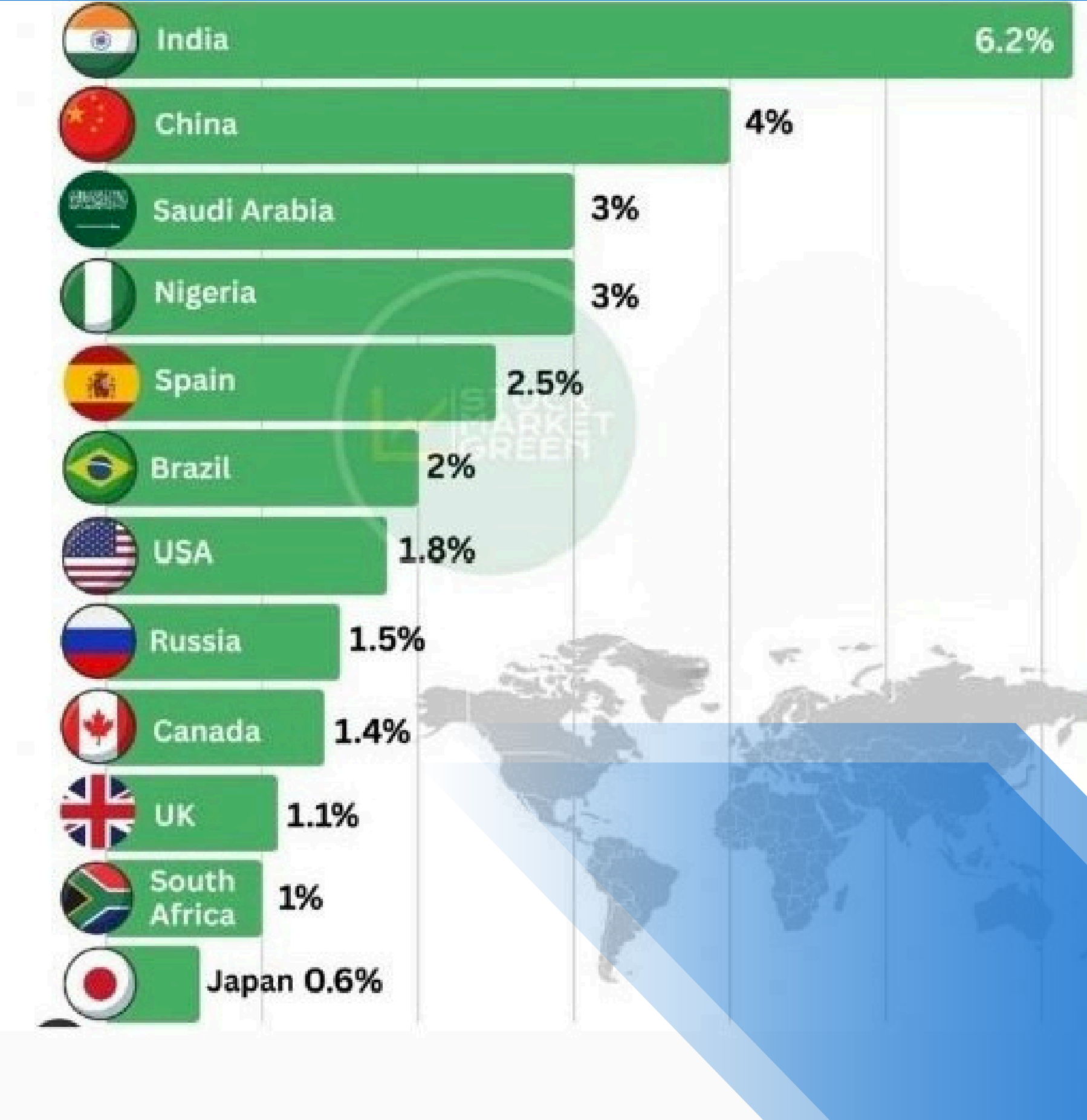
A **rapidly expanding middle class** with increasing purchasing power is driving strong domestic demand. As a result, India is poised to become the **consumption capital of the world**.



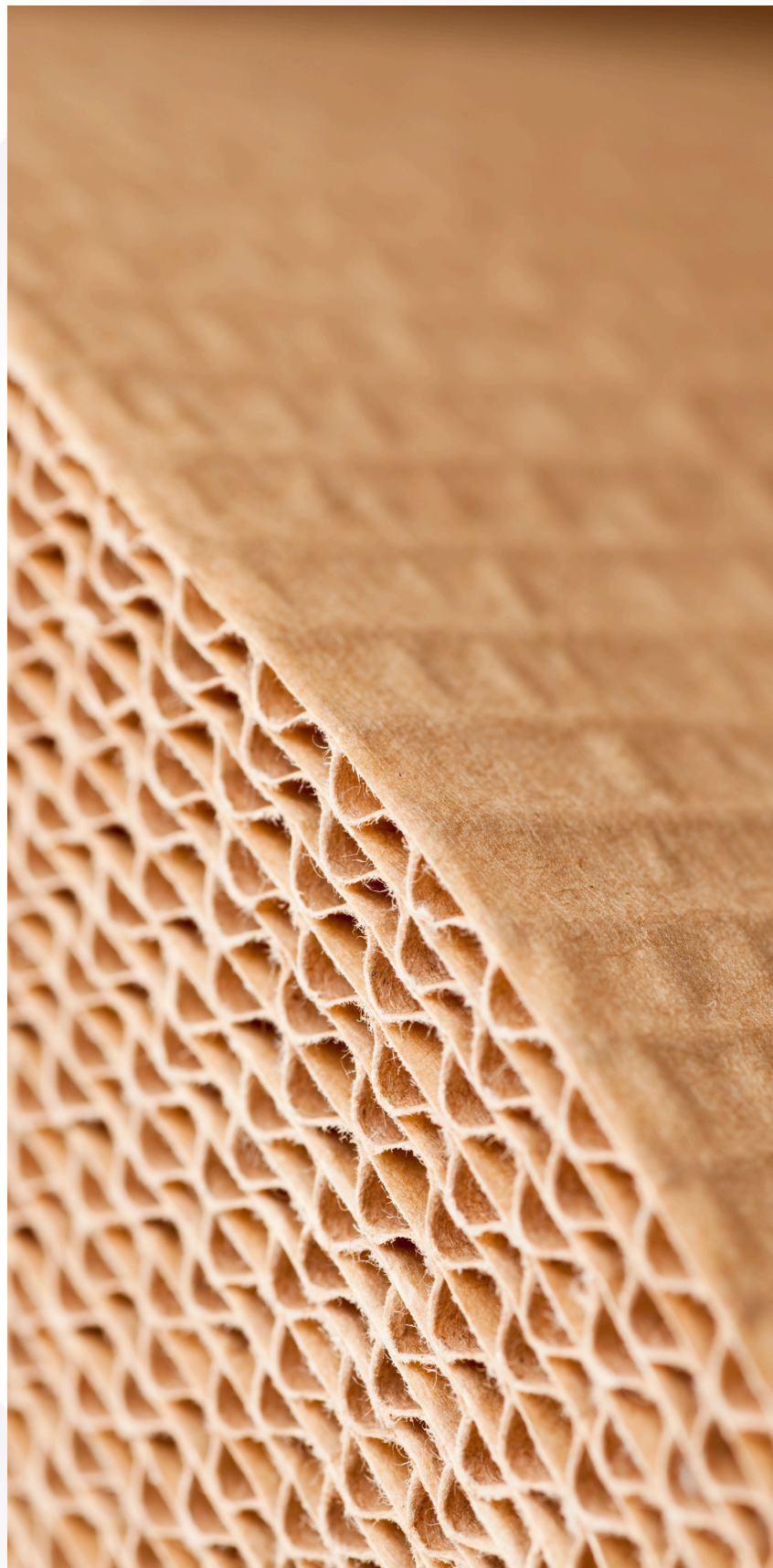


# The world's largest economy

# The fastest growing economics in 2025







# Economic Forecast and Opportunities

- **Policy Reforms & Export Push**  
A stable government has implemented bold reforms to shift India from an import-driven to an export-led economy.
- **Resilience Amid Global Disruptions**  
Despite global supply chain challenges caused by COVID-19 and the Ukraine war, India managed to maintain moderate inflation—now below 5%—through prudent fiscal and regulatory measures.
- **Make in India Momentum**  
The 'Make in India' initiative, especially the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, is gaining strong traction across industries.
- **Global Supply Chain Realignment**  
To de-risk operations, many multinational companies are broadening their supply base and investing in India—not just for domestic consumption but as a key global manufacturing hub.
- **Demographic & Technical Edge**  
As the world's most populous country, India benefits from a large, skilled working-age population—fueling production, exports, and increased demand for corrugated packaging. GDP growth is expected to exceed 7% in 2025–26 and remain strong thereafter.







# Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India

## Since 1972

Established in **1972**, the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India (FCBM) follows a **federal structure** with **15 Regional Associations** as primary members.

## Industry Coverage

These regional bodies represent approximately **3,000 corrugated box plants** across the country, from an estimated total of **15,000 to 20,000 small and large units**.

## Growth Potential

India's current corrugated box production stands at **12–13 million tons per annum**. The industry is expected to **grow by 10–12% in FY 2025–26**, driven by rising demand and expanding applications.



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# Recent Developments India's Counter - Terrorism Response

India continues to face challenges from **cross-border terrorism**, a concern that has persisted for decades. The international community is well aware of **India's long-standing struggle against religiously motivated extremism**, often originating from across its borders.

On **April 22, 2025**, a major **terrorist attack** claimed the lives of **26 civilians**, marking one of the most tragic incidents in recent years. The attack drew **widespread global condemnation**, and the Indian public strongly demands that those responsible be held accountable.

In response, India has adopted a **comprehensive and strategic** approach that includes:

- **Diplomatic efforts** to isolate state sponsors of terrorism,
- **Economic and trade** measures to apply pressure,
- **Review of bilateral agreements**, including water-sharing treaties.

In the **early hours of May 7, 2025**, India conducted **targeted strikes on nine identified terror camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) as part of its defensive operations**.

Following these developments, Pakistan has expressed a willingness to de-escalate, provided there are no further operations targeting terrorist infrastructure.







# Recent Developments

## Trump Era Tariffs & India's Trade Treaties

- The global business environment experienced significant turbulence following the imposition of **tariffs by the U.S. administration**.
- **India, however, was largely spared** and has continued to work constructively with **the U.S. toward a Bilateral Trade Agreement**.
- This agreement is in its **final stages** and is expected to be **signed by Fall**, with mutual economic benefits for both nations.
- India and the **United Kingdom have successfully signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**, aiming to **reduce or eliminate both tariff and non-tariff barriers gradually**.
- Negotiations are also underway for **similar agreements with other nations, including ongoing progress with the European Union**.
- The Government is **vigilant about the risk of goods dumping** into India by countries affected by high global tariffs.
- In response, **Safeguard Duties** have recently been imposed on **certain steel products** to protect domestic industries.
- India is also **monitoring third-country transshipment practices**, where goods are routed through preferential treaty nations to **bypass trade restrictions**.







# Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers Regional Associations



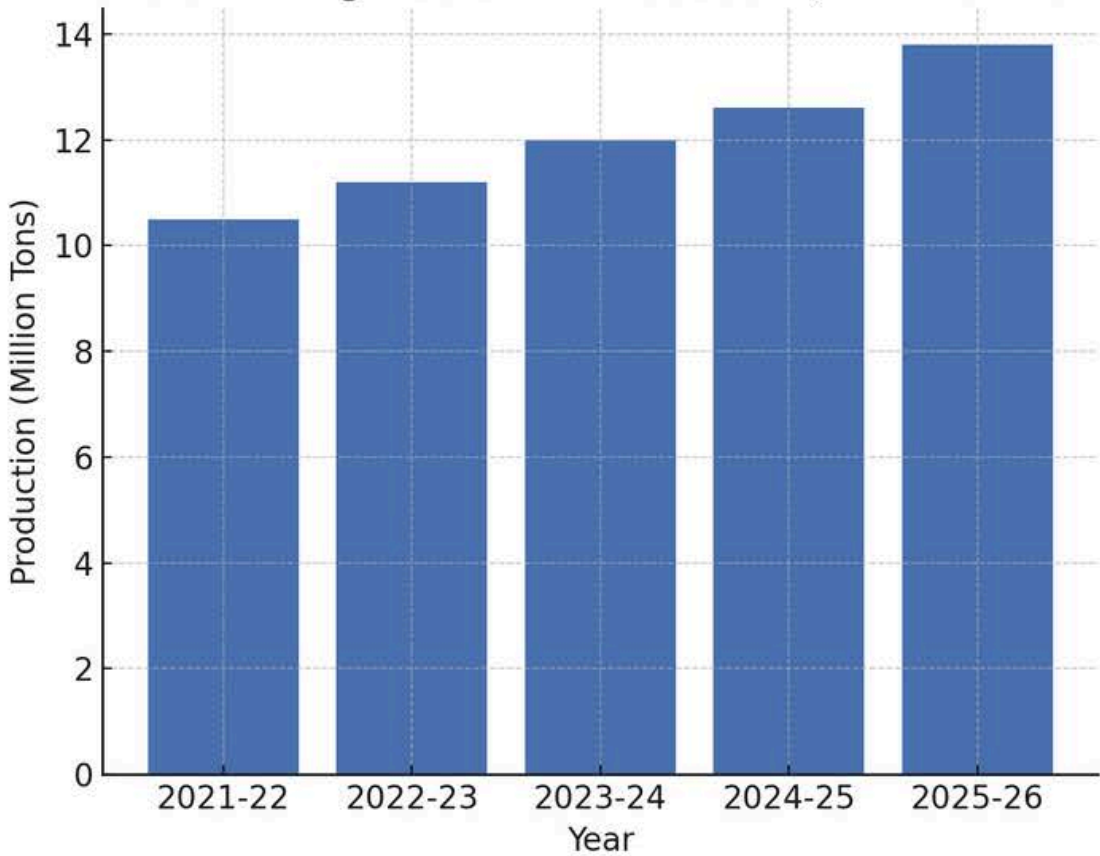
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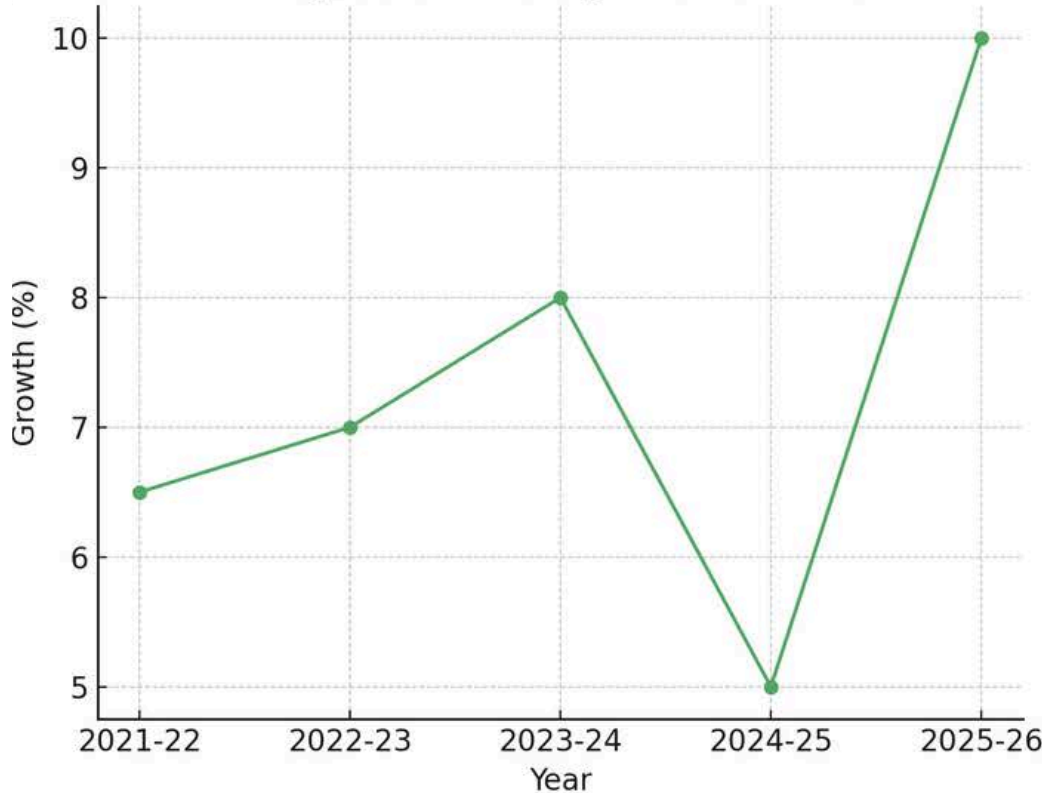


# India's Corrugated Box Industry

India's Corrugated Box Production (in Million Tons)



Projected Industry Growth Rate



Rank	Country	2023 (Billions)	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
1	<a href="#">United States</a>	26,855	27,741	28,766	29,903	31,092	32,350
2	<a href="#">China</a>	19,374	20,881	22,408	24,036	25,722	27,493
3	<a href="#">Japan</a>	4,410	4,526	4,731	4,923	5,077	5,344
4	<a href="#">Germany</a>	4,309	4,446	4,635	4,822	4,947	5,044
5	<a href="#">India</a>	3,737	4,062	4,403	4,766	5,153	5,575
6	<a href="#">United Kingdom</a>	3,159	3,375	3,574	3,793	4,016	4,245
7	<a href="#">France</a>	2,923	3,019	3,133	3,233	3,322	3,391
8	<a href="#">Russia</a>	2,063	2,118	2,159	2,206	2,235	2,266
9	<a href="#">Canada</a>	2,090	2,179	2,281	2,385	2,492	2,605
10	<a href="#">Italy</a>	2,170	2,218	2,285	2,347	2,407	2,450







# Corrugated Industry Market Dynamics

## Localized Market Dynamics

- The corrugated packaging market in India remains **highly localized** due to elevated freight costs.
- **Excess production capability** at box plants has increased buyer leverage, challenging producers' profitability.



## Paper Supply & Quality Improvements

- Although the **availability of raw materials remains sufficient**, past coordination among producers had maintained elevated levels of cost.
- Recent **additions to manufacturing capacity**, however, have brought greater balance to the market and led to a **modest easing of cost pressures**.
- **Quality challenges** persist, primarily due to the lack of virgin fiber. Yet, **new mills with advanced technology** are progressively improving industry standards.





# Sustainability & Innovation



## Sustainability Through Recovered Fiber (RF)

- India depends 100% on recovered fiber (RF), with no domestic access to virgin fiber.
- This has made the industry inherently sustainable over the long term.

## Resource Efficiency & Eco-Conscious Shift

- The industry's cost-conscious mindset drives responsible use of raw materials, energy, fuel, and water.
- Government policies, regulatory incentives, and growing societal preference for sustainable practices are reinforcing this transition.

## Global RF Import Footprint

- To meet demand, India has become a significant importer of recovered fiber, sourcing from regions like the USA, EU, and the Middle East.



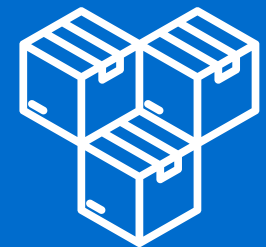
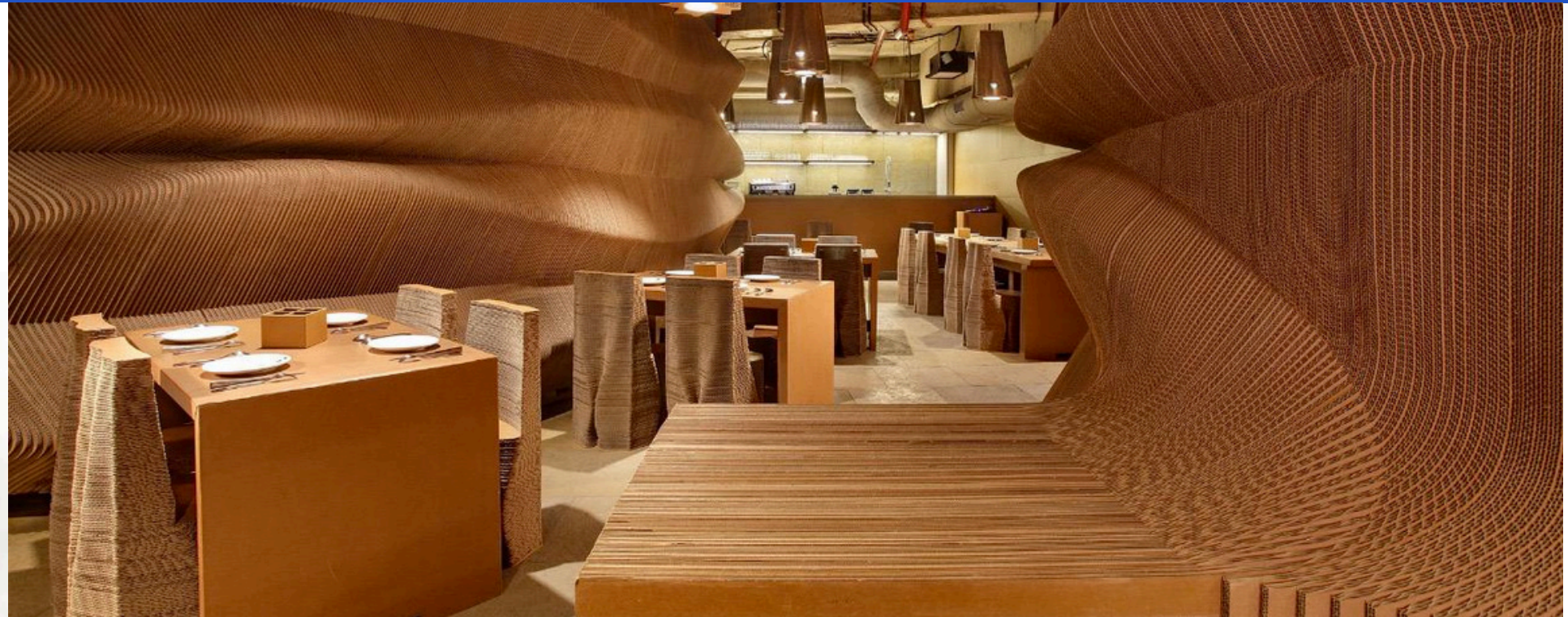
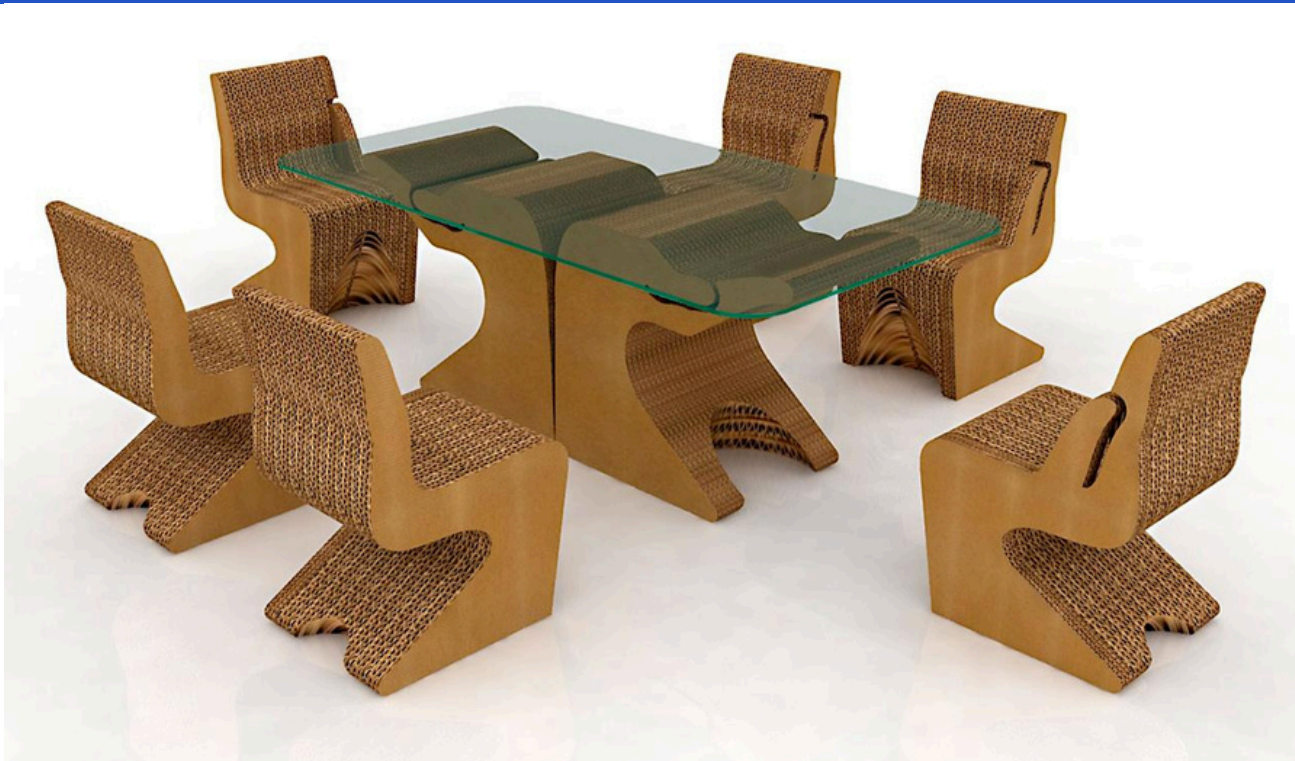
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# Innovations by FCBM Members



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**53<sup>rd</sup> FCBM**  
CONFERENCE  
**INNOVATION  
COLLABORATION  
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20th to 22nd Dec 2025  
**AGRA 2025**  
Hosted by: UPCBMA



**1500+**  
**Corrugators**  
at the 53rd FCBM  
Conference in Agra, India

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# 53rd FCBM Conference

## Agra, India

20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
2025



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# 53rd FCBM Annual Conference 2025 Agra, India

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The **FCBM** of India will host its flagship annual conference in **20th -22nd December 2025 in Agra**, home to the iconic Taj Mahal.

This landmark event will bring together **leading box plant owners, industry experts, and thought leaders for engaging discussions on emerging packaging trends, sustainability, and technological innovations**—all set against the backdrop of one of India's most culturally rich and historic cities.

December

**20-22**  
2025

Edition

**53rd**

Corrugators

**1500+**

Industry  
leaders and  
decision  
makers



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# ICCA Global Summit 2027 & FCBM CorruPack Summit

## In Hyderabad | Telangana | India

The **ICCA Global Summit 2027** will be held in conjunction with the **FCBM CorruPack Summit in Hyderabad**—one of India's most vibrant and fast-growing cities.

This landmark event will bring together global leaders from the **corrugated packaging industry**, offering a platform for **collaboration, innovation, and networking across international markets**.

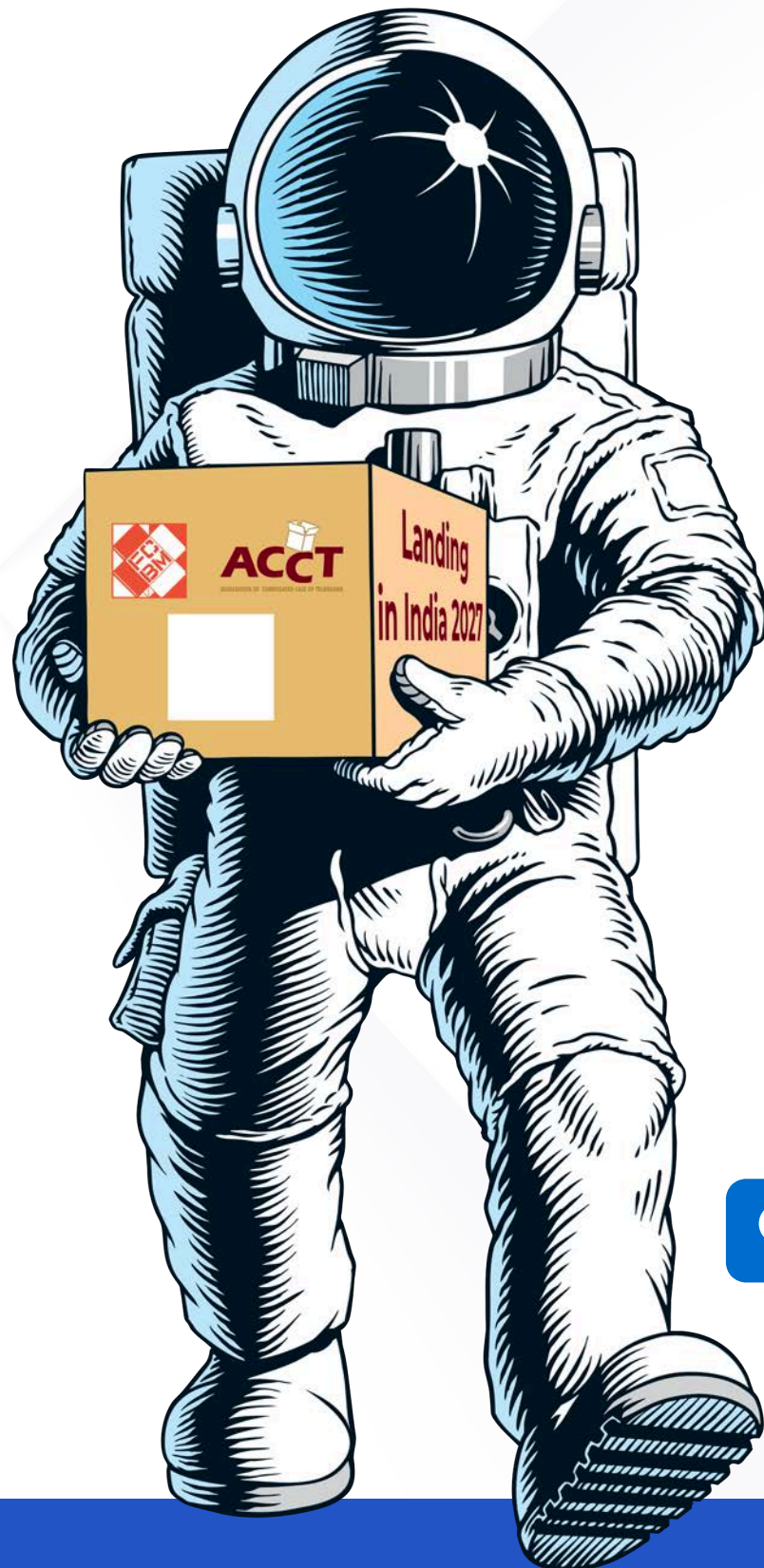
We extend a warm invitation to industry professionals worldwide to be part of this prestigious gathering and engage with peers from the global packaging community.



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## Where Tradition Meets Innovation

### Shaping the Future of Packaging

Where Global Leaders in the Corrugated Supply Chain Meet Indian Industry Pioneers. Interact with over 1500 members of the corrugated packaging fraternity in the first-ever event of its kind.

Discover the perfect synergy of India's rich traditions and pioneering innovation at the ICCA/WCO Global Summit & FCBM CorruPack Summit 2027.

India is one of the **world's fastest-growing economies**, poised for a massive leap forward in the **corrugated packaging industry**. With **sustainability** and **technology** seamlessly woven into the fabric of its growth, India is setting new benchmarks for the future of packaging.

The **Association of Corrugated Case of Telangana (ACCT)** is proud to host these prestigious events, uniting **global leaders** and **innovators** in corrugated packaging. The summit will serve as a dynamic hub for **inspiration, collaboration, and innovation**, where industry pioneers will come together to shape the future of packaging.



See you in INDIA.



# ICCA Global Summit 2027 FCBM CorruPack Summit Hyderabad, India *January 2027*



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Discover the **perfect synergy** of India's rich traditions and pioneering innovation  
at the **ICCA/WCO Global Summit & FCBM CorruPack Summit 2027**.

Where global leaders in the **corrugated supply chain** meet **Indian industry pioneers**. Interact with over **1500 members** of the  
corrugated packaging fraternity in the **first ever event of its kind**.

January  
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Regional  
members  
**450+**

Daily  
Visitors  
**2500+**

**3**  
Day Event



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