



HONOURING THOSE
"WHO DEFINE EXCELLENCE"



28TH APRIL

NAEP '26

The Only One



**NOT EVERY PRINT IS
CELEBRATED
ONLY THE
BRILLIANT ARE...**



Supported by:
Government of India
International
Co-operation Section,
Ministry of MSME,
New Delhi



The Only One Award
supported by the
Government of India

For decades, the All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) has championed quality, innovation, and global competitiveness—celebrating the finest achievements that define India’s print brilliance.

NAEP '26 is organised by AIFMP in association with Reenvision Events Pvt. Ltd., a sister company of print-packaging.com and a leading professional conference and exhibition organiser. Reenvision has pioneered landmark trade shows such as Print - Pack, PAMEX, Bharat Print Expo, Bharat Pack Expo, Bharat Food Expo, and industry summits including Flexo Summit Asia and Digital Print Asia.

Together, AIFMP and Reenvision Events bring their combined legacy and execution excellence to present NAEP '26 at the Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai, India, continuing the proud tradition of recognising outstanding craftsmanship and innovation across all print technologies.

Supported by the Government of India, NAEP remains the nation’s most distinguished print award -honouring those who set benchmarks and shape the future of Indian printing.



REDEFINING STYLE STRENGTHENING SUBSTANCE

NAEP '26 - A Legacy Reimagined

For decades, the National Awards for Excellence in Printing (NAEP) has served as India's premier platform for honoring mastery within the print and packaging landscape. NAEP '26 marks a pivotal chapter in this journey, carrying our rich heritage forward with a renewed vision: "Celebrating Excellence with Change."

This year's awards bridges the gap between tradition and transformation by:

- Nurturing the Foundation: Respecting the mastery established by industry icons.
- Igniting the Future: Inviting Gen-Next innovators to redefine the printing landscape and lead our legacy into a new era.

The 2026 categories have been strategically curated to align with global industry shifts. We spotlight:

- Technological Advancement: Recognizing the precision of the modern press.
- Hybrid & Innovative Solutions: Honoring the industry's commitment to innovate and create.
- Creative Impact: Celebrating work that transforms print into a profound sensory experience.



**Get Ready to Participate
in the NAEP '26 on
28th April at Chennai
Trade Centre, Chennai.**



**INDIA'S SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF
PRINT EXCELLENCE
AND THE WORLD'S
LARGEST PRINTERS ASSOCIATION**



That's true. All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) was established in 1953 with the objective of opening up an array of vistas for printers across the nation. Today, it is the sole representative of 250,000 printing companies across India and is the world's largest printers' association.



The Federation draws its strength from various regional associations spread across the country. To bring forth newer opportunities for its community, it supports, participates in and organises a number of regional, national and international events, exhibitions, technical seminars, award ceremonies, student programs and more.





APPLAUSES APPRECIATIONS ASPIRATIONS

HONOURING BRILLIANCE. INSPIRING THE FUTURE

NAEP '26 : A PROUD LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



From Celebrated Beginnings to a Distinguished Future-
NAEP '26 Redefines Excellence.

NAEP '26 – CATEGORIES

CAPACITY CLASSIFICATION (CC) OF PARTICIPANTS

Applicable to Group: Sheet fed Offset

To facilitate fair competition, all entries submitted under the Sheetfed Offset category are further sub-divided into two competing entry groups viz. Small-Medium (CSM) and Large (CL). It has been done on the basis of number of printing units installed in the company of the participant. It is worked out in the following way, a single colour machine is ONE UNIT, a double colour machine is TWO UNITS, and four colour machine is FOUR UNITS and so on and so forth. A coating unit should be considered as ONE UNIT. The printer has to sum up all the units installed in his press to get the total units. This information is to be provided by the participant through the 'Entry Form'.

- **Capacity Small-Medium (CSM)** = 1 to 8 units
- **Capacity Large (CL)** = 9 units and above

GROUP 1 – SHEETFED OFFSET PRINTING

Small-Medium (CSM) / Large (CL)

1. **Magazine:** Magazines, Journals, Periodicals & Annual Report
2. **Book Soft Cover:** Soft Cover, Paperback
3. **Book Hard Cover:** Hard Cover, Hardback (includes Coffee-table Books).
4. **Catalogue or Brochure:** Minimum of four pages.
5. **Calendar:** Wall, Table, Innovative.
6. **Diary:** Yearly, School, Event, Roster etc.
7. **Fine Art or Poster:** Single Sheeter (Shri S. S Batra Award in remembrance).
8. **Invitations, Greeting Cards:** includes Wedding Cards, Post-Cards, Menu Cards etc.
9. **Point of Sale (POS) Materials:** Poster, Banner, Danglers, Bunting, Wobblers i.e. marketing Collaterals
10. **Stationery:** Letterheads, Visiting Cards, Envelopes
11. **Children Items:** mainly using Paper & Paper Board to create Games & Toys, Playing Cards, Play Items, Innovative children Books - Feel & Touch, Pop up, Voice and Sound activated, etc. (SHRI R. S. AGGARWAL AWARD IN REMEMBRANCE).
12. **Labels:** includes Heat Transfer, In-mould, Pressure Sensitive, Wrap around Labels printed on non-adhesive paper, adhesive paper, transfer paper, metallized paper, plastic substrates etc.
13. **Folding Cartons, Boxes (Paper Board):** made from printed Paper Board-(FBB-Recycled-Others), MET-PET etc. with or without embellishments.
14. **Folding Cartons, Boxes (Plastic Substrates):** made from printed Plastic Substrates (PP, PET, PVC, Others) with or without embellishments.
15. **Rigid Boxes:** made from minimum 1mm Paperboard, Cardboard, Mill Board, Calibrated Board, overlaid or wrapped with any substrate printed with offset process & other embellishments.
16. **Corrugated Cartons, Boxes (Fluted):** made from sheets printed by off-set and corrugated. No restriction on type of ply & fluting.

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 2 – WEB-OFFSET PRINTING

1. **News Paper:** Daily & Weekly
2. **Magazine:** Magazine, Journal and Periodical.
3. **Book Soft Cover:** Soft Cover, Paperback.
4. **Book Hard Cover:** Hard Cover, Hardback.

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 3 – DIGITAL PRINTING (Cut-Sheet)

1. **Brochure, Booklets, Catalogues:** Minimum of four pages.
2. **Books & Publications:** Soft Cover, Paperback includes Magazines, Hard Cover, Hardback includes Coffee-table Books
3. **Personalized Books:** Photo Album, Personalized Travel Album, Baby Memory Book etc.
4. **Point of Sale (POS) Materials:** Poster, Bunting, Danglers, Wobblers i.e. Marketing collateral
5. **Invitations, Greeting Cards:** includes Wedding Cards, Post-Cards, Menu Cards etc.
6. **Labels:** includes Heat Transfer, In-mould, Pressure Sensitive, Wrap around Labels printed on non-adhesive paper, adhesive paper, transfer paper, metallized paper, plastic substrates etc.
7. **Folding Cartons, Boxes (Paper Board):** made from printed Paper Board-(FBB-Recycled-Others), MET-PET etc. using digital process with or without embellishments.
8. **Rigid Boxes:** made from minimum 1mm Paperboard, Cardboard, Mill Board, Calibrated Board, overlaid or wrapped with any substrate printed with digital process & other embellishments.
9. **Corrugated Cartons, Boxes (Fluted):** made from sheets printed by digital process and corrugated. No restriction on type of ply & fluting.
10. **Variable Data Printing (VDP):** Campaign run using complex variable data. eg. Photographs

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 4 – DIGITAL PRINTING (Continuous Feed-CF)

1. **News Paper:** Daily & Weekly
2. **Magazine:** Magazine, Journal and Periodical.
3. **Book:** Soft Cover, Paperback, Hard Cover, Hardback.
4. **Label:** includes Heat Transfer, In-mould, Pressure Sensitive, Wrap around Labels printed on non-adhesive paper, adhesive paper, transfer paper, metallized paper, plastic substrates, etc.
5. **Pouches:** Pouches (stand-up, spout, flat, pillow), Bags, Sachets, De-gassing valve, Printed Roll Stock, whether single or multilayered, printed on any substrate

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 5 – FLEXOGRAPHY & GRAVURE PRINTING

1. **Labels:** includes Shrink Sleeves, Heat Transfer, In Mould, Pressure Sensitive, Wrap Around Labels printed on non-adhesive paper, adhesive paper, metallized paper, transfer paper, plastic substrates etc.
2. **Pouches:** Pouches (stand-up, spout, flat, pillow), Bags, Sachets, De-gassing valve, Printed Roll Stock, whether single or multilayered, printed on any substrate
3. **Folding Cartons, Boxes:** includes fluted or Non-fluted, made

from printed Paper Board-(FBB-Recycled-Others), Plastic Substrates, MET-PET etc. with or without embellishments.

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 6– SCREEN PRINTING

1. **Special Effects:** Special and innovative effects created on using special screen-printing inks and skills to achieve high density, gels, foils, flocking, caviar beads/PVC flakes, etc. with screen printing.
2. **Fine Art:** Artistic paintings, reproductions of half-tone images for creating fine art.
3. **Stationery:** Letterheads, Visiting Cards, Envelopes
4. **Packaging:** Label, Pouches, Folding Carton-Boxes, Corrugated Carton-Boxes, Flexible Packaging, Rigid Boxes, etc.

Note: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries per category is allowed.

GROUP 7 – HYBRID PRINTING

Hybrid Printed Products: Products made using multiple printing processes & techniques using Off-set, Digital, Screen, Flexography, Gravure etc.

NOTE: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries in this category is allowed. Description of type of printing processes used along with the entry submitted, is mandatory.

GROUP 8 – SECURITY PRINTING

Security Printed Products: using printing processes or technique which incorporates features to prevent forgery, tampering, or counterfeiting.

NOTE: Entrants need to submit one sample per entry. Multiple entries in this category is allowed. Description of type of printing processes used along with the entry submitted, is mandatory.

GROUP 9- SPECIAL AWARDS

(No entries needs to be submitted for this)

Awarded to the print company who has won maximum adulation and awards for their work in this edition. The award is given basis a pre-defined scoring matrix by the organizer for every award won in respective categories as enlisted below. It is for "THE WINNER" among the winners.

1. **BEST COMMERCIAL PRINTER OF THE YEAR**
2. **BEST PACKAGING PRINTER OF THE YEAR**
3. **BEST DIGITAL PRINTER OF THE YEAR**
4. **BEST SCREEN PRINTER OF THE YEAR**
5. **BEST LABEL PRINTER OF THE YEAR**
6. **BEST RIGID BOX MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR**
7. **BEST BOOK MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR**
8. **BEST SHEET-FED OFFSET PRINTER OF THE YEAR (SHRI SUDHIR GUPTA AWARD IN REMEMBRANCE)**

GROUP 10- SPECIAL JURY AWARDS

(No entries needs to be submitted for this)

One of the most coveted awards where the distinguished judges choose a print company for special recognition, basis the entries submitted by them in various categories and awards won. This award is the prerogative of the jury and will be given at their discretion.

NOTE: National Award for Excellence in Printing (NAEP) is organized by the All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP). NAEP is a national print competition with entries accepted from all over India.

1. **ENTRY FEES**
Rs. 1500/- + GST @18% = Rs 1770/- for Indian entry

2. **DEADLINES**

1. **16th February, 2026:** Last date for receiving entries.
2. **16th March, 2026: Result Announcement-** Judging and nomination of the top five entries in every category. The top five nominated entries will be notified via email.
3. **28th April, 2026:** Gala award ceremony at Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai. Please be informed that the final winners will be announced during the award ceremony.
4. **28th April, 2026:** "The Black Book" will be unveiled during the Gala award event, highlighting photograph and details of the five nominated entries, for each category and the winners within the nominations.

3. **PROCEDURE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION**

1. Choose your finest work and determine which pieces you want to submit. The entries selected should be free of obvious imperfections.
2. Determine the Group, Capacity Classification(CC) for Sheet-fed Offset and then category that best represents your entry. To help identify the appropriate category in which to enter your entry consider the print production process, how the product is used, the equipment used and what materials were used to print the job.
3. Visit and create an account with your username and password on our website i.e. <https://www.bharatprintexpo.com/awards-reg> or scan the QR code.
4. After setting up the account, undertake the step by step process to complete online entry submission form. Repeat the same process for each entry being submitted. All required fields in the online entry system and payment details must be completed to enter the Awards.
5. Please make online payment on our page by your credit card/debit card/ net banking. You can also RTGS/NEFT/IMPS as per the following details: **Beneficiary: Reenvision Events Pvt. Ltd. Bank Name: HDFC Bank Ltd. Branch: Sector 7 Vashi, Navi Mumbai- 400703 Account No.: 50200057602101, IFSC Code: HDFC000089** and send the payment details by email to ashish@print-packaging.com
6. Check that the information provided by you is accurate, as the information given by you will be used as copy matter in the "Black Book" and issuance of official awardee certificates.
7. For every entry you have registered, print out the entry form and double check the details. If all information is correct then attach the print of the entry form (Filled by you) with the physical sample of your work.
8. Pack all your entries into corrugated boxes (minimum 5 ply), tape all the edges of the box, Bubble wrap it and paste a label on the box stating the Dispatch address mentioned below and the sender's info. i.e. your company name and address and contact nos. Please strap the boxes properly before you courier. Do take all necessary measures for damage-free arrival of your entries.
9. **Dispatch Address:**
Print Excellence Award Secretariat, F- 215, Tower No. 7, Second Floor, International Infotech Park, Vashi Railway Station, Vashi, Navi Mumbai 400705.
10. When sending entries in bulk through more than one carton,

please ensure that each box carries a number in the format of 'Box A of X' where A = serial number of that carton and X = total number of cartons being sent.

11. Entries must reach at the Print Excellence Award Secretariat at the above-mentioned address on or before **16th February, 2026**.

12. There is no restriction for the number of entries per group or per category. You can also submit one or more entries in multiple categories/groups. A separate entry fee and a separate entry form is required for each category entered. Sample for each entry is required, even if it's the same piece.

4. TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. **Eligibility:** All entries must be actual jobs executed by the entrant for clients or self-promotion and subject to verification.

2. **Ownership:** By entering the NAEP, all entrants declare that they are the legal copyright owners of the entry or have received permission for the entry submission. AIFMP or NAEP reserves the right to reject any entry. The entries/samples submitted for the competition become the property of the organizer and will not be returned. It is at the liberty of the organizers to provide these to the print students for their research and studies or to use these for any other purpose, however, protecting the copyright provisions.

3. Entry Material/Samples:

The online entry form(s) must be completed by giving complete & correct details true to the best of your knowledge and belief. All entries must be received on or before 16th February, 2026. There is no restriction for the number of entries per group or per category. The separate entry fee and a separate entry form is required to be filled for each category entered. You are also to provide one sample for each entry submitted, even if it's the same work being entered in multiple categories. Some of the details given in this form are for review by the jury and must be true representation of the sample submitted. Details submitted on the entry form would be used as copy matter for preparation of the awards and certificates and for the Black Book. The committee accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies in the details submitted.

4. **Judging:** Each category will be considered and evaluated for its aesthetic value, print quality and finishing quality. The submitted sample will be assumed to be the representative of total print run. For the fair and transparent competition and to give equal opportunity to all, any printing or packaging item with value addition, will be judged only for standards other than value additions, if not submitted as per the category number provided for value addition. The judging will be done using customized software. The organizers/jury reserve the right to reject or move the entries to their proper category when necessary. Entry fees once submitted is non-refundable even if the

entry is rejected. The judges may also reclassify any entry where it is not to the disadvantage of the entrant. The qualified impartial judges are appointed by the awards committee. The judges are selected based on their experience and expertise in the printing industry. The jury members are unpaid volunteers, known for their honesty and commitment who donate their time and energy for the cause of printing industry. The detail of the entrant is not shared with the jury and they will be judging the samples without knowing the production houses. The objective of judging should be to award not more than one First (Gold), one Second (Silver), one Third (Bronze) and two "Certificate of Merit" in a single category. However, there may be occasions, because of two equally good entries submitted, more than one award can be awarded for the same rank. There may also be occasions where entries are considered to the below achievable standards, and awards (either First, Second or Third) will not be given. Decision arrived upon by the organizers will be final and binding and cannot be challenged.

13. Payment:

Please make online payment by Credit Card/ debit Card/ net banking on the link <https://www.bharatprintexpo.com/awards-reg> or you can RTGS/NEFT/IMPS only as per following details:

Beneficiary: Reenvision Events Pvt. Ltd.

Bank Name: HDFC Bank Ltd.

Branch: Sector 7 Vashi, Navi Mumbai- 400703

Account No.: 50200057602101

IFSC Code: HDFC000089

Please send the payment details by email to ashish@print-packaging.com and aifmpawards@bharatprintexpo.com. Submission fees are non-refundable. Entry mailing/shipping costs and award shipment fees will be the responsibility of the Award winners. Entries received without the prescribed fees will be rejected.

SCAN TO REGISTER



CLOSING DATE: 16th February, 2026

Entries/Payments to be made on : <https://www.bharatprintexpo.com/awards-reg>

Office Address:

Print Excellence Award Secretariat, F- 215, Tower No. 7, Second Floor, International Infotech Park, Vashi Railway Station, Vashi, Navi Mumbai 400705

For Enquiries:

Email: aifmpawards@bharatprintexpo.com / Call : +91 81043 91235



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