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 **chintan**
environmental research and action group



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Should India start thinking of CE for furniture?'

WEBINAR ON FURNITURE

SUMMARIZED



 [chintan.india](https://www.instagram.com/chintan.india)



BUSINESS THAT INCLUDES SUSTAINABILITY

Speaker Ajith Karimpana shared how most people start furniture businesses keeping in mind the business aspect and not the sustainability aspect of the product initially.

As businesses evolve, they **start to incorporate sustainability in all aspects** of the business.



REFURBISHING FURNITURE

It is important for furniture producers to have furniture manufacture and remanufacture facilities.

Producers support the creation of new furniture and remanufacturing facilities support giving new life to used furniture which ensures circularity in furniture.

To ensure circularity in the furniture sector, the product needs to stay within the process of perpetuity.



INTERGENERATIONAL USERS

Shivani Dogra discussed how India at a certain point was naturally sustainable.

People were conscious of what they were using, how they were using it and things were passed on from one generation to the next.

There was this **culture of using products for as long as possible** and enabling intergenerational use.



ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS OF MATERIALS USED

Dr. T.K Joshi highlighted how with the consumption of any product, it is **important to be mindful of how it is handled, used, understood, and managed** that makes any material activity either safe or harmful.

In the case of furniture, glass, wood, leather, varnishes, paints and metals need to be used carefully as they contain toxic chemicals.



HAZARD EVALUATION

Hazard Evaluations will prevent harm from the production of furniture.

This process **looks at worker exposure, route of exposure, work, hygiene practices, environmental conditions, ventilation, control and protective measures** that will ensure the reduction of toxic materials used in the manufacture of furniture and protect workers from diseases.



CASE STUDY

AMAR COLONY



Deepak Kukreja from Amar Colony, Delhi shared with us the process of recycling furniture. **No wood goes to waste** as it is either refurbished or recycled.

Furniture is made from old windows, door frames, beds and more. Wood is procured from offices and buildings by scrap dealers and then sourced to furniture makers in Amar colony. **Cutting down trees and using fresh wood is avoided** which contributes to less depletion of resources.