

# HOW IS YOUR **PLASTIC** **RECYCLED?**

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environmental research and action group



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Plastics are **recycled at least 5-6 times in India** and almost all types are pre-processed by the informal sector before being passed on to the formal one, to make plastic products.

How does the recyclable plastic waste you generate get recycled?

*Swipe to know!*



## MECHANICAL RECYCLING

It is a process of recycling plastics into secondary raw material or products, **without largely changing the chemical structure of the material.**

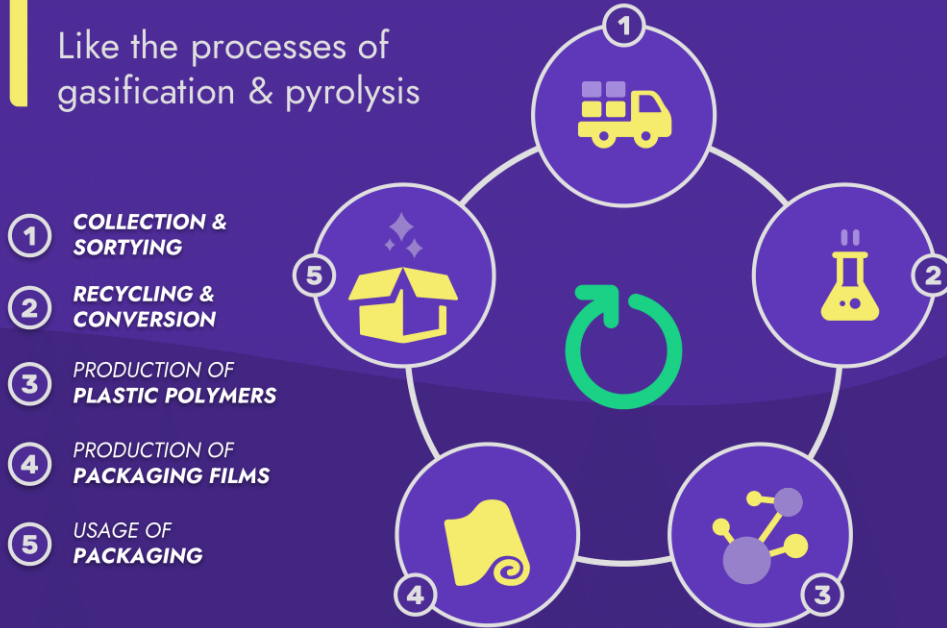
Mechanical recycling is **more environmentally feasible** than chemical recycling or energy recovery.



## **CHEMICAL RECYCLING**

It changes the plastic waste's chemical structure, converting into shorter, smaller molecules **ready to be used for new chemical reactions.**

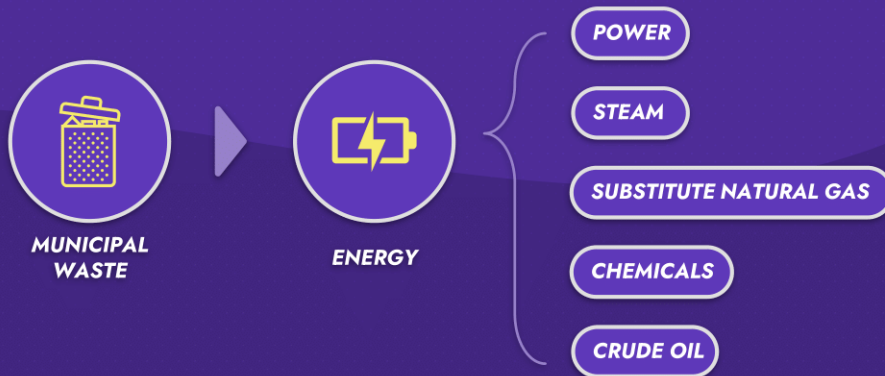
Like the processes of gasification & pyrolysis



## ENERGY RECOVERY

Examples of this include co-processing in cement plants or use in Waste to Energy plants.

It is widely believed that technologies such as Waste to Energy are being pushed into the market not as a solution to non-recyclable plastic but for **burning non-segregated municipal solid waste**.



PLASTICS WITHIN

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# THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY FRAMEWORK



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Our economy and lifestyles are **heavily dependent on plastics.**

Using plastics in a sustainable manner would mean thinking about the production, use and post-use life of plastics using the principles of the circular economy.



## SOME WAYS FOR

### Eliminating Waste/Pollution From The Manufacture And Use Of Plastics.



Plastic manufacturing must be decoupled from use of fossil fuels



Manufacturers must use increasing amounts of recycled plastic in other products' manufacturing

*Other than food products*



No waste is produced due to the production, use and distribution of their plastics products or their packaging.





Brand owners need to take up the responsibility to ensure that:



They reduce or reuse packaging



Products are sold without, as little and/or reusable packaging as much as possible



Products with plastic packaging use recycled plastics.

