

Now, plastic range from biodegradable polymer

Our Bureau

Bavla (Ahmedabad), June 7
Greendiamz Biotech Pvt Ltd, in partnership with Limagrain-France, on Monday announced the launch of the country's first fully-biodegradable and compostable bio-plastic material.

Mr Champat Sanghvi, Chairman of the company, told reporters here that the 5,000-tonnes-a-year facility, set up at a cost of Rs 40 crore, has been commissioned to manufacture sheets and bags as an alternative to plastic for consumer and industrial products.

"The products, branded as Truegreen, are bio-plastic, hundred per cent biodegradable and compostable, and very similar to plastic in terms of strength and usage," he added.

RANGE OF PRODUCTS

The bio-plastic range to be manufactured from Biolice, a biodegradable polymer, includes films for custom-printed carry bags, duffle bags, fast food containers, clamshells and thermoformed products, besides products for use in agriculture and horticulture, lining material for jute, canvas and paper bags and even bins, containers and plant pots.

"It does not include any petroleum product in its manufacturing cycle, making the



Mr David Pearson, Managing Director of Limagrain Cereals, France, and Mr Dipack Sanghvi, Director of Trugreen Greendiamz Biotech Pvt Ltd, showcasing bioplastic films at Bavla near Ahmedabad on Monday. - PTI

product truly environment-friendly." We hope to capture five per cent of the market share in the packaging sector alone," Mr Dipack Sanghvi, Director.

CONSUMPTION BOOM

Mr David Pearson, Marketing Director of Limagrain Cereals, an international farmers' co-operative of France, which is supplying the raw material, said India's per capita annual consumption of plastics is expected to increase from the

current 150 bags per head and to 200 bags by 2011 with the country slated to become the third largest consumer of plastics after the US and China.

"We are providing a product made from naturally grown raw material derived from renewable resources which complies to European norms, which means that soil bacteria will decompose 95 per cent of this material to carbon, oxygen and non-toxic bio-mass within 180 days," he added.