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Corrugated box units call strike from June 29

■ **KOLKATA:** Corrugated box manufacturing units have called for an all India strike from June 29 to July 1 to protest against escalating paper and board prices since March this year. With paper prices going up by 30%, hike in other input costs have raised conversion costs by almost by 60-70%. This was stated by Eastern India Corrugated Box Manufacturers' Association (EICMA), which represents interests of the box manufacturers' in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand, Assam, Sikkim and the North East. The EICMA has also sought removal of the excise anomaly whereby corrugated box attracts 14% excise duty even as its prime input, Kraft paper is on 8% excise slab.