

## **NTH Reports (Summary)**

About NTH: National Test House, formerly known as Government Test House was established back in 1912 in Kolkata. It is presently a government testing House Directly under the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Today NTH is present at six location namely Kolkata, Guwahati, Mumbai, Jaipur, Ghaziabad and Chennai and is accredited under NABL to provide best quality testing and meeting the Indian as well as Global testing standards.

The leaching takes place under varying storage-temperature conditions and the age of the packaging. Leaching becomes faster in hot / warm conditions, and also as the packaging becomes old. The leached elements can cause several diseases including cancer and physical infirmities. Many chemical additives that give plastic products desirable performance properties have grave negative environmental and human health effects.

- Some well known products packaged in PET bottles/Tetra Paks were sent to NTH for evaluation of leaching from plastic as per EU norms of accelerated testing at 40°C and 60°C.
- Significant Heavy metal and Phthalate leaching, well above the acceptable norms was noticed on all formulations which increased dramatically with the rise in temperature.
- This leaching of DEHP is especially dangerous as it is a proven endocrine disruptor.