

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 521
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

Ban on single-use plastic

521. SHRI BRIJLAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has banned single use plastic from 1st July, 2022, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has done any deliberation with the stakeholders associated with the industry and trade in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) steps taken by Government in this direction keeping in view the loss of the concerned stakeholders and to provide alternative to single use plastic; and
- (d) whether Government has received any representation from the Confederation of All India Traders in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) : The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, on 12th August 2021, prohibiting manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the following identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential with effect from the 1st July, 2022:

- (i) ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocol] for decoration;
- (ii) plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers.

The notification also prohibits manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of plastic carry bags having thickness less than seventy-five microns with effect from 30th September, 2021, and having thickness less than thickness of one hundred and twenty microns with effect from the 31st December, 2022.

The Ministry published draft notification in Gazette of India on 11th March 2021 seeking objections and suggestions from stakeholders within a period sixty days from the date of the

publication of the draft notification. The draft notification had also been brought out after prior consultation with concerned line Ministries. Objections and suggestions were received on the draft notification from State Governments/State Pollution Control Boards, Industry/Industry Associations, Civil Society Organizations, and think tanks. The final notification was published after due consideration of all the comments/suggestions received.

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is providing support to enterprises under various schemes of the Ministry, with respect to technology up-gradation, creating awareness, marketing support, infrastructural support and for adopting alternatives to identified single use plastics, as per scheme guidelines. The manufacture of alternatives by units would also result in creation of employment opportunities.
