

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 850**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

**Abolishing single-use plastic**

850. DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- (a) the campaigns being run by Government to abolish single-use plastic;
- (b) Whether Government is aware of the fact that single-use plastic is still being used by many vendors in the country despite a ban on it; and
- (c) if so, the details of action taken against people using single-use plastic?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c): The Union Government through various central Ministries and government agencies has been involved in generating public awareness and undertaking campaigns on plastic waste management and elimination of single-use plastics in urban and rural areas of the country. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had launched Prakriti – Mascot on 5th April 2022. Three videos of PRAKRITI have been made on elimination of single use plastics. These videos have been translated in 19 languages and have been shared with States and UTs for further dissemination. A dedicated webpage with all awareness material has been created for making available all information materials and videos for wider dissemination and use by stakeholders. An E-Pledge on Swachh Bharat Harit Bharat Green Pledge has been launched on My Gov Platform for generating public movement amongst citizens on 5th April 2022. A National Expo on eco-alternatives to banned single use plastics items and Conference of Startups - 2022 were organized jointly with Government of Tamil Nadu in Chennai on 26-27th September 2022.

The States and Union Territories have been asked to undertake regular enforcement drives to implement ban on identified single use plastic items and on plastic carry bags having thickness less than one hundred twenty microns, covering fruit and vegetable markets, wholesale markets, local markets, flower vendors, units manufacturing plastic carry bags etc. States and UTs have also been asked to undertake random checking at border checkpoints to stop inter-state movement of banned single use plastic items. A one-month long pan India awareness and enforcement campaign was undertaken for implementation of ban on identified single use plastic items from 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022. Special pan India enforcement

drives was undertaken in months of October, November and December, 2022 by Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees.

During the enforcement campaign, non-compliance of the ban on identified single use plastic has been found in commercial establishments and manufacturing units including in small shops in local markets. Actions have been taken on the deviations, which include seizure of banned single use plastic items and levy of penalty. As per available information, the penalty levied during the enforcement campaigns is approximately Rs. 6,01,67,701/- and 8,04,501 kg. material was seized.

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