GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 98 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011

98*. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

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

- (a) the measures taken by Government during last three years (2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25) to ensure the effective implementation of the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2011;
- (b) whether Government has mechanisms to monitor compliance of the rules and regulations;
- (c) if so, the number of reported cases of non-compliance and the details of the actions taken against such cases and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of financial assistance programmes/ schemes made available for setting up plastic waste treatments and disposal facilities during the said period?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 98 to be answered on 13th February 2025 on "Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011" by Shri Jose K. Mani.

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 on 18th March 2016, in supersession of the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. Vide Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, notified on 12th August 2021, identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, were prohibited with effect from 1 July 2022.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for plastic packaging vide Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2022, on 16th February, 2022. The Guidelines stipulate mandatory targets on EPR, recycling of plastic packaging waste, reuse of rigid plastic packaging and use of recycled plastic content. The guidelines provide for moving towards sustainable plastic packaging and reducing the plastic foot print. The implementation of ban on identified single use plastic items coupled with extended producer responsibility on plastic packaging will reduce pollution caused by littered and unmanaged plastic waste.

The following steps have been taken to strengthen implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and to implement ban on identified Single Use Plastic items:

- (i) All thirty-six States/UTs have constituted the Special Task Force under the chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary / Administrator for elimination of identified single use Plastic items and effective plastic waste management. A National Level Taskforce has also been constituted by the Ministry for taking coordinated efforts to eliminate identified single use plastic items and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- (ii) Directions have been issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for setting up of institutional mechanism for enforcement of provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 to all State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees. Directions have also been issued to E-commerce companies, leading Single Use Plastic sellers/users, and plastic raw material manufacturers with respect to phasing out of identified single use plastic items. Separately, custom authorities have been asked to stop the import of banned SUP items.
- (iii) For effective monitoring of ban on identified Single Use Plastic items and plastic waste management in the country, the following online platforms are in operation: (a) National Dashboard for monitoring of comprehensive action plan implementation, (b) CPCB Monitoring Module for Compliance on Elimination of Single Use Plastic, and (c) CPCB Grievance Redressal App.
- (iv) 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. Actions have been taken by concerned authorities on the deviations, which include seizure of banned single use plastic items and levy of penalty. As per details provided by SPCB/PCC and details available at SUP compliance monitoring portal, a total of 8,61,335 inspections have been conducted and

1976 tonnes of banned single use plastic items have been seized and a total of 19.8 crores of fine has been levied.

(d) Under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0), central assistance is provided inter alia for setting up of waste processing facilities such as material recovery facilities (MRFs), transfer stations, Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) processing facilities, plastic waste processing facilities as per scheme guidelines. Under SBM-U 2.0, a total of Rs. 10930.12 crores have been allocated for release as central share to States/UTs under Solid Waste Management component including plastic waste management. Swachh Additional Central assistance is also provided under Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen phase II for establishment of Plastic Waste Management Units in rural areas.
