

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2990**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 03/08/2018**

**Pollution by Plastic Waste**

2990. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the harmful effects of use of plastic as well as pollution caused by increasing plastic waste;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner and extent to which plastic waste is getting accumulated in the country;
- (c) the number of States in the country which have imposed ban on production and marketing of plastic, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps to discourage use of plastic across the country and impose complete ban on its use; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) and (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) conducted study in 60 major cities of India. It has been estimated that around 4059 T/day of plastic waste is generated from these cities. Extrapolating this plastic waste generation data from 60 major cities to the entire country, it is estimated that around 25,940 T/day of plastic waste is generated in India. The CPCB assigned a study to Indian Institute of Toxicological Research (IITR), Lucknow to study "Impact of Plastic Waste Disposal on Soil and Water Quality at Lucknow Dumpsites". The soil and water quality data revealed that the heavy metals, chloride, phthalates migrate from plastic waste into the surrounding medium. The leachate can cause considerable pollution problems by contaminating the surrounding soil, ground or surface water.

(c) to (e) Ministry notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 prohibiting the manufacture, sale, storage, and use of carry bags and sheets of less than 50 microns, however, the provision of thickness is not applicable to carry bags made up of compostable plastic. The Ministry has not imposed a complete prohibition on the plastic use.<sup>21</sup> States/Union Territories in the country have notified more stringent norms and imposed prohibition on plastic carry bags and other items in their States/UTs. Some of the states such as Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim etc. have been successful in implementing the regulations.

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