

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 998**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2020

**Single-Use Plastic**

998. SHRI TAPIR GAO:

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently launched any policy to ban and reduce Single-Use Plastic in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has set up any committee to look into the issue of Single-Use Plastic in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the committee has submitted its report to the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

(a) to (d) In order to ensure environmentally sound management of plastic waste and to prevent plastic pollution in the country, the Ministry has notified Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules 2016. As per the provisions of the Rules, plastic carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic less than fifty microns in thickness has been prohibited. Sachets using plastic materials for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala have also been prohibited.

Further, considering the high environmental cost associated with the use of Single-use plastic, particularly the adverse effect on soil, water bodies and on marine environment, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced India's pledge to phase out Single-use plastic by 2022.

Many States/UTs through their own notifications have imposed partial or complete prohibition on the use of plastic carry bags/single use plastics. 32 States/UTs have issued notifications/orders/regulations stipulating a complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or other single-use plastic items. The Ministry has also issued the "Standard Guidelines on Single-Use Plastic" with suggestions on different set of actions for State/UT Governments for minimisation of such items.

Further, on the call of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a campaign "Swachhta Hi Sewa" (SHS) was launched from 11th Sep to 27th October 2019. This campaign inter-alia focused on awareness, advocacy, collection and safe disposal of littered plastic among all stakeholders and citizens.

The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCPC), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, has constituted a committee to look into the issues of Single-use plastic. The Committee has identified a list of possible Single-use plastic items based of its utilities and environmental impact and submitted its report to the Department.

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