

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1178
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021

Alternative to plastics

1178. SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI:
SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:
SHRIMATI GOMATI SAI:

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

- (a) whether the single-use-plastic has been fully banned throughout the country and if so, the State-wise details thereof including Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that India's fight against plastic was severely disrupted due to spread of corona virus and has resulted in dependency on single use plastics;
- (c) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to make the nation free from single-use plastic along with the alternative arrangement being made or likely to be made by the Government instead of single-use- plastic;
- (d) whether the use of plastic in day to day life, especially those used in packaging which is manufactured in violation of the law has been found to be harmful to the environment, having thickness less than 40 microns used; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ban the use of plastic in packaging industry to prevent environmental degradation?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Ministry has notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, vide GSR NO. 571 (E) on 12th August 2021, in the Gazette of India, prohibiting identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, by 2022. As per the notification, the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of identified single-use plastic commodities, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, shall be prohibited with effect from the 1st July, 2022. The thickness of plastic carry bags has been increased from fifty microns to seventy five microns with effect from 30th September, 2021, and to one hundred and twenty microns with effect from the 31st December, 2022.

Separately, 34 States/UTs have issued notifications/orders introducing regulations pertaining to complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or identified single-use plastic items, over and above the PWM Rules. The details are annexed. As per Annual Report submitted by

Central Pollution Control Board, there is a complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags in Rajasthan.

(b): The Central Pollution Control Board has issued “Guidelines for Handling, Treatment and Disposal of Waste Generated during Treatment/Diagnosis/ Quarantine of COVID-19 Patients”. The Guidelines provide steps for handling, treatment and disposal of wastes including plastic wastes. There is a separate section dealing with disposal of personal protective equipment including waste masks and gloves being generated from households, commercial establishments, shopping malls, institutions, offices etc.

The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and its amendments, mandate the generators of waste to take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste, not to litter the plastic waste, ensure segregated storage of waste at source and handover segregated waste to local bodies or agencies authorised by the local bodies. The rules also mandate the responsibilities of local bodies, gram panchayats, waste generators, retailers and street vendors to manage plastic waste.

Further, to track the generation and disposal of COVID-19 Bio-medical Waste (BMW), CPCB has developed an app namely COVID19 BMW. The biomedical waste generated between June-2020 to June-2021 is 56898.4 tonnes.

(c): The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has taken steps to encourage transition from single use plastic items to alternate materials. NITI Aayog has already constituted a Committee to find out/develop an alternative product to plastic. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change has shared with States/UTs an indicative Action Plan for elimination of identified single use plastics. This indicative Action Plan has a thematic area on development and promotion of alternatives to prohibited single use plastic items and promoting innovation.

(d) & (e): The Central Pollution Control Board in its report on “Impact of Plastic Waste Disposal on Soil and Water Quality at Lucknow Dumpsites” had found that dumping of plastic waste can deteriorate soil and underground water quality due to leaching of additives, colourants, stabilizers and fillers present in the different categories of plastic products.

As per Rule 12 of the PWM Rules, 2016, 25 States/Union Territories (UTs) have taken action against deviations reported under the Rules in their respective States/UTs, including on manufacturing of Plastic Carry bags/Plastic sheets of thickness less than 50 microns.

With reference to managing plastic packaging waste, the Ministry has notified the draft Regulations on the Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, in the Gazette of India vide GSR No. 722 (E) on 6th October, 2021 for public consultation.

Further, the following steps have been taken to strengthen implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and also to reduce the use of identified single use plastic items:

(i) The States/UTs have been requested to constitute a Special Task Force under Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary/Administrator for elimination of single use plastics and

effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. Already, 19 States/UTs have constituted the Special Task Force till date. 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. The first meeting of the National Task Force was held on 30th August 2021 for reviewing the progress made for elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

(ii) The State /UT Governments and concerned Central Ministries/Departments have also been requested for the development of a comprehensive action plan for elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and its implementation in a time bound manner.

(iii) Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, have been issued to all States/Union Territories inter alia for setting up for institutional mechanism for strengthening enforcement of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016.

(iv) The Government has been taking measures for awareness generation towards elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. A two month long Awareness Campaign of Single Use Plastic 2021 has been organized. The Ministry has also organized pan India essay writing competition on the theme for spreading awareness amongst school students in the country. To encourage innovation in development of alternatives to identified single use plastic items and digital solutions to plastic waste management, the India Plastic Challenge – Hackathon 2021, has been organized for students of Higher Educational Institutions and startups recognized under Startup India Initiative.

(v) A total financial allocation of Rs. 1,41,678 crores over a period of 5 years from 2021-2026 has been made under Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, with a focus on complete faecal sludge management and waste water treatment, source segregation of garbage, reduction in single-use plastic, reduction in air pollution by effectively managing waste from construction-and-demolition activities and bio-remediation of all legacy waste dump sites.

Further, under SBM (U) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has released advisory on plastic waste management, capturing plastic waste generation, plastic waste management rules and various ways to manage plastic waste through reduce, recycle and recovery techniques. Single use plastic ban has been incorporated as an important component in Swachh Survekshan 2022, Star rating of Garbage Free Cities and as an entry condition for participating in Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge, to reduce plastic waste.

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase II, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, has issued operational guidelines to the States and Union Territories for the sustainability of open defecation free status and solid and liquid waste management in rural areas which includes plastic waste management.

Annexure

**Notification for banning manufacture, use, sale import and handling
of single use plastic products**

(Based on the data available in submitted Annual reports by SPCBs/PCCs)

S. No	Name of State/UT	Complete or Partial Ban	Date of Gazette or Executive Order	Remarks
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Complete ban	02.08.2010 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, distribution, transportation, recycle, sell & use of plastic carry bags.
2	Andhra Pradesh	Not Banned	Not Available	Not Banned
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Complete ban	03.07.2012 (Executive Order)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, sell& use of polythene/plastic carry bags
4	Assam	Complete Ban	30.04.2019 (Gazette)	Plastic carry bags, banners, buntings, cups, cling films, flex, flags, plates, sheets (used for spreading on dining tables irrespective of thickness) including the above items made of thermocol and plastic which use plastic micro beads.
5	Bihar	Complete ban	11.12.2018 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, sell& use of plastic carry bags
6	Chandigarh	Complete ban	30.07.2008 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, storage, import, sale, use transportation & disposal of plastic carry bags
7	Chhattisgarh	Complete ban	24.12.2014 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, recycle, sell & use of polythene/plastic carry bags.
8	Daman Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli	Complete ban	24-01-2014 & 22.09.2017 (Gazette)	Forbidding the use, sale/ storage of all kinds of plastic bags
9	Delhi	Complete ban	23.10.2012 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, import,store, sell & use of plastic products (poly Propylene, non-woven fabric type carry bags), plastic film or plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
10	Goa	Partial ban	16.03.2015	Government imposed ban on Manufacture, stock, import, transportation, recycle, sale & use of plastic (carry bags, cups, forks, paper plates, spoons) in Chorla Ghat area Mandi Wildlifesanctuaries .
11	Gujarat	Partial ban	28.06.2011 (Gazette)	Complete ban on plastic products in Gandhi Nagar

12	Haryana	Complete ban	20.08.2013 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, stock, import, transportation, recycle, sell & use of plastic (carry bags, cups, forks, paper plates, straws, spoons& containers for the usage of foodstuffs)
13	Himachal Pradesh	Complete Ban	07-07-2009 & 13-08-2009 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use of Carry bags (irrespective of size), polythene, non-biodegradable material, disposable plastic cups, plates, and glasses
14	Jammu & Kashmir	Complete Ban	03.01.2017 (SRO 45 order- Notification) Jammu District Magistrate has on 01.10.2020 ordered strict enforcement of SRO 45 notification.	Complete ban on manufacture, stocking, distribution, sale and use of polyethylene carry bags, plastic sheets or like, cover made of plastic sheet, plastic packaging and multilayered packaging less than fifty microns in thickness within territorial limits of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
15	Jharkhand	Complete Ban	17.10.2017 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, import, storage, transport, sell and usage of plastic carry bags in the whole State
16	Karnataka	Complete ban	11.03.2016 (Gazette)	State government banned the plasticbanners, buntings, carry bags (plastic & compostable), cups, cling films, flex, flags, plates, spoons & sheets made of plastic or Thermocol and microbeads usage in the entire state
17	Kerala	01.01.2020 (Executive Order)	22.11.2010 (Executive Order)	Complete ban on the manufacture, storage, transport and sale of plastic carry bags(irrespective of thickness); plastic sheets(used as table spread); plates, cups and decorative materials made of thermocol/stryrofoam; SUP items like cups, plates, dishes, spoons, forks, straw, stirrer; plastic coated paper cups, plastic coated paper plates, plastic coated paper bowls, plastic coated paper bags; Non woven bags, plastic flags, plastic bunting; plstic water pouches, non branded plastic juice packets ; plastic juice packets; PET/PETE bottles of drinking water of capacities less than 500 ml; garbage bags (plastic); PVC flex materials and plastic packets.
18	Ladakh	Partial Ban	(Order no-40-LA (GAD) of 2020 dated 23.06.2020)	Ban on the use of plastic water bottles and other plastic made objects in Government offices and other institutions
19	Lakshadweep	Complete	25.01.2019	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic

		ban	(Gazette)	carry bags of all thickness, plastic coated carry bags, plastic flags, plastic sheets/films used for wrapping, plastic sheets used as dining table covers, thermocol cups and plates, plastic coated paper cups and plates, plastic teacups, plastic tumblers, plastic teacups, water pouches/packets/PET plastic water bottles, straws,
20	Madhya Pradesh	Complete ban	24-05-2017 (Gazette)	Production, Storage, Transportation, sale & use of plastic carrybags.
21	Maharashtra	Complete Ban	23-03-2018 (Gazette) Amendment 11th April, 2018	Complete ban in the whole State for manufacture, usage, sale storage, transport, and distribution, wholesale & retail, import of the plastic & compostable bags and the disposable products manufactured from plastic & thermocol (polystyrene) - disposable dish/spoon, cups, bowl, container, fork, plates, glasses, straw, non-woven polypropylene bags, cups/pouches.
22	Manipur	Complete Ban	12.9.2017 Notification no. 56/38/99 for&Envt	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags
23	Meghalaya	Partial Ban	16.2.2017 Notification No. MPCB/TB- 144B/2016- 2017/79	Use and sale of plastic bags less than 50 microns has been prohibited and public notice has been issued
24	Mizoram	Partial Ban	With effect from 1.8.2019 By Aizwal Municipal Corporation	Complete ban on plastic carry bags below 50 microns
25	Nagaland	Complete ban	01.01.2004 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags
26	Odisha	Partial ban	29.09.2018 (Executive Order)	Ban on use and sale of plastic carry bags, bottled drinking water Polyethylene Terephthalate bottles of less than 200 ml capacity; SUP disposable cutleries like thermocol (polystyrene), dish/spoon, cups, bowl, container, fork, glasses & plates in Bhubaneshwar, Berhampur, Cuttack, Puri, Rourkela & Sambalpur
27	Puducherry	Complete ban	30.07.2019	(i) Polythene/Plastic/Polypropylene carry bags; (ii) Polythene/Plastic/Styrofoam (Thermocol) cups; (iii) Polythene/Plastic/Styrofoam (Thermocol) plates; (iv) Plastic sheet pouches used for

				cooked food wrapping; (v) Plastic sheets used for spreading on dining table; (vi) Water pouches; (vii) Plastic straw; (viii) Plastic flag.
28	Punjab	Complete ban	18.02.2016 (Gazette)	Complete ban on Manufacture, stock, distribute, recycle, sale & use of plastic carry bags.
29	Rajasthan	Complete ban	01.08.2010 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags
30	Sikkim	Complete ban	19.05.2016 (Gazette)	Complete ban on sale & use, storage of disposable items (cups, plates, spoons, containers, etc..) made from Styrofoam.
31	Tamil Nadu	Complete Ban	01.01.2019 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, sell, use, storage, Transportation and distribution of "Single-use plastics" i.e. plastic carrybags, flags, sheets using for food wrapping, straws, tea cups, tumblers, water packets & pouches
32	Telangana	Not Banned	Not Available	Not Banned
33	Tripura	Complete ban	10.03.2015 (Gazette)	Complete ban on Sell, use, storage, Transportation & import of plastic carrybags (including polypropylene, non-woven fabric type) plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
34	Uttar Pradesh	Complete ban	22.12.2015 (Gazette)	Sell, use, Storage, Transportation & import of plastic carrybags (including polypropylene, non-woven fabric type) plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
35	Uttarakhand	Complete Ban	01.01.2017 (Gazette)	Sell, use, storage& Transportation, of plastic carry bags.
36	West Bengal	Partial ban	11.01.2018 (Executive Order)	Completely banned in religious and historical places.
