GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4064 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

Registration for Extended Producer Liability

4064. SHRI SANJAY SETH: SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

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

- (a) the key highlights of the recently released Extended Producer Liability Guidelines for Plastic Packaging;
- (b) the details of entities to which new guidelines are applicable to;
- (c) the details of the producers and brand owners who have complied with the instruction regarding registration to complete the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as per the Plastic Waste Management Rules, State wise details thereof particularly in Jharkhand?
- (d) the details of the penalty levied under the said guidelines; and
- (e) the manner in which the online system to be established by the Central Pollution Control Board will help dealing with plastic pollution?

ANSWER

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

(a) The key highlights of the Guidelines on Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) on plastic packaging notified on 16th February 2022 are (i) mandatory registration of Producers, Importers, and Brand Owners (PIBOs) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWPs) through centralized on line portal, (ii) coverage of four categories of plastic packaging viz. rigid, flexible, multi-layered plastic packaging, and compostable plastic packaging, (iii) clearly defined targets for EPR, (iv) mandatory targets for reuse of rigid plastic packaging, minimum level of recycling of plastic waste and use of recycled plastic content in plastic packaging, (v) centralized online portal to support implementation of EPR, (vi) provision sale and purchase of surplus EPR certificates, (vii)levy of environmental compensation for non-fulfilment of EPR obligations, (viii) provision for verification, audit and monitoring of obligated entities.

(b) The obligated entities under these guidelines are producers of plastic packaging, importers of all imported plastic packaging and / or plastic packaging of imported products, brand owners including online platforms/marketplaces and supermarkets/retail chains other than those, which are micro and small enterprises (as per the criteria of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India) and plastic waste processors.

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(c) Three hundred and eleven brand owners and four producers, operating in more than two states or union territories, have been issued registration till date by Central Pollution Control Board, as per Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. The list is available on the website of CPCB. As per information provided by Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, one producer is registered under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, in the state of Jharkhand.

(d) No environmental compensation has been levied for any shortfall in fulfillment of EPR targets under the Guidelines notified on 16th February 2022, as the Annual Returns for the year 2021-2022, will be filed by PIBOs till 30th June 2022.

(e) The centralized on-line EPR portal developed by CPCB will be used for registration of PIBOs and PWPs, generation and transaction of EPR certificates, monitoring of transaction between PIBOs and PWPs, facilitate filing of annual returns, allows levy of environmental compensation. The centralized on-line portal will allow effective implementation of EPR on plastic packaging, thus tackling plastic pollution through better plastic waste management.
