

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3468**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022

**Alternatives to Single Use Plastic**

3468. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:  
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned single use plastic for protecting environment, if so, the name of material to be used in place of single use plastic;
- (b) whether the Government has issued guidelines to stop the manufacturing and use of single use plastic and follow the rules; and
- (c) whether there is any provision of penal action in violation of above guidelines, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a)& (b)The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, on 12th August 2021, prohibiting manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the following identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential with effect from the 1st July, 2022:

- (i) ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocol] for decoration;
- (ii) plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers.

The notification also prohibits manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of plastic carry bags having thickness less than seventy-five microns with effect from 30th September 2021, and having thickness less than one hundred and twenty microns with effect from the 31st December, 2022.

Any material other than “plastic” as defined under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, can be used to manufacture identified single use plastic items which have been banned with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. Manufacturers are using different materials based upon end-use and

durability such as wood, paper, wheat and rice bran, bagasse, plant material such as areca leaf, coconut leaf, bamboo, cloth,compostable plastic etc.

(c) The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Therefore, any deviation from the rules will attract penal provisions as specified in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Further the Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2022 notified on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022, provide for levy of environmental compensation based upon polluter pays principle, on persons who are not complying with the provisions of these rules, as per guidelines notified by the Central Pollution Control Board.

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