

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1802
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

Plastic Waste Management Rules

1802. SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI:

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

- (a) the details of the new provisions added by Government into the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2022 regarding the disposal of single use plastic;
- (b) the details of the new instructions issued regarding plastic packaging by Extended Producers Responsibility under the said rules;
- (c) whether any provision of penalty in case of violation of the said rules has been made; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Ministry has notified Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging on 16th February 2022 vide Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2022. The Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2022 were notified on 6th July 2022. These amendments obligate Producers, Importers and Brand owners of plastic packaging for environmentally sound management of plastic packaging placed in the market.

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-fulfillment of EPR obligations, (viii) provision for verification, audit and monitoring of obligated entities.

(c) and (d): Environmental Compensation shall be levied based upon polluter pays principle, on persons who are not complying with the provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended. The Guidelines for Assessment of Environment Compensation to be levied

for violation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 has been brought out by Central Pollution Control Board. The Environmental Compensation shall inter alia be levied for non-compliance of following provision of rules related to (i) thickness restriction on plastic carry bags and plastic sheets, (ii) prohibition on manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of identified single use plastic items, (iii) fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility on plastic packaging by Producers, Importers and Brand Owners, (iv) registration of manufacturer or seller of compostable and biodegradable plastic etc.
