

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1159
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

Prevention of pollution caused by the use of plastic

1159: DR. BHIM SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken to check pollution caused by the use of plastic and to what extent these steps have been effective;
- (b) whether Government has any data regarding the generation of plastic waste in the country during the last five years and if so, the State-wise and year-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the percentage of plastic waste generated in the country which is being recycled and the State-wise and year-wise details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a): The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, provide the statutory framework for plastic waste management in an environmentally sound manner throughout the country. The Rules prohibits manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of plastic sheets less than fifty microns in thickness in the country. There is complete ban on sachets using plastic material used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. The Rules also provide measures for recycling of plastic waste and its end of life disposal in an environmentally sound manner.

In order to address pollution caused by littered and unmanaged plastic waste the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has banned identified single use plastic items, which have high littering potential and low utility with effect from 1st July, 2022 under Plastic Waste Management Rules. Plastic carry bags having thickness less than one hundred and twenty microns have also been prohibited with effect from the 31st December, 2022. Further, over and above the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as per Annual Report of Central Pollution Control Board, thirty five States/UTs have issued notifications/orders to introduce regulations pertaining to complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or identified single-use plastic items.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for plastic packaging vide Plastic Waste Management

(Amendment) Rules, 2022, on 16th February, 2022. The Guidelines stipulate mandatory targets on EPR, recycling of plastic packaging waste, reuse of rigid plastic packaging and use of recycled plastic content. The guidelines provide for moving towards sustainable plastic packaging and reducing the plastic foot print. The implementation of ban on identified single use plastic items coupled with extended producer responsibility on plastic packaging will reduce pollution caused by littered and unmanaged plastic waste.

The following steps have been taken to strengthen implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and to implement ban on identified Single Use Plastic items:

(i) All thirty-six States/UTs have constituted the Special Task Force under the chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary / Administrator for elimination of identified single use Plastic items and effective plastic waste management. 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.

(ii) Directions have been issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for setting up of institutional mechanism for enforcement of provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 to all State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees. Directions have also been issued to E-commerce companies, leading Single Use Plastic sellers/users, and plastic raw material manufacturers with respect to phasing out of identified single use plastic items. Separately, custom authorities have been asked to stop the import of banned SUP items.

(iii) For effective monitoring of ban on identified Single Use Plastic items and plastic waste management in the country, the following online platforms are in operation: (a) National Dashboard for monitoring of comprehensive action plan implementation, (b) CPCB Monitoring Module for Compliance on Elimination of Single Use Plastic, and (c) CPCB Grievance Redressal App.

(iv) Regular enforcement drives have been undertaken by CPCB, SPCBs/PCCs along with local authorities to implement ban on identified single use plastic items and on plastic carry bags having thickness less than one hundred twenty microns.

(b) & (c): As per Annual report of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on the status of plastic waste management on the implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, the plastic waste generated in the country during the last five years is as given below:

S. No.	Year	Plastic Waste Generated (Tonnes Per Annum- TPA)
1.	2016-17	1,568,714
2.	2017-18	660,787
3.	2018-19	3,360,043
4.	2019-20	3,469,780
5.	2020-21	4,126,997

The plastic waste generated state-wise and year-wise as per Central Pollution Control Board Annual reports have been provided in Annexure I.

The total Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) of registered Producers, Importers and Brand owners (PIBOs) for plastic packaging is around 3.2 million tonnes for the year 2022 – 23, under EPR Guidelines. Already, around 44785 PIBOs and 2615 Plastic Waste Processors are registered on the Centralized EPR portal for plastic packaging. The quantum of EPR certificates generated by registered plastic waste processors after processing of plastic packaging waste including recycling amounts to 8.1 million tonnes.

Annexure I

Year wise data for Plastic Waste Generation as per CPCB Annual Reports*
(values in TPA)

S. No.	States/UTs					
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1.	Andhra Pradesh	82863	NA	66314	46222	39626.45
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NA	6	3787.37	2721	3755.9
3.	Assam	24030	NA	32277.87	24971	58765
4.	Bihar	2280	2280	68903.328	41365	74263.69
5.	Chhattisgarh	7300	NA	6000	32850	47450
6.	Goa	NA	NA	32580.52	26068	29441
7.	Gujarat	269294.88	269808	356873	408201	337693.96
8.	Haryana	23369.09	NA	68735.26	147734	185168
9.	Himachal Pradesh	255	NA	3672	13683	6206.78
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	27870	34367.37	74826.33	51710.6
11.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	51454.53	43332	20263.45
12.	Karnataka	419600	NA	272776	296380	368080
13.	Kerala	NA	NA	133316	131400	120063.87
14.	Madhya Pradesh	50457.07	61037	72327.39	121079	138483.58
15.	Maharashtra	21420.33	NA	409630	443724	311254
16.	Manipur	NA	24	12453.8	8293	10303
17.	Meghalaya	13.265	15.096	1263	5043	
18.	Mizoram	NA	NA	13.306	7909	1514.51
19.	Nagaland	NA	14052.5	268.18	565	4785.94
20.	Odisha	6890.805	12092.205	90138.98	45339.4	51269.9
21.	Punjab	163423.4	54066.1	119414.64	92890	108332.06
22.	Rajasthan	NA	NA	104704.383	51966	66324.57
23.	Sikkim	102.7	NA	5.66	69	82.75
24.	Tamil Nadu	79114.792	NA	401091	431472	430107
25.	Telangana	NA	NA	183014.65	233655	472675
26.	Tripura	30	28.5	26.2	32	61.65
27.	Uttar Pradesh	152492.6445	206733.4505	254401.8	161148	375950
28.	Uttarakhand	NA	NA	31093	25203	18647.75
29.	West Bengal	NA	NA	300236.12	300236	417925

30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	365	NA	1850	387	492.342
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	NA	NA	1947.7	1948	4726
32.	Chandigarh	21516.75	12775	11715.4	6746	13107.15
33.	Lakshadwee p	NA	NA	148	46	523.54
34.	Delhi NCR	232732	NA	224810	230525	345000
35.	Puducherry	9252.25	NA	8433	11753	12754

(* consolidated based upon information provided by State Pollution Control Board / Pollution Control Committee)