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SHRI RITESH KUMAR SINGH,
JT. SECRETARY – MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
ROOM NO 111, PRITHVI BLOCK,
PARYAVARAN BHAVAN,
JOR BAUG ROAD,
NEW DELHI -110 003
THRU SPEED POST

4TH SEPTEMBER, 2018

Dear Sir,

REF: BAN OF COMPOSTABLE CARRY BAGS IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA VIDE "MAHARASHTRA PLASTIC AND THERMOCOL PRODUCTS NOTIFICATION, 2018 BEARING NO. PLASTIC 2018/ C.R. NO 24/TC-4 DATED 23RD MARCH, 2018 READ WITH NOTIFICATION DATED 11TH APRIL, 2018 AND AMENDMENT NOTIFICATION DATED 2ND JULY, 2018

This is with reference to our meeting at your offices on 28th August, 2018, wherein I have highlighted the issue of Maharashtra State banning all Plastic carry bags, including Compostable Carry bags as defined under Section 3 e, of the Plastic and Waste Management Rules, 2016 notified by your Ministry.

This notification issued by the Maharashtra Government seems "in conflict" with the PWM 2016 rules under Section 3 e clearly. It is a similar situation in Karnataka state also.

May we kindly request your Ministries intervention in the matter, as our Association is extremely concerned that the similar notifications may be used in all the States in India, when in fact Compostable bags are a viable alternative to all Synthetic, Single use Carry bags all over the world.

Our Association and myself, as Founder President of ICPA, would also like to suggest the setting up of a Task Force by your Ministry, with all stakeholders, under your guidance, to lay out and formalise a Code of Regulations, for all States in India who wish to adopt Compostable Carry bags and other Compostable products, to alleviate the increasing problem of Plastic Waste, which is not / cannot be recycled.

Once again we wish to thank you for your time and attention in this most important matter for India !

Indian Compostable Polymers Association