

Note No. #1

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F. No. 17-2/2001-HSMD
 Ministry of Environment and Forests
 (HSM Division)

Sub: Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011.

Ministry of Environment and Forests notified the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999 (amended in 2003) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for regulating and managing plastic carry bags. Subsequently in September 2009, a draft Plastics (Manufacture, Usage and Waste Management) Rules, 2009 was notified for inviting comments to revise the earlier notifications. The comments received in response to this draft were discussed with various stakeholders and also in a Committee which was constituted to formulate the economic and fiscal instruments.

2. After several consultations, with various stakeholders, the final Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 has been prepared and vetted by the Ministry of Law. The salient features of the provisions include the following :-

- (a) carry bags shall either be white or only with those pigments and colourants which are in conformity with Indian Standard : IS 9833:1981 titled as List of pigments and colourants for use in plastics in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water, as amended from time to time;
- (b) no person shall use carry bags made of recycled plastics or compostable plastics for storing, carrying, dispensing or packaging food stuffs;
- (c) no person shall manufacture, stock, distribute or sell any carry bag made of virgin or recycled or compostable plastic, which is less than 40 microns in thickness;
- (d) recycled carry bags shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534:1998 titled as Guidelines for Recycling of Plastics, as amended from time to time;
- (e) Carry bags made from compostable plastics shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS/ISO 17088:2008 titled as Specifications for Compostable Plastics, as amended from time to time.

3. Besides the above conditions, there are provisions for Plastic Waste Management that includes responsibilities of municipal authorities, extended producers responsibility to provide the required finance to establish plastic waste collection centers. Other provisions such as explicit pricing of carry bags, State Level Advisor Body to monitor the implementation of these rules have also been provided.

4. We may now send the notification to the Govt. Press for final publication. It may be mentioned that the Supreme Court in its direction dated 7, December 2010, asked the Ministry to finalize these rules within 8 weeks time. The fair copies are placed below for signature. However, we may apprise the Secretary (E&F) and may seek his approval on these rules before sending to the Government Press for printing.

(Dr. Manoranjan Hota)

Director

January 21, 2010

JS (R/F)

The new Plastic waste Rules have now been vetted by M/Law. These Rules will replace the

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existing 1999 Rules (as amended in 2003).

The salient features of the new Rules are mentioned in Paras 2 & 3 of the note of Dir (MH) at page 140/N.

may kindly see for approval before submission

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24/02/22

AS (MH) — on line

Secy (E & F) Ok. Read. But what is the status of implementation of the previous version? Any indications from the CPCB reports?

24/11

JS(RG)

O/o Secretary (E & F)
Dy. No. 492
Date 24/1/22

95/JS(RG)
24/1/22

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This has reference to observations of Secretary (E&F) at 141/n ante.

2. Several Committees and reports have assessed the issues relating to plastic waste and its management. These are:

- (i) National Plastic Waste Management Task Force under the chairmanship of Shri Dilip Biswas, Chairman CPCB was constituted in 1997, to formulate a strategy and action program for management of plastic waste.
- (ii) A Committee under the chairmanship of Justice Ranganath Mishra was constituted in 2002 to examine various environmental issues related to indiscriminate littering of plastic wastes, its disposal etc.
- (iii) A Committee under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) R.C. Chopra was constituted in 2008 to study the issues pertaining to environmental hazards including health hazards arising out of the use of plastic bags in Delhi.
- (iv) A Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri R.H. Khwaja, Additional Secretary, MoEF to evolve a Road Map on the Management of Wastes in India to suggest a policy/strategy for waste management in the country.
- (v) A report on "Assessment of Plastic Waste and its management at Airports and Railway stations in Delhi" was published by CPCB in 2010 and found shortcoming at Railway stations viz. no separate dustbins for biodegradable and recyclable waste and littering of plastic carry bags and multilayered plastic pouches.

3. All the Committees highlighted the following issues in their reports:

- (i) Indiscriminate littering of plastic waste on open land, drains, rivers, coasts, landfill-sites etc.
- (ii) No proper system for ensuring generation of source separated waste, its collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of post consumer plastic wastes.
- (iii) No separate dustbins for biodegradable and recyclable waste.
- (iv) As per estimate made by CPCB in 2008 that 15,722 tons of plastic waste is generated per day. 60% of the total plastic waste generated is recycled and 40% is littered and remains uncollected and find its way into drains, open lands, rivers, railway tracks and coasts, which results in choking of the drainage system i.e. drains and nallahs etc.
- (v) Unsound recycling practices are serious health/ environmental hazards. Recycling industries, particularly those operating in non conforming areas, are not meeting the environmental norms.
- (vi) Measurement of thickness as prescribed in the Rules poses practical difficulties.

4. Submitted for kind perusal and information, please.

(R.B. Lal)
Dy. Director
27.01.2011

Dir (MH) - on tour
JS (RG)

Old Secretary (E & F)
Dy. No. 565
Date: 27.1.11

JS (RG)

Week compliance & enforcement continues to be desired all enforcement related regulations, though the situation varies from state to state. Plastic rules are no exception. JS (RG) E&F ok.