



NEWS BULLETIN

# Plants and Pollution ENVIS RP-NBRI

Vol. 08, August 2021

## Say “NO” to Single Use Plastic

### CSIR-NATIONAL BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LUCKNOW

#### Govt bans manufacture, sale and use of identified single-use plastic items from July 1, 2022

India Today, 13 August 2021

The government has notified Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, prohibiting identified single-use plastic items by 2022.

The thickness of plastic carry bags will be increased from 50 microns to 75 microns from September 30, 2021, and to 120 microns from December 31, 2022, according to the notification dated August 12. This will also allow the plastic carry bags to be reused, it stated.

Non-woven plastic carry bags should not be less than 60 gram per square metre (GSM) with effect from September 30, 2021, the notification said.

"The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of following single-use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from July 1, 2022: ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocool) for decoration; 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," it read.

The provisions will not apply to commodities made of compostable plastic, the notification said.

In June 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced that India will eliminate all single-use plastics in the country by 2022.

In the fourth United Nations Environment Assembly held in 2019, India piloted a resolution on,.....

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#### India Joins List of Countries to Ban Production and Use of Single-Use Plastics

My Modern Met, 19 August 2021

Single-use plastics accumulate in our planet's oceans where they can endanger wildlife. They also clog local landfills where they will persist for hundreds of years, barely decomposing. Recycling helps, but increasingly countries are pivoting to eliminating single-use plastics altogether. India is the latest nation to ban certain plastic items and set out rules which the country hopes will reduce waste.

The Indian government has announced the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021. These rules lay out a ban on single-use plastic items by July 1, 2022. These include ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic balloon sticks, plastic flags, ice cream sticks, plates, cups, glasses, straws, and cutlery. Plastic films around boxes will also have to be thicker than 100 micron. Compostable plastics will be exempt. This plan will go into effect next year, but has been in the works since 2018.

Not all plastic items are banned, though. Plastic bags will remain, but must increase in thickness so that they can become more reusable. The new bans have been criticized for not prohibiting plastic water bottles, which are a common and harmful form of waste. Regardless, the new Indian ban on single-use plastics is a big step in the right direction for the populous country. The laws also include an Extended Producer Responsibility—meaning the burden and,.....

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#### Chennai Corporation begins drive to seize single-use plastic products in shops

*The New Indian Express, 22 August 2021*

CHENNAI: The Chennai Corporation on Saturday began a drive to seize single-use plastic products and impose penalties on shops that use plastic covers and wrappers.

A team of officials, headed by Deputy Commissioner of Health

Dr Manish Narnaware, inspected several shops and levied the owners fines ranging from Rs 100 to Rs 500.

Corporation officials said that the drive would continue in the coming days, and shop keepers have been advised to refrain from using plastic products.

The officials seized plastic covers and plates from bakeries and markets on the day.

The use of single-use plastic products were banned in the city in 2019, and shopkeepers were directed to use paper bags.

The civic body officials had also shut down a company that manufactured plastic covers, which bore the tagline “use plastics and save forests”.

Dr Manish Narnaware tweeted that the company had printed misleading messages on banned items, and the firm owners would be traced.....

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#### Delhi govt tells schools to act on single-use plastic removal

*The New Indian Express, 24 August 2021*

NEW DELHI: The Delhi government has directed its schools to conduct a series of activities as part of a comprehensive action plan on elimination of single-use plastic.

The Directorate of Education (DoE) listed various activities like giving speech on innovative ideas for plastic waste management, poster making and essay writing which will be conducted online since schools are closed in view of the pandemic.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Plastic Waste Management Rules in March 2016 to tackle the menace of plastic wastage. The rules make source segregation of various types of waste mandatory.

“The rules introduce Extended Producer Responsibility, as an environment policy instrument and assign the physical, financial and environmental responsibility to producers and importers of plastic,” said the DoE.

In this connection the modalities for preparation of the comprehensive action plan are being readied. To generate awareness and capacity building by development of a public movement , NCC, NSS and school students should be engaged, said the Directorate. “A consolidated report of activities conducted is to be maintained ,.....

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#### Chandigarh Administration to implement ban on single-use plastic strictly

*The Tribune, 26 August 2021*

To make the city free of single-use plastic, the UT Administration will strictly implement the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016.

To preserve the environment and make Chandigarh plastic-free, the UT Administration has already banned single-use plastic.

For better enforcement of the plastic ban, the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) organised an interactive meet of stakeholders, including the CPCC, the MC and law enforcement agencies involved in enforcement and regulation of the PWM Rules.

The stakeholders were updated with the recent amendments, present status and areas for improvement. The chief sanitary inspector and sanitary inspectors were briefed on ways to wriggle out of the confrontation and challan procedure with non-compliant/defaulting units for smoother implementation of the PWM Rules.

To sensitise the Health Superintendent, the chief sanitary inspector and the sanitary inspectors, the notification of the UT Administration issued on September 27, 2019, and its amendments on complete ban of identified single-use plastic/thermocool items were discussed at length and queries addressed.

The authorities requested the public to refrain from using any of the banned single-use plastic items.....

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*Food Canada, 30 August 2021*

Consumers are demanding more sustainable solutions, and some are even willing to pay a premium for products delivering on sustainability claims.

In 2021, the E.U., several U.S. states, and other countries including Canada pledged to ban single-use plastics and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) or ‘forever chemicals’ that are added to food packaging, and for good reason. An alarming 380 million tons of plastic are produced every year and the COVID-19 pandemic only made things worse. It’s estimated that the use of single-use plastics soared by 250 to 300 per cent worldwide during COVID-19.

The food packaging industry is at a crossroads. Nearly 40 per cent of plastic used across the world comes from packaging, and often this waste is not recyclable. In fact, it’s estimated that less than 10 per cent of plastic has been recycled since 1950. In the near future, eco-friendly packaging will be a necessity.

Moulded fibre or pulp is a green alternative that is made from 100 per cent recycled paper or natural fibres. This alternative is a cost effective and eco-friendly packaging solution. It can be compostable unless it gets lined with plastic,.....

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