

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:50

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011

USE OF PLASTIC PACKAGING

Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane;Ram Shri Purnmasi

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has banned the plastic packaging of tobacco products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for allowing use of plastic packaging in the open market even after such ban;
- (c) whether there exists any monitoring mechanism to check effectively the use of plastic packaging in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 (amended on 02.07.2011). Under these Rules, it is stipulated that sachets using plastic material can not be used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. Further, plastic material, in any form, shall not be used in any package for packing gutkha, pan masala and tobacco in all forms. Under these Rules, the State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees are responsible for enforcement of provisions related to registration, manufacture and recycling and the municipal authorities are responsible for enforcement of provisions related to use, collection, segregation, transportation and disposal of plastic waste. Further, the Rules also require municipal authorities to set up, operationalise and coordinate the waste management system. This Ministry has requested the State Governments to review the enforcement of these Rules and take necessary action for putting in place the required implementation and monitoring arrangements for this purpose.