GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1405 ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012 USE OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has estimated the use of plastic products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof annually; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the use in future in coordination with the State Governments?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has not estimated the use of plastic products in the country. However, as per the information available in the Report of Central Institute of Plastics and Engineering and Technology (CIPET) (2008), approximately 8 million tonnes of plastic products are consumed per annum in India. The major plastic products include plastic packaging films, carry bags, containers, cups, plates, spoons, trays etc.

Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have provisions for plastic waste management, wherein municipal authorities are responsible for setting up, operationalisation and coordination of the waste management system and for performing the associated functions such as collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste. State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees are responsible for enforcement of provisions related to registration, manufacture and recycling. The Rules, inter-alia, have the provisions for pricing of carry bags i.e. The municipal authority may determine the minimum price for plastic carry bags and that no carry bags shall be made available free of cost to consumers. MoEF has written to the State Governments/Union Territories, Ministry of Urban Development, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees to ensure implementation of the Rules.