

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1408  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012  
BAN ON USE OF PLASTIC BAGS  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether some States like Delhi have banned the use of plastic bags in their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and its implementation status thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which its impact has been noticed in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): As per the notification dated October 23, 2012 of Govt. of NCT of Delhi, no person shall manufacture, import, store, sell or transport any kind of plastic carry bags (including that of polypropylene non-woven fabric type carry bags) in the whole of National Capital Territory of Delhi. As per the information provided by Central Pollution Control Board, use of plastic carry bags has been completely banned in the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Delhi and Lakshadweep Islands. Use of plastic carry bags has also been banned in some pilgrimage centres, tourist, historical places and eco-sensitive areas located in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odhisa, Gujarat, Kerala, Mizoram, Goa, Karnataka, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have specified, inter-alia, that plastic carry bags should have a minimum thickness of 40 microns, food stuffs cannot be packed in recycled plastics or compostable plastics and no carry bags shall be made available free of cost to consumers. Under these Rules, municipal authorities are responsible for setting up, operationalisation and coordination of the waste management system including 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. 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. MoEF is also providing financial assistance for conducting training and awareness programs for various stakeholders pertaining to municipal solid waste including plastic waste management.