

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4554

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013

CHECK ON USE OF PLASTIC

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

(a) whether plastic waste is being generated at a very large scale in the metropolitan cities of the country including Delhi despite the ban thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the use of plastic and the number of companies and persons in Delhi against whom penal action has been taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board has conducted a study in 60 major cities of the country including Delhi during the year 2010-11. As per the study, total plastic waste generated in these 60 major cities amounts to 3501 tons per day. In Delhi, approximately 700 tons per day of plastic waste is generated.

(c) The Government has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have, inter-alia, specified 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.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has issued a Notification dated 23rd October 2012. As per the notification, no person including a shop keeper, vendor, wholesaler or retailer, trader or hawker, shall sell or store or use any kind of plastic carry bags for storing or dispensing of any eatable or non-eatable goods or materials. Further, no person shall manufacture, import, store, sell or transport any kind of plastic carry bags in the whole of NCT of Delhi. No person shall use any kind of plastic cover or plastic sheet or plastic film or plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine and invitation card or greeting card.

Inspections have been carried out by concerned agencies of Government of NCT of Delhi, as per their jurisdiction. Samples of the violators are collected and complaints are filed before the designated Court. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee has received 329 samples of plastic bags for filing prosecution and 258 cases have already been filed so far.