

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:97
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015
POLLUTION BY PLASTIC GARBAGE
Verma Shri Rajesh

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

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to check the pollution being caused by the plastic garbage;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to enforce a total ban on the use of plastic; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011, which provide for system to be established by the municipal authorities for management of plastic waste in their jurisdictions. The Rules also prohibit manufacture, sale, stocking and use of plastic carry bags of less than 40 micron in thickness. Pigments and colourants used for manufacturing of plastic carry bags should conform to standards prescribed under the rules. No carry bags shall be made available free of cost by retailers to consumers. The municipal authorities are required to notify the minimum price for carry bags so as to minimize plastic waste generation. Any person manufacturing carry bags or engage in recycling of plastic waste is required to register with concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee.

(b) and (c): There is no proposal to enforce a total ban on the use of plastic.