

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2009
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
BAN ON POLYTHENE BAGS
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Simha Shri Prathap

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

- (a) whether the use of polythene bags has been banned/restricted by some States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the guidelines/rules notified by them and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether despite the ban, polythene bags are in use in some States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) and the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): This Ministry has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011, which inter-alia prohibit manufacture, stocking, distribution, sale and use of polythene bags of less than 40 micron in thickness in the country. As per the information received from the Central Pollution Control Board, use of plastic carry bags is completely banned in Andaman & Nicobar Island, Delhi, Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura. Similarly certain States/ UTs have banned the use of polythene bags in pilgrimage centres, tourist and historical places within their jurisdictions.

(c) to (e): As per the Rules notified by this Ministry, the manufacturer of polythene carry bags is required to obtain registration from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Pollution Control Committee, which is the prescribed authority for implementing provisions related to manufacture, registration and recycling. Provisions relating to use, collection, segregation, transportation and disposal of plastic waste are required to be implemented by the concerned municipal authority. The prescribed authorities identified under the Rules are required to take appropriate action on violations. Similarly, various State Governments have appropriate mechanisms for enforcing their orders relating to banning of plastic carry bags/polythene bags.