

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:309

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2016

Plastic Waste

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

- (a) the estimated quantum of plastic bags manufactured in the country annually;
- (b) the quantum of plastic waste generated as a result thereof annually during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has recently notified more stringent norms for the use of plastic and plastic carry bags and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the names of States where plastic bags are banned and still being used; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the environmental damage caused by plastic waste?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The quantum of plastic bags manufactured in the country has not been estimated. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has estimated the quantum of plastic waste generation in the country as 5.6 metric tons per annum.

(c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has comprehensively revised the Plastic Waste Management Rules on 18th March, 2016 in supersession of the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. The salient features of the revised Rules include the expansion of the applicability area to include the entire country; the minimum permissible thickness of plastic carry bags increased from 40 to 50 microns; minimum thickness of 50 micron imposed for plastic sheets; introduction of Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) for the brands packaging their products in plastics; use of waste plastic in co-generation of energy and road construction; plastic waste minimization; source segregation & recycling involving waste pickers, recyclers & waste processors etc.

(d) The use of plastic carry bags has been completely banned in 14 States / Union Territories namely; Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh. Use of plastic carry bags has been partially banned in some pilgrimage centres, tourist and historical places located in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

(e) The provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 aim at environmentally sound management of plastic waste.

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