

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003  
BAN ON PLASTIC CARRYBAGS  
SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken a final decision with regard to banning of plastic carrybags;
- (b) if so, the detailed rules framed in this regard;
- (c) whether instructions have been issued to all State Governments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have banned the manufacture, sale and use of plastic carrybags of certain specified microns;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) the reasons for partial ban rather than complete ban on these carrybags;
- (h) whether it is mandatory for the manufacturers of plastic carrybags to register themselves with the State Pollution Control Boards; and
- (i) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken to ensure that rules are followed meticulously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

- (a) & (b) The Government has finalised and issued the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage (Amendment) Rules, 2003 vide notification S.O No.698 (E) dated 17 June 2003. Under the said rules, carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic, less than 8 x 12 inches in size and thickness below 20 microns have been banned.
- (c) & (d) The amendment rules have been sent to all State Governments / Union Territory Administrations, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB) / Pollution Control Committees (PCC) for effective implementation.
- (e) & (f) Yes, Sir. Carry bags below a thickness of 20 microns have been banned.
- (g) The ban on carry bags with smaller size and thickness has been done to prevent indiscriminate use & littering in sequel to the recommendations of Justice Ranganath Misra Committee on Plastic waste disposal
- (h) & (i) Yes, Sir. Under Section 10 of the amendment rules, it has been stipulated that every occupier manufacturing plastic carry bags must apply to the concerned SPCB/PCC for grant/ renewal of registration and the concerned SPCB/PCC shall issue and/o renew a registration certificate after ensuring that the unit meets the norms prescribed under the rules.