



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Local Self Government Department - Prohibition /Restriction on the use of the Plastic carry bags in State -Recommendations of the Committee - Accepted - Orders issued.

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**LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT (RD) DEPARTMENT**

GO (Ms) No.323/ 2011/LSGD      Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 27/12/2011

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Read: Report submitted by the Committee to examine the issues relating to prohibition / restriction on the use of the plastic carry bags in Kerala.

**ORDER**

A Committee was constituted for the purpose of examining the issues relating to prohibition /restriction on the use of the plastic carry bags in the State with the Secretary to Government (LSGD), the Special Secretary to Government, (Industries), the Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission and Chairman State Pollution Control Board as members. The Committee submitted its report with various recommendations for consideration of Government..

2) The Government has examined the report in detail and are pleased to accept the report and issue the following orders. The concerned Departments/Organisations will issue separate directions to implement these recommendations.

- 1. Registration of plastic manufacturers with the Kerala State Pollution Control Board should be made mandatory and stringent.**

*Local Self Government Department, Taxes Department and Kerala State Pollution Control Board will issue necessary direction/ensure compliance.*

- 2. All plastic carry bags should, as per statute, must have labeling with details such as name and registration of the manufacturer and thickness of the material and no production or marketing of plastic carry bags below 40 microns would be permitted.**

*Local Self Government Department, Taxes Dept.(Sales Tax through Check post) and Kerala State Pollution Control Board would ensure compliance.*

- 3. Explicit minimum pricing of plastic carry bags to reduce the usage. An Ordinance empowering the Urban Local Bodies in this regard has already been issued. A percentage of the price could be collected by the Local Self Government body so as to create a plastic management fund.**

*Direction in this regard be given to all Urban bodies by the Director of Urban Affairs.*

- 4. The present ban on plastic materials below thickness of 40 microns should be strictly enforced.**

*The Home Department, Taxes Dept, Local Self Government Department will issue necessary direction to all field level units to ensure compliance.*

- 5. All Corporations, Municipalities and Grama Panchayats should set up collection centers for the collection of used plastic carry bags and other plastic materials. Manufacturers of plastic materials should collect and recycle/reuse plastic materials thus collected by collection centers.**

*Direction in this regard be given by all Corporations, Municipalities and Grama Panchayats to the Plastic Manufacturers.*

- 6. Plastic bottle manufactures and suppliers and Manufacturers and Suppliers of soft drinks should collect used plastic bottles from collection centers/junk material dealers.**

*All Corporations, Municipalities and Grama Panchayats should provide direction in this regard to the Suppliers/Manufacturers of these items.*

- 7. The Malabar Cements Ltd., Palakkad will consume 10 tonnes per day of plastic carry bag materials in their cement kilns for co-incineration along with coal.**

*Industries Department will issue necessary directions in this regard.*

- 8. As per studies by the Highway Research Institute shredded carry bags can be added to coarse aggregate along with bitumen while heating tar for road work upto as much as 10%.**

*The Public Works Department and the Engineering wing of the Local Self Government Department should provide direction in this regard.*



9. Use of paper bags, jute bags, coir bags etc. should be promoted through Self Help Groups and NGOs. Assistance should be given to set up micro enterprises at local body level for manufacture and sale of alternate products. Tax exemption should also be given to popularize such products. Awards should be instituted for Local Bodies for the successful implementation of regulating/banning of plastic carry bags.

*Local Self Government Department, Taxes Department and Suchitwa Mission will issue necessary orders/furnish proposals.*

10. The places of Tourism/Environment importance in the State should be declared Plastic Free Zones with a total ban on plastic in such localities.

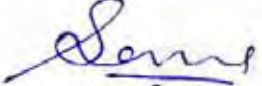
*Local Self Government Institutions may issue orders in their respective jurisdictions after obtaining approval of their Council.*

By Order of the Governor,  
**JAMES VARGHESE**  
Principal Secretary to Government.

To

The Director of Urban Affairs, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Director of Panchayats , Thiruvananthapuram  
All Mayors/Municipal Chairmen/Secretaries of Municipal Corporations  
and Municipalities (through Director of Urban Affairs)  
All Presidents/Secretaries of Grama Panchayats (through Director of Panchayats)  
The Chairman, Kerala State Pollution Control Board  
The Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission  
The Chief Engineer, Local Self Government Department  
Taxes Department  
Finance Department  
Industries Department  
The General Administration (SC) Department  
Public Works Department  
The Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department.  
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