



**SPEED-POST / E-MAIL**

F.No.B-11011/UPC-II/PWM (Direction)/2021 15544-546 Date: 03.02.2021

To,

1. **M/s VST Industries**  
P. O. Box No. 1804  
Azamabad, Hyderabad  
Telangana- 500020
2. **M/s Godfrey Phillips,**  
49, Community Centre, New  
Friends Colony,  
New Delhi, Delhi 110025
3. **M/s Indian Tobacco Company Pvt. Ltd**  
Virginia House,  
37, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,  
Kolkata, West Bengal- 700071

**Sub:- ENVIRONMENTAL COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (PROTECTION) ACT, 1986 FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES, 2016**

**WHEREAS** in exercise of Powers under Section 6, 8 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules vide Notification no. G.S.R 320(E) dated March 18, 2016; and

**WHEREAS** CPCB had issued the following directions vide letter dated October 22, 2020 under Sec 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for enforcement of provisions of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules for storing, packing or selling cigarette and tobacco in all forms;

- (i) Why action including levying Environmental Compensation and / or closure of cigarette manufacturing operations should not be taken against the unit for violation of PWM Rules; and

**WHEREAS**, vide representation dated December 14, 2020 M/s.VST Industries Limited has claimed that Cigarettes are not covered in clause 4 (f) and (i) of PWM Rules, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, representation submitted by M/s.VST Industries Limited was considered by CPCB and it has been observed that as per PWM of Rules 4(f) and 4(i) usage of Plastic in any form is prohibited for packaging of tobacco in any form, which includes Cigarettes; and

**WHEREAS** in compliance of NGT Directions dated Sep 10, 2020 in OA 247/2017, CPCB finalized the Guidelines for levying Environment Compensation for violation of PWM Rules; and

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**WHEREAS** continual usage of Plastic for packaging of cigarettes is in violation of PWM Rules; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, in view of above and in exercise of the powers vested to Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the following directions are proposed to be issued to your unit:

- a) The unit shall pay Rs. 5,00,00,000/- (Five Crores Rupees Only) as Interim Environmental Compensation charges to CPCB for violation of PWM Rules.
- b) Unit shall submit a time bound action plan within 30 days to shift to environmental friendly alternatives for packaging of cigarettes.

You are hereby given an opportunity to respond within 15 days of issue of this direction, failing which CPCB shall be constrained to issue the above directions without giving any further notice in accordance with provisions of EPA, 1986.

  
(Shiv Das Meena)  
Chairman

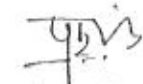
Copy to:

1. Joint Secretary (CP Division)  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New  
Delhi, 110003

: For kind information  
please

✓ 2. Incharge, IT Division, CPCB

: For uploading on  
CPCB website

  
(Prashaht Gargava)  
Member Secretary