



F.No.CP-20/137/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO

6192-6227

Date: 11.11.2024

To,

The Member Secretary  
All SPCBs/PCCs

**Sub: - Directions under Sec 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for enforcement of Rule 4(h) and 4(ha) of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules**

**WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified the PWM Rules, 2016, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 3,6, & 25 of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 Vide Notification No. G.S.R. 320 (E) dated March 27, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, under rule 4(h) of PWM Rules 2016 (as amended), "*the provision of thickness under clause (c) shall not apply to carry bags or commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastics. Carry bags and commodities made from compostable plastics shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS/ISO 17088:2021 titled as Specifications for Compostable Plastics*"; and

**WHEREAS**, under Rule 4(ha) of PWM Rules 2016 (as amended) "*the manufacture of carry bags and commodities covered under sub rule (3) shall be permitted to be made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics subject to mandatory marking and labelling laid down under these rules and the regulations of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for food contact applications. The manufacturers of compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic carry bags or commodities permitted under the rules, shall obtain a certificate from the Central Pollution Control Board before marketing or selling*"; and

**WHEREAS**, Central Pollution Control Board has updated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for issuing Certificate to Manufacturers of Compostable Plastic Carry Bags and commodities in August 2022; and the same is uploaded on CPCB website at <https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/plasticwaste/SOP-IssueCert-CompostableplasticManufacturers.pdf> and enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

**WHEREAS**, the updated list of manufacturers to whom CPCB has issued above mentioned certificates is available on the E-Certification portal at <http://plastic.cpcb.gov.in/compostable/dashboard> ; and

**WHEREAS**, details related to these manufacturers along with the copy of issued certificate have been regularly forwarded to your office; and

**WHEREAS**, CPCB has developed SOP for Quick Verification Tests to distinguish Compostable Plastics from Conventional Plastics and the same is uploaded on CPCB website at [https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/plasticwaste/SOP\\_for\\_quick\\_identification.pdf](https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/plasticwaste/SOP_for_quick_identification.pdf) and enclosed as **Annexure-II**; and

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in

**WHEREAS**, as per provision 11(1(c)) of PWM Rules, 2016 (as amended), each plastic carry bag and multilayered packaging shall have “*name and registration certificate number for producer or importer or brand owner generated through centralized online portal specified in Schedule II for plastic packaging with effect from 1 January, 2025 and number of certificate issued under clause (h) of sub-rule (4) in case of plastic sheet or like used for packaging and plastic packaging as well as carry bags commodities made of compostable plastic, as applicable*”; and

**WHEREAS**, as per provision 11(1(d)) of PWM Rules, 2016 (as amended), each plastic carry bag and multilayered packaging shall have *name and certificate number issued under clause (h) of sub-rule 4 in case of plastic sheet or like used for packaging and plastic packaging as well as carry bags and commodities made of biodegradable plastic; and*

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 2.7(iv) of SOP, field verification of the units shall be carried out by SPCB/PCC covering at least 10% of the units in their States/UTs biannually as per the prescribed format (**Annexure-V** of SOP); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 2.7(vi) of SOP, State Boards are further required to carry out the market survey to ensure availability of certified compostable carry bag at the consumer end; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 2.7(vii) of SOP, SPCB/PCCs are required to submit the six-monthly compliance report in the prescribed format of above inspection and market survey to CPCB as per the prescribed format (**Annexure-VI** of SOP); and

**WHEREAS**, vide letter dated 04.03.2021 CPCB has issued directions to all SPCB/PCCs which included the following directions:

- a. To complete field verification of all units located in your state/UT by March 31, 2021. Subsequently, field verification of 10% of the units located in your states to be conducted every six months.
- b. To carry out a market survey to ensure the availability of certified compostable bags in your state/UT.
- c. To verify the six-monthly report submitted by Manufacturers/sellers.
- d. To submit the six-monthly compliance report in the prescribed format (inclusive of (a) - (c) above) to CPCB.

**WHEREAS**, as per the information provided by your office,

- There were no manufacturers or sellers of compostable plastics in your jurisdiction. (for Mizoram, Chandigarh, Sikkim, Odisha, Nagaland, Bihar, Tripura)
- Inspection of ... unit conducted and out of ... , .. units were found to be operational and complying. (for MP, Kerala, Puducherry, Telangana, Delhi).
- Inspection is under process/ to be conducted by concerned ROs. However, no further information has been provided in this matter. (for HP, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra)
- However, no information has been provided on this matter. (for remaining states/UTs)

**WHEREAS**, CPCB has received complaints indicating that several compostable plastic manufacturing units are in non-compliance with the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended), and are also violating the conditions of the compostable plastics certificates issued by CPCB.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 2.6(ii) of SOP, CPCB is issuing one time final certificate to compostable plastic manufacturer and hence monitoring of the units is to be strengthened to ensure compliance with the stipulated conditions; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in view of above and in exercise of powers vested under Section 5 of EPA, the following directions are issued for compliance.

- a. To conduct inspection of all compostable plastic manufacturing units located in your state/UT. Necessary assistance may be sought from CIPET, if required.
- b. Subsequently, conduct field verification of 10% of the units located in your State/UT every six months as per SOP.

You are required to confirm receipt of this direction and submit action taken report to this office by November 30, 2024.

  
(Tanmay Kumar)  
Chairman 

**Copy to: -**

1. The Additional Secretary  
Ministry of Environment, Forests &  
Climate Change  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh  
Road,  
Delhi New -110003 : For kind information, please
2. Regional Directorates, CPCB : For follow up with concerned  
SPCBs/PCCs in your jurisdiction,  
please
3. The Director,  
Central Institute of Petrochemicals  
Engineering & Technology : For technical assistance please
4. Incharge, IT Division : For uploading a copy of these  
directions on CPCB website,  
please

  
(Bharat Kumar Sharma)  
Member Secretary

o/c

### Information Provided from SPCBs:-

S.No.	State	Information
1	Mizoram	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit.
2	Chandigarh	No compostable unit. In survey compostable carry bags are available in Chandigarh.
3	Sikkim	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit.
4	Odisha	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit. In survey compostable carry bags are available in Odisha.
5	Nagaland	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit.
6	Madhya Pradesh	one unit in MP & not in operation at present. Survey regarding availability compostable plastic may be conducted -- an independent agency.
7	Himachal Pradesh	2 unit available field visit to be conducted.
8	Bihar	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit.
9	Kerala	4 Units in the state Biannual report submitted
10	Chhattisgarh	Matter has been conveyed to concern office.
11	Puducherry	One unit inspected
12	Tripura	No Compostable manufacturers/ Sellers unit.
13	Maharashtra	matter has been conveyed to concern RO.
14	Telangana	Inspected 5 units
15	Rajasthan	Field visit to be carried out of 3 units
16	Delhi	7 unit as per list out of which only 2 were currently manufacturing compostable bags along with other plastic