



File No: CP-20/33/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO

Date: 10.03.2023

To,

The Chairman
ALL SPCBs/PCCs

Sub: - DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (PROTECTION) ACT, 1986 to SPCBs/PCCs REGARDING TIMELY COMPLETION OF PHYSICAL VERIFICATION OF PWPS REGISTERED ON THE CENTRALIZED EPR PORTAL FOR PLASTIC PACKAGING.

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, in exercise of the powers conferred under sections 3, 6 & 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide Notification No. G.S.R 320 (E) dated March 18, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging were notified by MoEF&CC on February 16, 2022 in Schedule – II of 4th amendment of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016; and

WHEREAS, as per section 6.1(a) of the above Guidelines, "The following entities shall register on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board namely: - (i) Producer (P); (ii) Importer (I); (iii) Brand owner (BO); (iv) Plastic Waste Processor (PWP) engaged in (a) recycling, (b) waste to energy, (c) waste to oil, and (iv) industrial composting"; and

WHEREAS, as per Section 11.1 of the notified EPR Guidelines, "All plastic waste processors shall have to register with concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee in accordance with provision 13(3) of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. Central Pollution Control Board shall lay down uniform procedure for registration within three months of the publication of these guidelines"; and

WHEREAS, CPCB developed the Centralized EPR Portal for Plastic packaging and prepared the Standard Operating Procedure(SOP) for Registration of PWPs; and

WHEREAS, as per the SOP developed by CPCB, physical verification of the registered PWP is to be completed by SPCB/PCC within 30 days of grant of Registration. The PWP shall be able to issue EPR certificates to PIBOs post completion of physical verification and approval of by the SPCB/PCC; and

WHEREAS, Module related to Physical Verification of PWPs & Generation of EPR Certificates by PWPs on Centralized EPR Portal for Plastic Packaging was made operational by CPCB on November 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Training sessions were conducted by CPCB for SPCB/PCCs regarding operation of these Modules; and

WHEREAS, vide dated November 10, 2022 and February 07, 2023, SPCBs/PCCs were requested to expedite physical verification of the registered PWPs; and

WHEREAS, a series of Review Meetings were conducted by CPCB to follow-up with SPCB/PCC, including Meeting chaired by Chairman CPCB on March 01, 2023, for timely completion of Physical Verification of registered PWPs; and

WHEREAS, as per information provided by SPCBs/PCCs, Physical Verification of 862 PWPs out of more than 1701 registered PWPs has been completed so far. Out of 862, Physical verification of 620 PWPs have been approved by SPCB/PCC

WHEREAS, 1242 Brand downers, 1934 Producers and 2871 Importers with a total EPR target of 23.17 Lacs TPA have already been registered on the EPR Portal; and

WHEREAS, as per Section 11.5 of the EPR Guidelines, only plastic waste processors registered under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, shall provide certificates for plastic waste processing, which shall be considered for fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility obligations by Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners; and

WHEREAS, as per Section 15 of the EPR Guidelines, The Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners shall have to provide the details of recycling certificate only from registered recyclers along with the details of quantity sent for end of life disposal, by 30th June of next financial year while filing annual returns on the online portal. The details provided by Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners and registered plastic waste processors will be cross-checked by the online portal; and

WHEREAS, registered PIBOs have to obtain EPR Certificates issued by PWPs, for fulfilment of their EPR liability by 30th June; and

WHEREAS, as per section 11.2 of the EPR Guidelines, The Plastic waste processors shall submit annual returns after end of every financial year by 30th April of the next financial year on the quantity of plastic waste processed category-wise as per prescribed pro forma on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board; and

WHEREAS, in view of above, timely completion of Physical Verification is essential to give adequate time to the PWPs to generate certificates and transfer the same to registered PIBOs enabling them to fulfil their EPR obligations. This is also required to ensure that the PWPs & PIBOs file the Annual Returns as per the stipulated timelines in the EPR Guidelines;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of above and in exercises of the powers vested under Section 5 of EPA, following Directions are issued for compliance:

1. To complete the physical verification of all registered PWPs in your jurisdiction by March 15, 2023, so that PWPs shall issue EPR certificates to PIBOs for fulfilment of their EPR targets within the stipulated time frame.

You are hereby directed to take necessary action for compliance of aforesaid Directions and submit Action taken Report to this office within 10 days of issue of this Direction.

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(Tanmay Kumar)
Chairman

Copy to:

1. Sh. Naresh Pal Gangwar : For kind information please
Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC
2. Regional Director : For follow-up with SPCBs/PCCs in your
Concerned RD-CPCB jurisdiction for timely completion of
Physical Verification.
3. DH (IT) : For uploading on the CPCB website

Prashant
(Prashant Gargava)
Member Secretary

o/c