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Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation

Poura Bhawan, FD-415A, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700106

No: BMC/1217/BMC/GS/2022

Date: 29/06/2022

To
The President/Secretary,
..... Puja Committee
.....
Ward No....., BMC

Sub: Notice regarding discontinuation of use of single-use plastic items (SUP) in Puja Pandals/Puja arenas strictly with effect from 1st July, 2022.

Sir/Madam,

In reference to the above, it is to intimate you that in pursuance of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as subsequently amended vide GSR No. 571 (E) dated 12.08.2021, the State Government vide notification no. EN/1209 | 3C-22/2019 dated 27th June, 2022 (copy enclosed) has ordered that the manufacture, import, stock, distribution, sell and use of following single-use plastic items (SUP), including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from 1st July, 2022: -

- Thermocol sheets used in decoration, Thermocol made plates, bowls, glasses etc.,
- Plastic plates, tray, bowls, glasses, cups and plastic cutlery- spoons, knives, fork, etc.,
- Plastic sticks of ear buds, straw, stirrer, candy/ ice-cream, balloon,
- Plastic wrapping /packaging films around sweet boxes, invitation cards & cigarette packs,
- Plastic flags and similar items, Plastic or PVC Banners less than 100 micron.

Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation has already taken up intense IEC activity for general awareness of all segments of the society like shop-to-shop campaign at common market places along with miking, leaflet distribution, special campaign at ward level among citizens, Rally, Sit and draw competition with children, displaying of poster, banner etc for phasing out single-use plastic items (SUP) as mentioned above from 1st July, 2022.

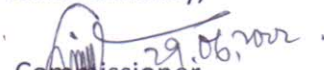
In case of violation of directions, as specified in the Notification, fine shall also be imposed in accordance with the bye-laws/rules/orders, as the case may be, by Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation with effect from 1st July, 2022 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules, Orders, Notifications framed under section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

In view of above you are hereby directed to ensure the discontinuation of import, stock, distribution, sell and use of above mentioned single-use plastic items (SUP) in Puja pandal decoration, Idol decoration, shops and stalls installed in Puja arenas and Melas during the Durga/Kali/Jagadhatri/other Puja occasions as will be organised by your Committee strictly with effect from 1st July, 2022.

Thanking you.

Encl: As stated

Yours faithfully,


Commissioner

Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

PRANI SAMPAD BHAWAN, 5TH FLOOR, LB-2, SECTOR-III, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA -700 106

No.EN/1209/ 3C-22/2019

Kolkata, 27th June, 2022.

NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS plastic carry bags and disposable single-use plastics, including thermocol, cause short-term and long-term environmental damage and health hazards;

AND WHEREAS Article 48A of the Constitution of India, *inter alia*, envisages that the State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment;

AND WHEREAS it is observed that Single Use Plastic (SUP) items including Polystyrene (Thermocol) and expanded Polystyrene are non-biodegradable and produce toxic gases on burning and such items cause choking of sewers and drains, reduce soil fertility and pose a threat to life of cattle when they ingest plastic waste;

AND WHEREAS with a view to prevent the recurrence of such problems, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India has notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 *vide* GSR 320 (E) dated the 18th March, 2016, as subsequently amended *vide* G.S.R No. 571(E) dated 12th August, 2021 and G.S.R. 133 (E) dated 16th February, 2022, whereby the manufacture, import, stock, distribution, sell and use of plastic carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic of less than seventy-five (75) microns in thickness have already been banned and plastic carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic of less than one hundred twenty (120) microns in thickness shall be banned with effect from 31st December, 2022;

AND WHEREAS the West Bengal Pollution Control Board has published a Public Notice on 22.04.2022 in different newspapers prohibiting the production, distribution, sale and use of Single Use Plastic (SUP) items in the State of West Bengal;

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as subsequently amended vide GSR No. 571 (E) dated 12.08.2021, the State Government hereby directs that the manufacture, import, stock, distribution, sell and use of following single-use plastic items, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from 1st July, 2022:-

- (a) ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocol for decoration];
- (b) plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays, wrapping or packaging film around sweet boxes, invitation cards and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners with thickness of less than 100 microns and stirrers.

The following officers are hereby authorized to implement this Notification in their respective jurisdictions:-

- (a) Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal;
- (b) Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal;
- (c) Principal Secretary / Secretary, Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal;
- (d) Member Secretary and the Regional Officers of West Bengal Pollution Control Board;
- (e) Director, State Urban Development Agency (SUDA), Govt. of West Bengal;
- (f) District Magistrates;
- (g) Municipal Commissioner/ Executive Officer of ULBs;
- (h) Commissioners/Superintendent of Police;
- (i) Sub Divisional Officer/ Block Development Officer;
- (j) General Managers, District Industries Centre;
- (k) Officer-in-charge of Police Stations.

The Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department, the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development both under Government of West Bengal and the authorities and bodies under the said Departments and the West Bengal Pollution Control Board shall ensure monitoring and implementation of this Notification.

The contravention of directions, as stated in this Notification shall be an offence committed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules, Orders, Notifications framed thereunder and attract penal provisions as specified under section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

In case of violation of directions, as specified in this Notification, fine may also be imposed in accordance with the bye-laws/rules/orders, as the case may be, by concerned local authorities.

This Notification shall come into force from the first day of July, 2022.

By Order,



*Additional Chief Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal.*