



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Abstract

Environment Department – Blanket ban on single use plastic in the state with effect from 01.01.2020- orders issued.

Environment (B) Department

G.O.(MS) No.6/2019/Envt.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram: 27/11/2019

Read: 1. G.O(Rt) No.134/2018/Envt dated 12.12.2018

2. Expert Technical Committee Report.

O R D E R

The consumption of single use plastic items and its irresponsible usage in the State, especially plastic carry bags, straws, plastic papers, sheets used for food packaging in hotels are mostly ending up in streams, rivers, other water bodies and road sides making even recycling impossible and has reached an alarming state posing environmental as well as health hazards. Identifying the threat, many States in the country have already imposed ban on these items and Government of India is exhorting the State Government to control the usage of single use plastic items. In the above context and to identify the plastic items to be brought into the ambit of ban , an Expert Technical committee was constituted as per the GO read as first paper above and the committee submitted report to Government as per the 2nd paper read above. The Expert Technical Committee recommended complete ban on some items and partial ban on certain other items. The Technical Committee report clearly identified the benefits and success rate of plastic ban in the States of Maharastra and Tamil Nadu where the consumption has been reduced by around 70% showing the positive impact of ban on these items.

2. Government have examined the matter in detail. Being convinced of the need for banning single use plastic in the State, Government hereby issues the following order:

3. Complete ban on single use plastic is imposed in the State with effect from 01.01.2020.

a) No person or company or entity or industry shall manufacture, transport, store, sale

or use of any plastic products classified as, one-time use or other chlorinated plastic products as mentioned in the table below, from 1st January, 2020, within the territory of the State of Kerala.

Sl. No.	Products
1	Plastic carry bags irrespective of thickness
2	Plastic sheets (sheet used as table spread), cling film
3	Plates, cups and decorative materials made of thermocol/Styrofoam
4	Single use plastic utensils like cups, plates, dishes, spoons, forks, straw, stirrer
5	Plastic –coated items like paper cups, plates, bowl, carry bags
6	Non woven bags, plastic flags, plastic bunting
7	Plastic water pouches, plastic juice packets
8	PET/PETE bottles of drinking water of capacities less than 300 ml.
9	Garbage bags (plastic)
10.	PVC flex materials
11	Plastic packets.

4. Plastic carry bags and other single use plastic products used for the following purposes shall be exempted:-
- i) Plastic products manufactured exclusively for the purpose of Export against any export order in a plastic industry.
 - ii) Plastic products used for medical purposes and medical equipments.
 - iii) Plastic products made from compostable plastic bearing a label ‘compostable’ and confirming to the Indian Standard IS or ISO 17088: 2008 titled as specification for “Compostable Plastic” as defined in the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2016
5. All District Collectors, Sub Divisional Magistrates, Officers authorized by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Secretaries of all Local bodies and any other authority or officer authorized by the Central Government u/s 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, shall strictly monitor the implementation of these directions and file complaint before the appropriate judicial forum to take cognizance of the offense as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, in case of any contravention of any of these directions.
6. Any contravention of any of the provisions of these directions if found shall be

reported to the Sub Divisional Magistrate or Officer of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board in their respective jurisdictions. Any article manufactured, sold, transported, stored or used by any person, company, entity or industry if found in violation of these directions shall be seized forthwith and will be handed over to the Sub- Divisional Magistrates/Officer of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, of the respective jurisdiction for taking appropriate action.

7. The Secretaries of all Local Self Government Institutions, Sub Divisional Magistrates and the authorized officers under Kerala State Pollution Control Board shall impose Rs. 10,000/- as fine to any manufacturer, shopkeeper, vendor, wholesaler, retailer, trader or any other persons who violates any of the provision of the above directions. If such person is found in violation of any of the above mentioned directions for the second time, it is directed to impose a fine of Rs. 25,000. If the violation is found repeated by such person, the Secretaries of all the Local Self Government Institutions and the authorized officers under Kerala State Pollution Control Board are directed to impose a fine of Rs. 50,000/- and to issue closure order to such shop/manufacturer from carrying out any such activity thereafter in such premises.

8. Kerala State Beverages Corporation, KERAFED, MILMA, Kerala Water Authority are bound to comply with the principles of Extended Producers Responsibility with regard to the bottle and pouches sold through them which includes the payment towards taking the bottles and pouches back from the public.

9. MoEF vide notification dtd.08/04/2016 directed under Rule 11(i) of Solid Waste Management Rules 2016, that 5% of the plots in the industrial areas/parks should be set apart for waste recovery/recycling facility. This needs to be enforced in the State as well. For setting up such waste treatment plants, the land shall be provided at nominal cost.

10. Industrial units manufacturing biodegradable plastic bags shall be encouraged by Department of Industries in lieu of ban on the plastic bags.

11. Kerala State Pollution Control should take necessary steps to make the public aware of the Government Order.

(By order of the Governor)

Dr. ASHA THOMAS IAS

ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Govt of India
2. All the District Collectors
3. All the Department Heads
4. All Heads of Public Sector Units /Autonomous bodies
5. The Secretary to Governor, Raj Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram
6. The Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram
7. The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission
8. The Registrar, Kerala Administrative Tribunal (including covering letter)
9. The Registrar, Kerala High Court, Ernakulam
10. The Registrar, Kerala Lokayuktha, Thiruvananthapuram
11. The Member Secretary, State Planning Board, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram
12. The Secretary, State Information Commission, Thiruvananthapuram
13. The Registrar, Kerala/Calicut/CUSAT/Kannur/Mahatma Gandhi Universities
14. The Registrar, Kerala Agriculture University, Mannuthy, Thrissur
15. The Registrar, Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kalady P.O, Ernakulam
16. The Registrar, Kerala University of Health and Allied Science, Thrissur – 680596
17. The Registrar, Kerala Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Science University, Pookode, Wayanad
18. The Registrar, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Panangad, Kochi
19. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board
20. The Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board
21. The Managing Director, Clean Kerala Company
22. Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission
23. CIPET (Institute of Plastic Technology), Kochi
24. Kerala Plastic Manufacturers Association
25. All Depts in Government Secretariat (to give direction to all institutions under their control)
26. General Administration (SC) Department
27. Stock File/Office Copy (Envvt.B2/198/2018-Envvt)

Copy to:-

1. Private Secretary to Chief Minister
2. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary
3. PA to Principal Secretary

Forwarded/By Order

Section Officer