



**GUJARAT POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
**Sector-10-A, Gandhinagar**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**1. What is single-use plastic?**

As the name suggests, it refers to plastic items that are used once and discarded. E.g., plastics used in packaging of items, bottles (shampoo, detergents, cosmetics), polythene bags, face masks, coffee cups, cling film, trash bags, food packaging etc.

**2. What does the Notification say?**

**As per MoEFCC:** The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of following single-use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from the 1st July, 2022.

**3. What are the items being banned?**

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have announced a ban on –

- earbuds;
- balloon sticks;
- candy and ice-cream sticks;
- cutlery items including plates, cups, glasses, forks, spoons, knives, trays;
- Wrapping film around sweet boxes; invitation cards; cigarette packs;
- PVC banners measuring under 100 microns; and
- polystyrene for decoration.

The Ministry had already banned Plastic carry bags **under 75microns** in September 2021, expanding the limit from the earlier 50 microns. From 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, the ban will be extended to polythene bags **under 120 microns**

**Sachets:** According to the **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016**, there is also a complete ban on sachets using plastic material for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala.

**4. Why these items?**

As per the ministry: The choice for the first set of single-use plastic items for the ban was based on “**difficulty of collection, and therefore recycling**”.

**5. Does this Ban apply on commodities made of Compostable Plastic?**

The ban will **not apply to commodities made of compostable plastic.**

**6. The selling on e-Commerce platform is also banned?**

Selling as well as display/advertisement of Single Use Plastic (SUP) items on all E-Commerce website is prohibited with effect by June 30, 2022.

**7. What is penalty provision for the violation of Plastic Waste Management Rules-2016 and its amendment?**

Action, as deemed fit under Environmental Protection Act, 1986 including seizure of goods, closure of operations of Industries/Commercial Establishments and in case of non-compliance of above Environment Compensation as per the Guideline issued by Central Pollution Control Board of Rs. 5,000 / - per ton shall be levied against the violators of the said Notification.

**8. Then, what is to be used?**

**Cotton bags:**

Natural cloth can replace plastic bags. Sustainable clothing made from organic cotton, wool, hemp, or bamboo which shall not shed plastic fibers when washed.

**Bamboo:**

This fast-growing renewable resource can replace plastic items like tableware and drinking straws. It is lightweight, durable, and compostable.

**Wooden items:**

A renewable resource, wood from sustainably-managed forests can replace plastic in household items like cleaning brushes, kitchen utensils and cutting boards.

**Pottery and Other Ceramics:**

pottery and other fired ceramics offer a stable, waterproof alternative that's good for food storage and tableware. Look for non-toxic glazes.

**Compostable Plastics:**

“compostable plastics” mean plastic that undergoes degradation by biological processes during composting to yield CO<sub>2</sub>, water, inorganic compounds and biomass at a rate consistent with other known compostable materials, excluding conventional petro-based plastics, and does not leave visible, distinguishable or toxic residue.

It is one of the alternatives of plastics. To encourage compostable plastics, CPCB has prepared a Standard operating procedure (SOP) for issuing of certificate to the manufacturers and seller of compostable plastics.

## **EXTENDED PRODUCERS' RESPONSIBILITY**

### **9. What is Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)**

EPR means the responsibility of a producer for the environmentally sound management of the product until the “end of life”.

### **10. Have EPR Guidelines been notified by Government?**

Yes. MoEF&CC vide Fourth Amendment to Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 notified EPR Guideline on February 16, 2022

### **11. Which entities shall register on the centralized portal developed by CPCB?**

The following entities shall register on the centralized portal developed by CPCB:

I. Producer (P)

II. Importer (I)

III. Brand owner (BO)

IV. Plastic Waste Processor engaged in (a) recycling, (b) waste to energy, (c) waste to oil, and (d) industrial composting.

### **12. What assistance is provided for filling of application?**

- AI Chat bot has been provided at right side of the login and sign up page of the portal.
- Helpline no. : 011- 43102469
- i-button with assisting provided in specific sections
- Standard Operating Procedure uploaded on website'
- Instruction sheet for filing of application uploaded on website

### **13. Which PIBOs are required to register with SPCB/PCC**

PIBOs which are operational in one or two states/UTs are required to register with the concerned with SPCB/PCC

#### 14. Which PIBOs are required to register with CPCB

PIBOs which are operational in more than two states/UTs are required to register with CPCB.

**Note: Brand Owners (BO) including online platforms/marketplaces and supermarkets/retail chains other than those, which are micro and small enterprises as per the criteria of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India**

*For details Section 3 & 4 of aforementioned EPR Guidelines may be referred to*

#### 15. What are the documents required for KYC for registration of PIBOs?

i. PDF copy of Company's PAN, CIN & GST (the combined copies of GST invoices in all the States/UTs where the PIBO is operating).

ii. PDF copy of Authorized person's PAN & Aadhar.

**Note: Proprietorship and partnership firms shall provide PAN and GST number for registration on EPR portal. CIN number is applicable for the companies registered with Ministry of Corporate Affairs.**

#### 16. Which are the plastic packaging categories covered

**under EPR?** The following plastic packaging categories are covered under EPR: **Category I** : Rigid plastic packaging

**Category II** : Flexible plastic packaging of single layer or multilayer (more than one layer with different types of plastic), plastic sheets or like and covers made of plastic sheet, carry bags, plastic sachet or pouches

**Category III** : Multilayered plastic packaging (at least one layer of plastic and at least one layer of material other than plastic)

**Category IV** : Plastic sheet or like used for packaging as well as carry bags made of compostable plastics

*For details please refer EPR Guidelines ( Section 5)*

#### 17. What is Pre-consumer plastic packaging waste?

"Pre-consumer plastic packaging waste" means plastic packaging waste generated in the form of reject or discard at the stage of manufacturing of plastic packaging and plastic packaging waste generated during the packaging of product including reject, discard, before the plastic packaging reaches the end-use consumer of the product.

### 18. What is Post-consumer plastic packaging waste?

“Post-consumer plastic packaging waste” means plastic packaging waste generated by the end-use consumer after the intended use of packaging is completed and is no longer being used for its intended purpose.

### 19. What is EPR target for Producers & Importers?

EPR target is the plastic waste which is introduced in the market by the PIBO .  
Details given in section 7 of the EPR Guidelines may be referred to.

### 20. Whether all PIBOs are required to submit Consent granted under Air & Water Act

All producers are required to submit the consents issued to their production facilities.

Brand-owners having their own production facilities are required to submit the consents.

### 21. How much application fees / annual processing/ renewal fees to be paid for Registration of PIBOs/ PWP

The details of fees to be paid by PIBO/ PWP is as given below:

#### a. Application fees for Registration of PIBOs

Sl. No.	PW Generation Slab ( TPA )	Proposed Processing Fees (Rs.) #
1	<1000	10000
2	1000-10000	20000
3	>10000	50000

#### b. Application fees for Registration of PWP

Sl. No.	Production capacity Slab ( TPA )	Proposed Processing Fees (Rs.) *
1	< 200	5000
2	200-2000	20000
3	>2000	50000

- c. **Renewal fees** : Same as Registration fees
- d. **Annual Processing Fees**: 25% of Application fees ( for PIBOs as well as PWP)

**22.If entity collects plastic waste; do we need to register as PWP?**

Only entities engaged in plastic waste processing (recycling, co-processing, waste to energy, waste to oil ) have to be registered as PWP.

**23.What if PIBO has inhouse recycling unit for their packaging plastic?**

PIBO will have to register as PIBO and as Recycler both with relevant documentation. Credits can only be issued to recyclers and transaction of credits to PIBO shall be documented.

**24.What are the documents required to register on the centralized portal, if entity falls in more than one sub category?**

- Different email id is required to register in each category.
- Company KYC (Company's PAN, GST & CIN) documents shall be same for each category.

**25.What shall be proportion of plastic waste in Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in case of co-processing and incineration of plastic waste at Co-processing and Waste to Energy plant?**

Equivalent quantity of plastic shall be considered for generation of EPR Certificates. Characterization of waste may be carried out to determine the actual plastic quantity. As per report titled "Assessment & Characteristics of Plastic Waste generated in 60 cities", published by CPCB, average plastic waste generation is around 6.92% of MSW. In absence of actual characterization, this average plastic percentage shall be considered for the purpose.

**26.What shall be proceedings in case of rejection of application?**

- If entity is operating in one State/UT or more than two states/UTs: The applicant has to apply for fresh application on the portal with same login credential and repay the applications fees as per SOP.
- If entity is operating in two States/UTs: The applicant has to apply for fresh application on the portal with same login credential and repay the applications

fees as per SOP. In case application is rejected by one or both State/UTs.

**27. What shall be liabilities of producer/importer in case concerned Brand owners are currently not registered on the centralized EPR portal?**

The producer/importer may register on the said portal and their liabilities for fulfilling of EPR target to be adjusted during filling of Annual report on the portal if the concerned Brand owners are currently not registered on the centralized EPR portal.

**28. What shall be EPR liabilities of any entity if its falls under the category of brand owner as well as importer?**

The entity first has to register as a brand owner and provide the entire details in terms of plastic waste generation included imported plastic by the firm. After registration as brand owner the entity shall register as importer, provide details of imported plastics and the imported material sold to the said brand owner. Therefore zero liabilities has to be fulfilled by the firm as importer.

**29. What material is to be considered for EPR in case of MLP (at least one layer of plastic and at least one layer of material other than plastic)?**

Weight of the plastic layer is to be considered for EPR in case of MLP (Category-III)

**30. What is the EPR liability associated with third party manufacturer of products?**

If the third party does not have a brand name associated with them, the EPR liabilities are to be taken by the concerned Brand Owners/Producers to whom the product is being sold.

**31. What is the definition of "Operations" for PIBOs ?**

Operation means selling of plastic packaging product or products with plastic packaging or carry bags or multilayered packaging or plastic sheets or like into the Indian Market.

**32. What is the definition of "Raw material" for Brand owners, Producer &**

**Importer?** Raw material for Brand owner and importer is plastic packaging of products or carrybags or multilayered packaging or plastic sheets or like.

Further, raw material for Producer is resin/granules being used to manufacture carry bags or multilayered packaging or plastic sheets or like.

**33. Do PIBOs who have obtained a valid CPCB/SPCB/PCC registration also need to apply on the Centralized EPR Portal?**

All the PIBOs need to apply on the Centralized EPR portal with necessary application fee.

**34. Are units engaged in export exempted from fulfilling EPR Obligations?**

Yes. Export oriented units are exempted from fulfilling EPR obligations

**35. Which category of PIBOs are exempted from fulfilling EPR obligation?**

The Micro & Small category of Brand owners are exempted from fulfilling EPR obligation. Remaining all entities are required to be registered on Centralized EPR portal in line with notified EPR Guidelines

**36. If you do not import plastic packaging but products with plastic packaging so what information should we submit under 8 (a) and 8 (b)?**

Details of plastic packaging which is imported along with the product is to be given in this section