

Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

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Subject: "Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) (Amendment) Rules, 2011".

Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 on 4th February, 2011 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. In order to bring greater clarity and to comply with the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, MoEF has published the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) (Amendment) Rules, 2011 on 2nd July, 2011.

The following are the salient features of the amendment:

- (i) The definition of carry bags has been clarified to mean "bags made from any plastic material, used for the purpose of carrying or dispensing commodities but do not include bags that constitute or form an integral part of the packaging in which goods are sealed prior to use."
- (ii) It has been clarified that the applicability of various provisions of the Rules is to "multilayered plastic pouches and sachets" and not to "multilayered packaging material".
- (iii) Exemption granted to carry bags for export purposes has been clarified to be applicable to carry bags exclusively for export purposes, against an order for export.
- (iv) The definition of multilayered plastic pouches or sachets has been clarified to mean pouches or sachets having at least one layer of plastic with one or more layers of other packing material;
- (v) The meaning of carry bags in white colour has been clarified to mean

carry bags in natural shade (colourless) i.e. without any added pigment;

- (vi) The concept of deemed registration with SPCBs /PCCs for manufacturer/recycler of carry bags, multilayered plastic pouches or sachets has been introduced. Manufacturers, who have already registered, shall not be required to register again whereas others shall have to register.
- (vii) It has been clarified that plastic material, in any, form shall not be used in any packaging for packing, gutkha, pan masala and tobacco in all forms.
- (viii) The responsibility of municipal authority, manufacturers and the brand owners in setting up of the collection system as per Extended Producer's Responsibility has been clarified.
- (ix) It has been clarified that the municipal authority may work out the modalities of a mechanism based on Extended Producer's Responsibility involving such manufacturers, registered within its jurisdiction and brand owners with registered offices within its jurisdiction either individually or collectively, as feasible or set up such collection systems through its own agencies.

The full notification may please be seen in the Ministry of Environment and Forests' Website at www.moef.nic.in.
