

**Press Release**

A Policy Review with regulatory impact and Panel discussion on implementation of “The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 as amended in 2018” was held under the Chairmanship of Thiru C. Ponnaiyan, Hon’ble Vice Chairman, State Development Policy Council (SDPC), Chennai on 16.10.2020 with Dr. P. Durairasu, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Tmt. Jayashree Raghunandan, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Govt., Planning & Development Department, Dr. Sandeep Saxena, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary, Environment and Forest Department, Dr. B.C. Archana Kalyani, IFS., Head of Division (Land Use), Tmt. Sarayu, IAS., Project Director, SADP Unit-I, Ooty, Senior officials from Secretariat Department, Stakeholder departments and domain experts at the SDPC Conference Hall, Ezhilagam, Chennai -600 005.

The topics discussed includes “Plastic retaining wall”, “Waste Segregation and Income Generation”, “Plastic Roads” and ends with the presentation on “Role in Plastic Waste Management, Registration of Producer / Importer / Brand owner for Plastic Products”.

The Hon’ble Vice Chairman in his opening remarks mentioned that, to make Tamil Nadu free from plastic pollution and also to destroy the ban on one time use and throw away plastics, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami has taken measures like conducting awareness campaigns to public through Eco- Clubs, National Green Corps and District Co-coordinators involving NGO’s and School students. In

addition, District Environmental Committee Meetings and massive awareness rallies were also been conducted through District Collectors.

Further, the Hon'ble Vice Chairman of SDPC has pointed out that, Plastics not only destroy the human beings it also destroy the other living creatures living in the Earth as well as Marine like Fishes, Turtles and Whale.

The Vice Chairman has explained the actions taken by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board with regard to Plastic Management are mentioned below.

- During the year 2018-19, the estimated plastic waste generated from 664 Urban Local Bodies of Tamil Nadu is around 1098 tons/day, out of which 90% is collected and segregated by the respective urban bodies in which the recyclable plastic waste are sold to the recyclers, low value / low calorific plastic waste are utilized for road laying and the non-recyclable, high calorific plastic waste are sent for co-incineration in cement plants.
- As per Rule 13 of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the TNPCB has issued Registration to 91 plastic manufacturing units, 98 plastic recycling units and 8 multilayer plastic units.
- In order to make Tamil Nadu Plastic Pollution free Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami made an announcement under Rule 110 on 05.06.2018 imposing ban on manufacture, storage, supply, sale and use of certain 'use and throwaway plastics' with effect from 01.01.2019.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 notified

ban on manufacture, storage, supply, transport, sale or distribution and use of 1) Plastic sheet / cling film used for food wrapping 2) Plastic sheet used for spreading on dining table 3) Plastic Thermocol plate 4) Plastic coated paper plates 5) Plastic coated paper cups 6) Plastic tea cups 7) Plastic tumbler 8) Thermocol cups 9) Plastic carry bags of all size & thickness 10) Plastic coated carry bags 11) Non-woven Polypropylene carry bags 12) Water packets/pouches 13) Plastic straw and 14) Plastic flags.

- The Vice Chairman has explained the actions taken by the Department of Environment using plastic wastes.

### **RELAYING OF ROADS USING PLASTIC WASTES**

- Relaying of road mixed with bitumen and plastic wastes shredded into minute pieces in the ratio 90:10, will erases the plastic component in the Municipal Solid Wastes and thus can be easily disposed or converted to organic manure.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu has allotted an amount of Rs.218.67 Crores for Relaying of Roads using Plastic Wastes from the year 2011-12 to 2014-15 for a length of 1599.36 KM using 1599.36 M.T. of Plastic Wastes in the State.

### **PLASTIC WASTES AS A BINDER:-**

The Plastic material when heated to around 1200°C to 1500°C which melts and in their molten state they can be used as a binder.

The Hon'ble Vice Chairman, SDPC has highlighted some of the initiatives taken in the Districts of Trichy, Coimbatore and Erode are stated below.

**Trichy District:-**

The city's first reverse Vending Machine '**Drop n Draw**' to collect and recycle used Plastic bottles was launched at Trichy Central Bus Stand tied up with Salem-based startup to launch the plastic bottle at an estimated cost of Rs.1.8 Lakh.

**Coimbatore District:-**

The Vending Machine installed at Coimbatore bay of the bus Stan, will accept and used plastic bottles and in return will provide either a cup of drinking water or free mobile charging option. This type of Vending Machine is also installed at Erode Railway Station.

In the concluding remarks the Hon'ble Vice Chairman appreciated the speakers Dr. J. Raghunandan, Selvan. Sudharshan, Thiru. M. Nallamuthupillai and Dr. S. Chandrasekaran for their valuable presentation regarding how to manage and recycle using Plastic wastes.

The Hon'ble Vice Chairman of State Development Policy Council further requested the Departments and Institutions for coordination among the line departments to achieve Vision 2030 and SDG goals.

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