

दुर्गा शंकर मिश्र
सचिव
Durga Shanker Mishra
Secretary



भारत सरकार
आवासन और शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011
Government of India
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

D.O.No. 18/3/2019-SBM-III
August 23, 2019

Dear Vijay,

In his Independence Day address to the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15 August 2019, Hon'ble Prime Minister appealed to the nation to make India free from single-use plastics beginning 2nd October 2019. He urged every citizen and stakeholder to adopt and encourage eco-friendly practices such as use of jute and cloth bags in place of plastic bags.

2. Due to low cost, durability, moisture resistance, superior insulation and low maintenance, plastics have increasingly become popular as packaging and wrapping material. While plastics are inherently not bad, and have various redeeming ecological features, it is their resistance to decomposition when discarded as waste that has made them harmful, causing severe environmental and marine pollution and attendant health hazards.

3. India generates 26,000 tonnes per day of plastic waste. Though 60% of the plastic waste is recycled thanks to the informal sector rag pickers, it still leaves almost 9,400 tonnes per day waste unattended, which can be gainfully utilized through various initiatives – reuse in road construction, paver blocks, plastic to fuel, etc.

4. SBM (Urban) Division of MoHUA has brought out an Advisory on Plastic Waste Management, which includes suggested initiatives and technologies to reduce / manage plastic waste. The advisory also has compilations of best practices across the country of States / Cities that have done exemplary work in managing their plastic wastes. This document could be a useful ready reckoner for cities / towns for managing their plastic wastes. The soft copy of the Advisory is attached with this letter. It is also available online on the link given below:

<http://swachhbharaturban.gov.in/writereaddata/SBM%20Plastic%20Waste%20Book.pdf?id=ft73j6c1mnyrqm03>

5. I would, therefore, like to request you to kindly direct all concerned ULB officials to:
o Refer to this Advisory and draw up a detailed action plan to phase out single-use plastics in their city / town; and
o Communicate to us the detailed Action Plans and timelines, for monitoring the progress.

6. Further, I would like to inform you that eradication of single use plastics figure prominently in Swachh Survekshan-2020 assessment framework.

With warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Durga Shanker Mishra)

Shri. Vijay Kumar Dev,
Chief Secretary,
Govt of NCT of Delhi,