

# **Plastic Waste Management Rules and need for offset mechanism in EPR**

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## Status: Plastics Waste (PW) Generation

- Estimated plastic waste generation in India: 1.6 MT/annum; **43 per cent of India's plastic are single use plastics**
- Estimated plastic waste (PW) generation: 25940 tonnes/day (based on per capita PW generation)
- PW generation in 60 major cities : 4059 TPD
- Per capita plastic consumption in India: 11 kg/annum
- Recyclable-94% (thermoplastic such as PET, PVC), Non-recyclable -06%
- We recycle much more than Global North however recycling in India is **majorly downcycling or re-purposing** —7500 recycling units; half of them unorganised

# STATE OF WASTE PLASTIC

India's four metros generate more than 1,670 tonnes of plastic waste per day, which is over 40 per cent of the plastic waste produced in India's 60 major cities\*

## 4,059.18

Average plastic waste generation in India (tonnes per day)

## 6.92%

Average plastic waste share in municipal solid waste in India

## 25

States and Union Territories have tried to regulate their plastic use in the past two decades



# Major provisions of PWM Rules, 2016

- Disincentivise use of poly-bags by setting up a pricing mechanism
- Recycling by local authorities
- Complete ban on plastics below 50 microns
- Phasing out use of multi-layered packaging within 2 years
- Introduce EPR for producers, importers and brandowners

# Amendment in 2018

- Explicit pricing of carry bags removed
- Complete ban on non-recyclable multilayered plastic removed
- Substituted by multi-layered plastic which is non-recyclable or non-energy recoverable or with no alternate use

**Has diluted the rules further**

## Status of implementation of PWM Rules, 2016

- No proper system evolved by majority of Municipal Authorities for collection, segregation and disposal of Plastic waste
- 25 states and UT have banned plastic. However, manufacture, Sale & Use of Sub-standard plastic carry bags of 50 microns still continued in cities/towns and without proper marking and labelling continued.
- **Unregistered** plastic manufacturing/recycling units are still running in few States/UTs
- Widespread littering of plastic waste still continues.
- **State Level Monitoring Committee** has not been constituted in majority of States/Uts
- Idea of extended producer responsibility (EPR), which was introduced in the rules of 2016, still remains nowhere close to being implemented even after two year, no collection targets

# How to strengthen plastic rules

- Cities to emphasize on segregation intensive models of waste management
- Awareness on PWM Rules, 2016
- Clean strategy on EPR with collection targets
- Capacity building of ULBs, Panchayats
- Good co-operation between different stakeholders

# **Offset mechanism to implement EPR**

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# What have we learnt?

- It is clear that plastic waste management has to be integrated with the existing municipal waste management systems.
- Plastic waste management gives us an opportunity to significantly MSW management systems by using the resources and management skills of the private sector.
- This can be done by a credit or offset mechanism

## Contd...

- Under this mechanism, companies can take credit for PWM if they support municipalities in implementing MSW management.
- Under this mechanism, plastics collected and recycled everyday will count as offsetting the EPR target of the company.
- All accounting of EPR targets to be met at the national-level, irrespective of which state the products are sold or consumed in.

# How will this work?

The responsibility of the producer or brand owner under this mechanism would be the following:

- Will work with ULBs to implement 'segregation model' of waste management.
- They will provide management support in propagation ---contribute to development of infrastructure for implementation.
- Will be responsible for developing and implementing EPR plan by engaging with waste collectors, segregators or recyclers.
- Shall set up a permanent team to monitor and support implementation of the 'segregation model' and keep proper account of plastic waste.

# Changes required in PWM Rules, 2016

- Develop phase-wise implementation of the EPR programme with yearly targets and a system of nation-wide offsets and credit.
- Under this, the amount of equivalent plastic and packaging that the producers and brand owners are able to recover and recycle will be used as an offset. *Such mechanisms will be product and brand neutral and the collection will not be confined to packaging of the producer or brand owners' products only.*
- Build a national framework on EPR credits which can be earned by producers through a variety of activities including those done for or with urban local bodies, and targets can be indexed against the total plastic packaging put out into the market.

## Contd...

- Provide independent third party audited reports of the offset mechanism, yearly data for which shall be submitted by the producers or brand owners involved in the EPR programme
- Develop a national registry of plastic packaging: An online reporting mechanism where producers and brand owners can furnish details.
- Details of all financial flows and material flow of plastic waste as well as credits earned to be available in the public domain.

**Format for annual reporting by producer or brand owner of plastic packaging introduced nationally into the market**

Quantity (tonne)	Film	Rigid
Monolayer		
Multilayer		

*Source: CSE, 2017*

**Format for annual reporting by producer or brand owner of plastic waste for which recovery or recycling as per ISO 15270 has been achieved through partnership with urban local bodies**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Concerned SPCB where EPR site is located</b>	<b>Multilayered packaging or thin film plastic (tonne)</b>	<b>Film (tonne)</b>	<b>Rigid (tonne)</b>
ULB 1				
ULB 2				
ULB 3				
National total				

*Source: CSE, 2017*

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Thank You