

PRESS RELEASE

REWARD TO PUBLIC FOR INFORMATION ON PLASTIC UNITS MANUFACTURING BANNED SINGLE USE PLASTIC ITEMS

The Government of Tamil Nadu vide G.O. Ms. No. 84 of Environment & Forests Department dated 25.06.2018 have banned manufacture, store, supply, transport, sale or distribute of use and throwaway plastics such as plastic carry bags irrespective of size and thickness, non-woven carry bags, Plastic coated paper plates & cups, plastic tumblers, thermocol plates & cups, plastic tea cups, plastic sheet / cling film used for food wrapping, plastic sheet used for spreading on dining table water packets/pouches, plastic straw and plastic flags in order to prevent the huge threat of pollution caused by the single use plastics.

The Hon'ble High Court of Madras & the National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) are constantly issuing directions to the Government for strict implementation of the plastic ban and to take effective steps against the violators at grass root level.

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has taken awareness activities at various levels for effective implementation of the ban on plastics, which includes conducting regional conferences, district environmental committee meetings, rallies at district headquarters, messages through social media, display board in national highway toll gates etc. As a part of enforcement activities, the manufacturing industries of the said banned plastic items are identified and closed by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board based on regular inspections and complaints received.

Inspite of the above, it is found difficult to identify all plastic units manufacturing banned items which may co-exist and operate illegally in a small space within residential/commercial establishments. Most of these units are highly unorganised

without proper registration with any of the Government authorities and function purely on temporary basis.

Hence, the environmentally conscious public / nearby residents of such units are requested to inform the TNPCB about the details of such plastic industries manufacturing banned items which are operating illegally in the residential / commercial areas. The complaints shall be informed to the respective jurisdictional District Environmental Engineers of the TNPCB whose contact details are displayed in the TNPCB website (<https://tnpcb.gov.in/contact.php>). The complaints may be lodged through email / letter / phone calls / Whatsapp. The complainants are requested to provide their name and mobile number so that additional details etc. as requested may be sought from them. This is also required to avoid prank calls.

The environmentally conscious citizens providing information will be appreciated and rewarded for their contribution to protect the environment in eradication of single use plastics. **The confidentiality of the citizen providing information will be strictly maintained.**

Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board