

THE ALL INDIA PLASTICS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

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Date: 1st December 2023

Mrs. Leena Nandan
Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi

Subject: Industry's Feedback on the Draft Notification regarding Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules published on 16th October 2023

Dear Ma'am,

Greetings from The All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA)

The All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) is the largest and oldest industry association representing the plastic producer industry in our country. Our association comprises over 22,000 plastic industrial units, both directly and through affiliated associations.

We would like to draw your attention to our feedback on the Draft Notification for Plastic Waste Management (Second Amendment) Rules published on October 16, 2023. The feedback we present reflects the perspectives of the plastics producer industry concerning the draft notification of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) on the aforementioned date.

Firstly, we express our gratitude for the commendable decision to exempt micro and small-scale producers from the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) obligation. This measure has been warmly received and appreciated by processors.

Secondly, the stipulation of a 30-day timeframe for the processing of applications at the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB) is seen as a positive step that contributes to the facilitation of business operations.

However, we would like to bring to your attention certain areas that either require further clarification or are a cause for concern within the plastic processing industry:

1. Clarification in Definitions:

- The term "third-party manufacturers" is not explicitly defined. It is recommended that they be defined separately or incorporated into the definition of "seller," accompanied by a designated form for their completion.

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- b. The definition of "manufacturer" currently encompasses those engaged in the production of plastic raw material. Plastic waste processors, who generate recycled granules used as raw material by processors, should be explicitly excluded from this definition.
- c. Rule 11 mandates that every recycled carry bag, plastic packaging, or commodity bear a label or mark indicating "recycled." However, adhering to these guidelines for imported goods poses challenges, as importers lack a means of verifying whether the received raw material is recycled or virgin.

2. Extended Producer Responsibility Obligation:

- a. The accountability for EPR in producer-to-producer sales of pellets/granules or raw materials needs clarification.
- b. Visibility of available capacities at Plastic Waste Processing Plants (PWPs) is essential.
- c. Information regarding the product categories for which PWPs hold recycling licenses should be made publicly accessible.
- d. Exemption for non-plastic processors: Producers/importers/brand owners whose primary business is unrelated to the plastic industry but engage in small-scale imports of raw material or plastic packaging should be exempt from EPR.
- e. The registration process for micro and small processors on the centralized online platform is cumbersome and requires simplification.
- e. Micro and small producers holding waste processing certificates should be allowed to sell these certificates to others.

3. The creation and dissemination of registration forms for sellers require attention.

4. In rule 4 (1e) "the manufacturer shall not sell or provide or arrange plastic to be used as raw material to a producer or to a seller not registered on the centralized online portal specified in Schedule II". It signifies the requirement of a form under which sellers can apply.

We appreciate your consideration of these concerns and eagerly anticipate your positive response.

Yours Sincerely,

The All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association.



Manish Dedhia,
President, AIPMA