[Published in the Gazette of India, Part-II, Section-3, Sub-section (i)]

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change] New Delhi,

Note- The principal rules were published in the Gazette of India, vide number G.S.R. 320(E), dated the 18th March, 2016 and subsequently amended vide notification number G.S.R. 285(E), dated the 27th March, 2018, vide notification number G.S.R. 571(E), dated the 12th August, 2021, vide notification number G.S.R. 647(E), dated the 17th August, 2021, vide notification number G.S.R. 133(E) , dated the 16th February 2022, vide notification number G.S.R. 522(E) dated the 6th July 2022, vide notification number G.S.R. 318(E) , dated the 27th April 2023, vide notification number G.S.R. 807(E) dated the 30th October 2023, vide notification number G.S.R.201 (E) dated 14th March, 2024 and last amended vide notification number G.S.R.73 (E) dated 23th Jan 2025

Whereas the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 published vide notification number S.O 249 (E), dated 4th February, 2011 by the Government of India in the erstwhile Ministry of Environment and Forests, as amended from time to time, provided a regulatory frame work for management of plastic waste generated in the country;

And whereas, to implement these rules more effectively and to give thrust on plastic waste minimization, source segregation, recycling, involving waste pickers, recyclers and waste processors in collection of plastic waste fraction either from households or any other source of its generation or intermediate material recovery facility and adopt polluter's pay principle for the sustainability of the waste management system, the Central Government reviewed the existing rules;

And whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 6, 8 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986),the draft rules, namely, the Plastic Waste Management, Rules, 2015 were published by the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change *vide* number G.S.R. 423(E), dated the 25th May, 2015 in the Gazette of India, inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of a period of sixty days from the date on which copies of the Gazette containing the said notification were made available to the public;

Now, Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 3,6 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), and in supersession of the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely: -

In the said rules, after SCHEDULE – I, the following Schedule shall be inserted namely:-

"SCHEDULE-II"

[See Rule 9 (1)]

Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging

(REFER PAGE NO. 22 ONWARDS)

1. Short title and commencement. –

(1)These rules shall be called the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2016 AMENDED IN 2024,

(2)They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

(2) The rule 4 shall not apply to the export-oriented units or units in special economic zones, notified by the Central Government, manufacturing their products against an order for export: Provide this exemption shall not apply to units engaged in packaging of gutkha, tobacco and pan masala and also to any surplus or rejects, left over products and the like.

(3) Sub-rule (1) of rule 9 shall not apply to the export-oriented units or units in special economic zones, notified by the Central Government under the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 (28 of 2005), and to other units manufacturing plastic packaging or on plastic packaging used for packaging products for export against an order for export: Provided that this sub-rule shall not apply to pre-consumer plastic packaging waste generated by such units.

3. Definitions. - In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires. –

a. "Act" means the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986);

ab. "alternate use" means use of material for a purpose other than for which it was conceived, which is beneficial because it promotes resource efficiency**;**

(ac) Biodegradable plastics‖, means plastics, other than compostable plastics, which undergoes degradation by biological processes in specific environment such as soil, landfill, sewage sludge, fresh water, marine, without leaving any micro plastics or visible or distinguishable or toxic residue, which has adverse environment impact;

b. "Brand owner" means a person or company who sells any commodity under a registered brand label or trademark;

c. Carry Bags" (covered under Category II of plastic packaging – Clause (5.1) (II)) means bags made from plastic material or compostable plastic material, used for the purpose of carrying or dispensing commodities which have a self-carrying feature **but do not include bags that constitute or form an integral part of the packaging in which goods are sealed prior to use** ;

d. "commodity" means tangible item that may be bought or sold and includes all marketable goods or wares;

e. "**Compostable plastics**" mean plastic that undergoes degradation by biological processes during composting to yield CO2, water, inorganic compounds and biomass at a rate consistent with other known compostable materials, excluding conventional petro-based plastics, and does not leave visible, distinguishable or toxic residue;

f. "consent" means the consent to establish and operate from the concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee granted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (6 of 1974), and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981);

g. "**disintegration**" means the physical breakdown of a material into very small fragments;

(ga) "energy recovery" means energy recovery from waste that is conversion of waste material into usable heat, electricity or fuel through a variety of processes including combustion, gasification, pyrolisation, anaerobic digestion and land fill gas recovery;

(gb). "End of Life disposal" means using plastic waste for generation of energy subject to relevant guidelines in force, which includes co-processing (e.g. in cement, steel or any other such industry) or waste to oil, except in cases where feedstock chemicals are produced for further use in the production of plastic which may then be considered under recycling or for road construction as per Indian Road Congress guidelines etc**.**

h. **extended producer's responsibility"** means the responsibility of a producer for the environmentally sound management of the product until the end of its life;

i. "food-stuffs" mean ready to eat food products, fast food, processed or cooked food in liquid, powder, solid or semi-solid form;

j. "facility" means the premises used for collection, Storage, recycling, processing and disposal of plastic waste;

k. "Importer" means a person who imports for commercial use, any plastic packaging or any commodity with plastic packaging or carry bags or plastic sheets or like material, or plastic raw material including in the form of resin or pellets, or intermediate material to be used for manufacturing plastic packaging such as films or preforms.

l. "Institutional waste generator" means and includes occupier of the institutional buildings such as building occupied by Central Government Departments, State Government Departments, public or private sector companies, hospitals, schools, colleges, universities or other places of education, organisation, academy, hotels, restaurants, malls and shopping complexes;

m. "manufacturer" means and includes a person engaged in production of plastic raw material, including compostable plastics and biodegradable plastics;

n. "multi-layered packaging" means any material used or to be used for packaging and having at least one layer of plastic as the main ingredients in combination with one or more layers of materials such as paper, paper board,

polymeric materials, aluminum foil, either in the form of a laminate or co-extruded structure;

(na) "non-woven plastic bag" means non-woven plastic bag made up of plastic sheet or web structured fabric of entangled plastic fibers or filaments (and by perforating films) bonded together by mechanical or thermal or chemical means, and the "non-woven fabric" means a flat or tufted porous sheet that is made directly from plastic fibres, molten plastic or plastic films;

o. "plastic" means material which contains as an essential ingredient a high polymer such as polyethylene terephthalate, high density polyethylene, Vinyl, low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene resins, multi-materials like acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, polyphenylene oxide, polycarbonate, Polybutylene terephthalate;

(oa) "Plastic Packaging" means packaging material made by using plastics for protecting, preserving, storing, and transporting of products in a variety of ways;

p. "Plastic sheet" means Plastic sheet is the sheet made of plastic;

q. "plastic waste"means any plastic discarded after use or after their intended use is over;

(qa) "**Plastic waste processing**" means any process by which plastic waste is handled for the purpose of reuse, recycling, co-processing or transformation into new products;

(**qb**). **"Plastic Waste Processors"** means recyclers of plastic waste as well as entities engaged in using plastic waste for energy (waste to energy) including in co processing or converting plastic waste to oil (waste to oil) except in cases where feedstock chemicals are produced for further use in the production of plastic which may then be considered under recycling, industrial composting;

(qc) "Post-consumer plastic packaging waste" means plastic packaging waste generated by the endues consumer after the intended use of packaging is completed and is no longer being used for its intended purpose

r. "Prescribed authority" means the authorities specified in rule 12;

(**ra**) "**Pre-consumer plastic packaging waste"** means plastic packaging waste generated in the form of reject or discard at the stage of manufacturing of plastic packaging and plastic packaging waste generated during the packaging of product including reject, discard, before the plastic packaging reaches the end-use consumer of the product;

S. "producer" means a person engaged in manufacturing of plastic packaging; and, includes a person engaged in manufacture of intermediate material to be used for manufacturing plastic packaging, and also the person engaged in contract manufacturing of products using plastic packaging or through other similar arrangements for a brand owners;

(sa) "Recyclers" are entities who are engaged in the process of recycling of plastic waste**;**

t. "recycling" means the process of transforming segregated plastic waste into a new product or raw material for producing new products;

u. "registration" means registration with the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned, as the case may be;

(ua) "Seller" means a person who sells plastic raw material such as resins or pellets or intermediate material used for producing plastic packaging;

(ub) "Reuse" means using an object or resource material again for either the same purpose or another purpose without changing the object's structure;

v. . "Street vendor" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in clause (l) of subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 (7 of 2014);

(va) "Single-use plastic commodity" mean a plastic item intended to be used once for the same purpose before being disposed of or recycled; "

(vb) "Thermoset plastic" means a plastic which becomes irreversibly rigid when heated and hence cannot be remoulded into desired shape; "

(vc) "Thermoplastic" means a plastic which softens on heating and can be moulded into desired shape;

w. "local body" means urban local body with different nomenclature such as municipal corporation, municipality, nagar palika, nagar nigam, nagar panchayat, municipal council including notified area committee (NAC) and not limited to or any other local body constituted under the relevant statutes such as gram panchayat, where the management of plastic waste is entrusted to such agency

(wa). "**Use of recycled plastic**" means recycled plastic used as raw material, instead of virgin plastic, in the manufacturing process;

x. "Virgin plastic" means plastic material which has not been subjected to use earlier and has also not been blended with scrap or waste;

y. "Waste generator" means and includes every person or group of persons or institution, residential and commercial establishments including Indian Railways,

Airport, Port and Harbour and Defence establishments which generate plastic waste;

z. "Waste management" means the collection, storage, transportation reduction, re-use, recovery, recycling, composting or disposal of plastic waste in an environmentally safe manner;

(aa)."Waste pickers" mean individuals or agencies, groups of individuals voluntarily engaged or authorised for picking of recyclable plastic waste.

(aab) "**Waste to Energy**" means using plastic waste for generation of energy and includes co-processing (e.g. in cement, steel or any other such industry);

4. Conditions. (1)- The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags, plastic sheets or like, or cover made of plastic sheet and plastic packaging, shall be subject to the following conditions, namely: -

a. **Carry bags and plastic packaging** shall either be in natural shade which is without any added pigments or made using only those pigments and colorants which are in conformity with Indian Standard: IS 9833:1981 titled as "List of pigments and colorants for use in plastics in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water", as amended from time to time;

b. **Carry bags made of recycled plastic or products made of recycled plastic** can be used for storing, carrying, dispensing, or packaging ready to eat or during food stuff subject to the notification of appropriate standards and regulation under the Food Safety and Standards, Act, 2006 (34 of 2006) by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India;

c. **Carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic**, **shall not be less than seventy-five microns in thickness with effect from the 30th September, 2021and one hundred and twenty (120) microns in thickness with effect from the 31st December, 2022**;

d. **Plastic sheet or like, which is not an integral part of multi-layered packaging and cover made of plastic sheet used for packaging, wrapping the commodity shall not be less than fifty microns in thickness except** as specified by the Central Government **where the thickness of such plastic sheets impair the functionality of the product**;

e. **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 under these rules**;

f. Sachets using plastic material shall not be used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala;

g. Recycling of plastic waste shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534:1998 titled as Guidelines for Recycling of Plastics, as amended from time to time;

h. The provision of thickness under clause (c) shall not apply to carry bags or commodities or both made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastics. Carry bags and commodities made from compostable plastics shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS/ISO 17088:2021 titled as Specifications for Compostable Plastics;

(ha) The manufacture of carry bags and commodities covered under sub rule (3) shall be permitted to be made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics subject to mandatory marking and labelling laid down under these rules and the regulations of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for food contact applications. The manufacturers of compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic carry bags or commodities permitted under the rules shall obtain a certificate from the Central Pollution Control Board before marketing or selling;

i. non-woven plastic carry bag shall not be less than 60 Gram Per Square Meter (GSM) with effect from the 30th September, 2021;

(2) The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of following single-use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from the 1st July, 2022:-

(a) ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocol] for decoration;

(b) Plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers.

(3) The provisions of sub-rule (2) (b) shall not apply to commodities made of compostable plastic.

(3A) The manufacturer of commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics shall report the quantity of such commodities introduced in the market and pre-consumer waste generated to the Central Pollution Control Board.

(4) Any notification prohibiting the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags, plastic sheets or like, or cover made of plastic sheets and multi layered packaging and single-use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities, issued after this notification, shall come into force after the expiry of ten years, from the date of its publication.

(5) **Every manufacturer of commodities made from plastic or part thereof shall ensure processing of the pre-consumer plastic waste**

generated in the form of reject or discard material at the stage of manufacturing and such manufacturer shall report to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned.

5. Plastic waste management: - The plastic waste management by the local bodies in their respective jurisdiction shall be as under: -

a. Plastic waste, which can be recycled, shall be channelized to registered plastic waste recycler and recycling of plastic shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534:1998 titled as Guidelines for Recycling of Plastics, as amended from time to time;

b. Local bodies shall encourage the use of plastic waste (preferably the plastic waste which cannot be further recycled) for road construction as per Indian Road Congress guidelines or energy recovery or waste to oil etc. The standards and pollution control norms specified by the prescribed authority for these technologies shall be complied with;

c. Thermo set plastic waste shall be processed and disposed of as per the guidelines issued from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board; and

d. The inert from recycling or processing facilities of plastic waste shall be disposed of in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 or as amended from time to time.

6. Responsibility of local body. - (1) Every local body shall be responsible for development and setting up of infrastructure for segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of the plastic waste either on its own or by engaging agencies.

(1A) Every manufacturer, producer, importer, brand owner, manufacturer of commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics may engage with local body on voluntary basis, as per mutually agreed terms and conditions entered into by them and the local body

(2) The local body shall be responsible for setting up, operationalization and coordination of the waste management system and for performing the associated functions, namely: -

(a) Ensuring segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste;

(aa) ensuring that the provisions of these rules, as amended, are adhered to;

(b) Ensuring that no damage is caused to the environment during this process;

(c) ensuring channelization of recyclable plastic waste fraction to recyclers;

(d) Ensuring processing and disposal on non-recyclable fraction of plastic

waste in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Pollution Control Board;

(e) Creating awareness among all stake holders about their responsibilities;

(f) Engaging civil societies or groups working with waste pickers; and

(g) Ensuring that open burning of plastic waste does not take place.

(3) The local body for setting up of system for plastic waste management shall seek assistance of producers and such system shall be set up within one year from the date of final publication of these rules in the Official Gazette of India;

(4) The local body to frame bye-laws incorporating the provisions of these rules.

(5) The local body shall undertake assessment of plastic waste generated, including plastic waste existing in dump sites, by the 30th June of every year and also estimate the quantity of plastic waste to be generated in following five-year period.

(6) The local body shall assess the plastic waste management infrastructure available for collection, segregation and processing and send a report to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by 30th June of each year.

(7) The local body shall take necessary measures to prevent stocking, distribution, sale and usage of prohibited single use plastic items in their jurisdiction.

(8) The local body shall include in the annual report the following details on plastic waste management, namely:

i) Plastic waste generated, including plastic waste existing in dump sites, in a year;

ii) Plastic waste management infrastructure available for collection, segregation, processing;

iii) Projection of plastic waste to be generated;

iv) Status on framing and implementation on byelaws;

v) Actions taken action to prevent stocking, distribution, sale and usage of prohibited Single Use Plastic items.

7. Responsibility of Gram Panchayat. – (1) **Every gram panchayat or panchayat at district level** either on its own or by engaging an agency shall set up, operationalise and co-ordinate for waste management in the rural area under their control and for performing the associated functions, namely, -

a) Ensuring segregation, collection, storage, transportation, plastic waste and channelization of recyclable plastic waste fraction to recyclers having valid registration; ensuring that no damage is caused to the environment during this process;

(aa) ensuring that the provisions of these rules, as amended, are adhered to;

b) Creating awareness among all stakeholders about their responsibilities; and

c) Ensuring that open burning of plastic waste does not take place

d) Engaging civil societies or groups working with waste pickers;

e) Ensuring that open burning of plastic waste does not take place;

f) Taking necessary measures to prevent stocking, distribution, sale and usage of prohibited Single Use Plastic items in their jurisdiction.

(2) Every Producer, Importer and Brand owner, manufacturer and manufacturer of commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics may engage with Panchayat at District and Village levels, on a voluntary basis, as per mutually agreed, terms and conditions entered into by them and the Panchayat at District and Village levels.

7A. Responsibility of Panchayat at District level.-

1. The Panchayat at District level shall undertake assessment of plastic waste generated, including plastic waste existing at dump sites, by the 30th June of every year for rural areas of the district and also estimate the quantity of plastic waste to be generated in following five-year period.

2. The Panchayat at District level shall assess the plastic waste management infrastructure available for collection, segregation and processing and report to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by 30th June each year.

3. The Panchayat at District Level shall include in the annual report the following details on plastic waste management, namely:-

i. plastic waste generated, including plastic waste existing at dump sites, in a year;

ii. Plastic waste management infrastructure available for collection, segregation, processing;

iii. Projection of plastic waste to be generated;

iv. Status on framing and implementation on byelaws;

v. actions taken action to prevent stocking, distribution, sale and usage of banned Single Use Plastic items.

8. Responsibility of waste generator. - (1) The waste generator shall. –

a. Take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste and segregate plastic waste at source in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2000 or as amended from time to time;

b. Not litter the plastic waste and ensure segregated storage of waste at source and handover segregated waste to urban local body or gram panchayat or agencies appointed by them or registered waste pickers', registered recyclers or

waste collection agencies;

(2) All institutional generators of plastic waste, shall segregate and store the waste generated by them in accordance with the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 notified vide S.O 908(E) dated the 25th September, 2000 under the Act or amendment from time to time and handover segregated wastes to authorized waste processing or disposal facilities or deposition centres either on its own or through the authorized waste collection agency;

(3) All waste generators shall pay such user fee or charge as may be specified in the bye-laws of the local bodies for plastic waste management such as waste collection or operation of the facility thereof, etc.; and

(4) Every person responsible for organising an event in open space, which involves service of food stuff in plastic or multi-layered packaging shall segregate and manage the waste generated during such events in accordance with the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 notified vide S.O 908(E) dated the 25th September, 2000 under the Act or amendment from time to time.

9. Responsibility of producers, **Importers and Brand Owners. –**

1. The Producers, Importers and Brand Owners who introduce any plastic packaging in the market shall be responsible for collection of such plastic packaging.

2. Where any Producer, Importer or Brand owner fulfills his extended producer responsibility, he is deemed to have complied with his responsibility under sub-rule (1).

(2A) The Producers, Importers, Brand Owners, manufacturers, and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics, shall fulfill Extended Producer Responsibility as per guidelines specified in Schedule- II.

3) Manufacture and use of multi-layered plastic which is non - recyclable or non - energy recoverable or with no alternate use of plastic if any should be phased out in Two years' time**;**

4) The producer, within a period of three months from the date of final publication of these rules in the Official Gazette shall apply to the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee, as the case may be, of the States or the Union Territories administration concerned, for grant of registration;

5) No producer shall on and after the expiry of a period of Six Months from the date of final publication of these rules in the Official Gazette manufacture or use any plastic or multi-layered packaging for packaging of commodities without

registration from Central Pollution Control Board if operating in more than two states or Union territories, the concerned State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committees; as per sub-rule (2) of rule 13 and

6) Every producer shall maintain a record of details of the person engaged in supply of plastic used as raw material to manufacture carry bags or plastic sheet or like or cover made of plastic sheet or plastic packaging.

10. **Protocols for compostable and biodegradable plastic materials. –**

(1) Determination of the degree of degradability and degree of disintegration of plastic material shall be as per the protocols of the Indian Standards listed in Schedule I.

(2) The compostable plastic materials shall conform to the IS / ISO 17088:2021, as amended from time to time.

(3) The biodegradable plastics shall conform to the standard notified by the Bureau of Indian Standards and certified by the Central Pollution Control Board.

(4) Until a standard referred to in sub-rule (3) is notified by the Bureau of Indian Standards, biodegradable plastics shall conform to tentative Indian Standard IS 17899 T: 2022 as notified by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

(5) As a transitory measure, provisional certificate for biodegradable plastics, shall be issued by the Central Pollution Control Board, in cases, where an interim test report is submitted, for an ongoing test, which covers the first component of the IS 17899 T:2022 relating to biodegradability given at Sl. No. (i) or Sl. No. (ii) of Table 1 or Sl. No. (i) of Table 2 of the IS 17899 T:2022: Provided that the provisional

Certificate shall be valid till 30th June 2024 with the condition that production or import of biodegradable plastics shall cease after the 31st day of March, 2024.

(6) The interim test report shall be obtained from the Central Institute of Petrochemical Engineering and Technology or a laboratory recognised under the Laboratory Recognition Scheme, 2020, of the Bureau of Indian Standards or laboratories accredited for this purpose by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, and they shall certify the bio-degradation of plastic is in line with IS 17899 T: 2022.

Provided that where testing of biodegradable plastic had commenced prior to the registration of a laboratory, and the report is in conformity with IS 17899 T:2022, the Central Pollution Control Board shall ask the applicant for re-testing and permit the production or usage of such biodegradable plastic, till the period the test report is received from duly recognized laboratory subject to furnishing of bank guarantee equal to the amount of Environment Compensation leviable under rule 18:

Provided further that the bank guarantee shall be forfeited if the result of

such test does not conform to IS 17899 T: 2022

(7) BIS shall specify separate colour or marking for plastic packaging and commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics.

11. Marking or labelling. –

(1) Each plastic packaging shall contain the following information, printed in English, namely:-

(a) **name and registration certificate number for producer or importer or brand owner generated through centralized online portal specified in Schedule II for plastic packaging, in case of, rigid plastic packaging with effect from 1 July,2024, multilayer flexible plastic packaging having more than one layer with different types of plastics, including plastic sachet or pouches, and multi-layered plastic packaging;**

(b) name and registration certificate number for producer or importer or brand owner generated through centralized online portal specified in Schedule II for plastic packaging and thickness in case of flexible plastic packaging of single layer including plastic sachet or pouches (if single layer), plastic sheets or like and covers made of plastic sheet, carry bags;

(c) name and registration certificate number for producer or importer or brand owner generated through centralized online portal specified in Schedule II for plastic packaging with effect from 1 January, 2025 and number of certificates issued under clause (h) of sub-rule (4) in case of plastic sheet or like used for packaging and plastic packaging as well as carry bags commodities made of compostable plastic, as applicable;

(d) Name and certificate number issued under clause (h) of sub-rule 4 in case of plastic sheet or like used for packaging and plastic packaging as well as carry bags and commodities made of biodegradable plastic:

Provided that the provisions of this sub-rule shall not apply to plastic packaging covered under rule 26 of the Legal Metrology Packaged Commodities Rules, 2011, and in respect of plastic packaging cases where it is technically not feasible to print the requisite information, as per specifications given in the Guidelines for use of Standard Mark and labelling requirements under BIS Compulsory Registration Scheme for Electronic and IT Products;

Provided further that the plastic packaging under the first proviso shall be approved by the Central Pollution Control Board:

Provided also that, the relevant information in respect of plastic packaging under the first and second proviso shall be printed on the packaging that holds together individual units of goods or the individual units of packaging.

"(1 A) A producer, importer or brand owner may, with effect from the 1st July, 2025, provide the information specified under sub-rule (1) as given below,-

a. in a barcode or Quick Response code printed on the plastic packaging;

b. in the product information brochure;

c. print on the plastics packaging the unique number issued under any law for the time being in force, wherein, the provisions of sub-rule (1) are required to be fulfilled before issuance of such a number:

Provided that the producer or importer or brand owner shall inform the details of publishing of a barcode or QR code, brochure or unique number to the Central Pollution Control Board:

Provided further that, the Central Pollution Control Board shall publish the list, of such producers, importers or brand owners, who have provided with details and the product information using any one of above option, on its website and update the same every quarter.

(2) Each recycled plastic packaging or commodity shall bear a label —recycled having [-----specify percentage-----] of recycled plastic‖ and a mark as shown below and shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534: 2023 titled as —Plastics — Recovery and Recycling of Plastics Waste — Guidelines‖, as amended from time to time;



NOTE: PET-Polyethylene terephthalate, HDPE-High density polyethylene, V-Vinyl (PVC), LDPE- Low density polyethylene, PP-Polypropylene, PS-Polystyrene and Other means all other resins and multi-materials like ABS (Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene), PPO (Polyphenylene oxide), PC (Polycarbonate), PBT (Polybutylene terephalate) etc.

Each carry bag made from compostable plastics shall bear a label “compostable” and shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS or ISO 17088:2008 titled as Specifications for “Compostable Plastics”.

(3) Each plastic packaging or commodity made from compostable plastics shall bear a label ―compostable only under industrial composting‖ and shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS/ISO 17088:2021 titled as Specifications for Compostable Plastics.

(4) Each plastic packaging or commodity made from biodegradable plastic shall bear the label ―Biodegradable in [--- specify number of days ---] only in the [--- specify recipient environment such as soil, landfill, water etc.---]

12. Prescribed authority. –

1. The Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Board and Pollution Control Committee in respect of a Union territory shall be the authority for enforcement of the provisions of these rules;

2.The concerned Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or a Union territory Administration responsible for municipal administration shall be the authority for enforcement of the provisions of these rules relating to waste management by waste generator, restriction or prohibition on use of plastic carry bags, plastic sheets or like, covers made of plastic sheets and plastic packaging and items prohibited under rule 4 of these rules in the urban areas of the State or a Union territory.;

3.The concerned Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or a Union territory Administration responsible for Panchayati Raj Institutions shall be the authority for enforcement of the provisions of these rules relating to waste management by the waste generator, restriction or prohibition on use of plastic carry bags, plastic sheets or like, covers made of plastic sheets and plastic packaging and items prohibited under rule 4 of these rules in the rural area of the State or a Union territory;

4. The authorities referred to in sub-rule (1), (2) and (3) shall take the assistance of the District Magistrate or the Deputy Commissioner and executive Head of Municipal Body for urban areas or Chief Executive Officer of the District level Panchayats for rural areas within the territorial limits of the jurisdiction of the concerned district in respect of the enforcement of the provisions of these rules.

13. Registration of producer, recyclers and manufacturer, -

1. No person shall manufacture carry bags or recycle plastic bags or multilayered packaging unless the person has obtained registration from,-

(i) the concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control

Committee of the Union territory, if operating in one or two states or Union territories; or

(ii) the Central Pollution Control Board, if operating in more than two States or Union territories;

2. Every producer or importer or brand-owner shall for the purpose of one –time registration makes an application as per the guidelines specified in Schedule -II, through the centralized online portal specified in Schedule II , to –

i. the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee of the Union territory concerned, if operating in one / two States or Union territories; or

ii. the Central Pollution Control Board, if operating in more than two States or Union territories.

3. Every person recycling or processing waste or proposing to recycle or process plastic waste shall for the purpose of one-time registration make an application to the concerned State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee in Form II as per the guidelines specified in Schedule -II, through Centralized online portal specified in Schedule – II.

4. Every manufacturer and importer of plastic raw material shall make an application to the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee concerned, for registration, in the Form III:

(4A) For the purpose of these rules, the manufacturer and importer of plastic raw material shall,-

(i) sell plastic raw material only to Producer or Seller registered under these rules and the Registration number of such Producer or Seller is mentioned on sale invoice for sale of plastic raw material;

(ii) not sell plastic raw material to any entity or units engaged in manufacturing of prohibited single use plastic items;

(iii) print the following on all packaging bags of plastic raw material: —

"Not to be used in the manufacture of single use plastic items prohibited under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 including plastic sheets < 50-micron thickness, non-woven carry bags < 60 GSM, Carry bags < 120-micron thickness";

(iv) Submit Quarterly Report to the Central Pollution Board and State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned;

(4B) every person engaged in sale of plastic raw material or an intermediate material used for manufacture of plastic packaging to

producer shall make an application to the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee concerned, for registration.

5. The State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee shall not grant registration to plastic waste recycling or processing units unless the unit possesses a valid consent under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (6 of 1974) and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981) and a certificate of registration issued by the District Industries Centre or any other Government agency authorised in this regard.

6. **Omitted**

7. On receipt of the application complete in all respects for the registration for recycling or processing of plastic waste under sub-rule (3), the State Pollution Control Board may, after such inquiry as it considers necessary and on being satisfied that the applicant possesses appropriate facilities, technical capabilities and equipment to handle plastic waste safely, may grant registration to the applicant on fulfillment of the conditions as may be laid down in terms of registration and the registration shall be subject to fulfillment of obligations in accordance with the guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging specified in Schedule -II;

8. **Where the registration is not granted within a period of thirty days after the receipt of application complete in all respect, the applicant shall be deemed to be registered under these rules on the expiry of such period.;**

9. Omitted

10. State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committees shall not revoke, suspend or cancel registration without providing the opportunity of a hearing to the producer or person engaged in recycling or processing of plastic wastes; and

11. Omitted

14. Responsibility of retailers and street vendors

1. Retailers or street vendors shall not sell or provide commodities to consumer in carry bags or plastic sheet or multi-layered packaging, which are not manufactured and labelled or marked, as per prescribed under these rules;

2. Every retailer or street vendors selling or providing commodities in, plastic carry bags or multi-layered packaging or plastic sheets or like or covers made of plastic sheets which are not manufactured or labelled or marked in accordance with these rules shall be liable to pay such fines as specified under the bye-laws of the local bodies.

15. Shall be deleted, as amended on 27 Mar 2018

16. State Level Monitoring Committee. –

(1) The State Government or the Union territory Administration shall, for the

purpose of effective monitoring of implementation of these rules, constitute a State Level Monitoring Committee, consisting of the following persons, namely; -

a	Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration responsible for municipal administration	Chairman
	Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration responsible of Panchayati Raj Institutions	Co-Chairman
	Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration responsible of Urban Development or his nominee	Member
	Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration responsible of Rural Development or his nominee	Member
	Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary or Secretary in charge of the Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration responsible of Environment or his nominee	Member
	Member Secretary of the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee	Member
	Municipal Commissioners of cities having population of one million or more	Member
	One Municipal Commissioner from cities other than cities having population of one million or more	Member
	One Chief Executive Officer of the District Level Panchayats	Member

	One expert from Non-Governmental Organisation involved in Waste management to be nominated by the State Government or Union territory Administration	Member
	One representative of an industry association to be nominated by the State Government or Union territory Administration	Member
	One expert from the field of Industry to be nominated by the State Government or Union territory Administration	Member
	One expert from academia to be nominated by the State Government or Union territory Administration	Member
	Director in charge Department of the State Government or a Union territory administration responsible for Panchayati Raj Institutions	Member
	Director in charge Department of the State Government or a Union territory administration responsible for municipal administration	Member Secretary

(2) The State Level Monitoring Committee shall meet at least once in six months and may invite experts if it considers necessary.

17. **Annual reports**. – (1) Every person engaged in recycling or processing of plastic waste shall prepare and submit online an annual report in Form-IV to the local body concerned and also to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by the 30th April of every year.

(2) Every manufacturer and importer of plastic raw material shall prepare and submit online a quarterly report in Form VII to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by the last day of month following the quarter and an annual report by 30th June of every year.

(3) Every person engaged in the sale of plastic raw material or an intermediate material used for manufacture of plastic packaging shall prepare and submit online an annual report mentioning therein the detail of transactions to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by the 30th June of every year.

(4) Every urban local body and Panchayat at District Level shall prepare and submit online an annual report in Form –V to the Urban Development

Department and to Rural Development Department respectively and also to the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned by the 30th June every year.

(5) The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned shall cause the report submitted by the urban local body and Panchayat at District level to be audited by itself or through a designated agency and copy of the report of such audit and the annual report shall be made available on website of State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned.

(6) The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall prepare and submit online an annual report in Form VI to the Central Pollution Control Board on the implementation of these rules by the 31st July of every year.

(7) The Central Pollution Control Board shall prepare a consolidated annual report on the implementation of these rules and submit to the Central Government along with its recommendations on or before the 31st August of every year.

18. Imposition of Environmental Compensation. - The Environmental Compensation shall be levied based upon polluter pays principle on persons who are not complying with the provisions of these rules as per guidelines notified by the Central Pollution Control Board.

19. Action for contravention. - Any person who fails to comply or contravenes the provisions of these rules shall be liable to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of section 15 of the Act.

SCHEDULE-I

[See rule 10]

1.	IS / ISO 14851: 2019 Determination of the Ultimate Aerobic Biodegradability of Plastic
2.	Materials in an Aqueous Medium — method by measuring the Oxygen IS / ISO 14852: 1999 Determination of the ultimate aerobic biodegradability of demand in a closed respirometer (First Revision) plastic materials in an aqueous medium—method by analysis of evolved Carbon dioxide
3.	IS / ISO 14853: 2016 Plastics — Determination of the ultimate anaerobic biodegradation of plastic materials in an aqueous system —method by measurement of biogas production (First Revision)
4.	IS /ISO 14855-1: 2012 Determination of the ultimate aerobic biodegradability of plastic materials under controlled composting conditions — method by analysis of evolved Carbon dioxide: Part 1 General method (First Revision)
5.	IS / ISO 14855-2: 2018 Determination of the ultimate aerobic biodegradability of plastic materials under controlled composting conditions — method by analysis of evolved carbon dioxide: Part 2 Gravimetric measurement of Carbon dioxide evolved in a laboratory-scale test (First Revision)
6.	IS / ISO 15985: 2014 Plastics — Determination of the ultimate anaerobic biodegradation under high-solids anaerobic-digestion conditions — methods by analysis of released biogas (First Revision)
7.	IS /ISO 16929: 2019 Plastics — Determination of the Degree of Disintegration of Plastic Materials under Defined Composting Conditions in a Pilot-Scale Test (Second Revision)
8.	IS / ISO 17556: 2019 Plastics — Determination of the Ultimate Aerobic Biodegradability of plastic materials in soil by measuring the Oxygen demand in a Respirometer or the amount of Carbon Dioxide Evolved (Second Revision)
9.	IS / ISO 20200: 2015 Plastics — Determination of degree of disintegration of plastic materials under simulated composting conditions in a laboratory - Scale test (First Revision)

SCHEDULE-II

[See Rule 9 (1)]

Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging and commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics

1. **Background:**

(1.1) The Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) (hereinafter referred to as ‗The Ministry') notified the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 on 18th March 2016. The Ministry also notified the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 on 8th April 2016. As plastic waste is part of solid waste therefore both the rules apply to managing plastic waste in the country.

(1.2) The Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 mandate the generators of plastic waste to take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste not to litter the plastic waste ensure segregated storage of waste at source and hand over segregated waste in accordance with rules. The rules also mandate the responsibilities of local bodies gram Panchayats waste generators retailers and street vendors to manage plastic waste.

(1.3) The Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 cast Extended Producer Responsibility on Producer Importer and Brand Owner. Extended Producer Responsibility shall be applicable to both pre-consumer and post-consumer plastic packaging waste.

(1.4) **These guidelines provide framework for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility. The Guidelines provide the roles and responsibilities of Producers Importers Brand Owners Central Pollution Control Board State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committees recyclers and waste processors for effective implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility. The definitions given in Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 apply until specifically mentioned in these guidelines**;

2. Date of Coming into Effect:

These guidelines shall come into force with immediate effect. The on-going processes related to Extended Producer Responsibility obligations will be aligned with these guidelines.

3. Omitted

4. Obligated Entities:

The following entities shall be covered under the Extended Producer Responsibility obligations namely: -

(a) Producer of plastic packaging other than micro and small enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act 2006

(27 of 2006);

(b) Importer of plastic packaging including intermediate material used for manufacturing plastic packaging such as films and preforms and plastic packaging of imported products;

(c) Brand Owners including online platforms/marketplaces and supermarkets/retail chains other than micro and small enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act 2006 (27 of 2006);

(d) Plastic Waste Processors;

(e) Manufacturers and importers of plastic raw material;

(f) Manufacturers of items made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics.

5. Coverage of Extended Producer Responsibility:

(5.1) **The following plastic packaging categories are covers under Extended Producer Responsibility**:

i. Category I

Rigid plastic packaging;

ii. Category II

Flexible plastic packaging of single layer or multilayer (more than one layer with different types of plastic) plastic sheets or like and covers made of plastic sheet carry bags plastic sachet or pouches;

iii. Category III

Multilayered plastic packaging (at least one layer of plastic and at least one layer of material other than plastic);

iv. **Category IV**

Plastic sheet or like used for packaging as well as carry bags and commodities made of compostable plastics.

v. Category V

Plastic sheet or like used for packaging as well as carry bags and commodities made of biodegradable plastics.

(5.2) **The Extended Producer Responsibility Guidelines covers the following with respect to plastic packaging namely**: -

(i) Reuse;

(ii) Recycling;

(iii) Use of recycled plastic content;

(v) End of life disposal.

6. Registration:

(6.1) **(a) The following entities shall register on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board namely: -**

i. **Producer (P) including micro and small enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act 2006 (27 of 2006)**

ii. **Importer (I);**

iii. **Brand owner (BO);**

iv. **Plastic Waste Processor engaged in (a) recycling (b) waste to energy (c) waste to oil and (d) industrial composting;**

v. **Manufacturers and importers of plastic raw material;**

vi. **Manufacturers of items made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics.**

(b)Registration of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners (operating in one or two states) and Plastic Waste processors shall be done by State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee through the centralized Extended Producer Responsibility portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board.

(c)After these guidelines have come into effect with respect to entities starting their business in a particular year and placing their products in market in that year they shall have Extended Producer Responsibility target obligations from the next year.

(6.2) **The entities covered under clause 6.1 shall not carry any business without registration obtained through on-line centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board**.

(6.3) The entities obligated to register under clause (6.1) shall not deal with any un-registered entity having obligation to register under clause (6.1) through on-line centralized portal developed by the Central Pollution Control Board.

(6.4) In case, it is found or determined that any entity registered on the on-line portal has provided false information or has willfully concealed information or there is any irregularity or deviation from the conditions stipulated while obtaining registration under Extended Producer Responsibility guidelines then the registration of such an entity would be revoked for a one -year period after giving an opportunity to be heard. The entities whose registration has been revoked shall not be able to register afresh for the period of revocation.

(6.5) **In case any entity falls in more than one sub-category mentioned in the clause (6.1) then the entity shall register under each of those sub-categories separately. Further, in cases where the entity has units in**

different states in a particular sub category mentioned in clause 6.1 then these units shall also be registered separately. **However, only one registration under a sub category in a state would be needed even if more than one unit is located in a state. The registration shall be as per Standard Operating Procedure laid down by Central Pollution Control Board for the purpose as per these Guidelines.**

(6.6) While registering the entities shall have to provide PAN Number, GST Number, **CIN Number in case of company,** and the entities may provide Aadhar Number, and shall provide PAN Number of authorized person or representative and any other necessary information as required.

7. Targets for Extended Producer Responsibility and obligations of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners:

(7.1)The Extended Producer Responsibility targets for the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners shall be determined category-wise.

(7.2) Producer (P):

(a) Extended Producer Responsibility target (Refer example 1 to 3 in Annexure): Eligible Quantity in MT (Q 1) shall be the average weight of plastic packaging material (category-wise) sold in the last two financial years (A) plus average quantity of pre consumer plastic packaging waste in the last two financial years (B) minus the annual quantity (C) supplied to the entities covered under sub-clause 4 (iii) in the previous financial year as under: -

Q 1 (in MT) = (A + B) -

and the Extended Producer Responsibility target shall be determined category- wise as given below

Extended Producer Responsibility target

	Year	Extended Producer Responsibility target (as a percentage of Q1 - category-wise)
I	2021 - 22	25 %
II	2022 - 23	70 %
III	2023 - 24	100 %

The Extended Producer Responsibility target in MT category-wise as applicable shall be provided by Producer as part of Action Plan on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board.

(b) Obligation for recycling (Refer example 1 to 3 in Annexure): The Producer shall ensure minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste collected under Extended Producer Responsibility Target category-wise as given below namely: -

Minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste (% of Extended Producer Responsibility Target)

Plastic packaging category	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28 and onwards
Category I	**50**	**60**	**70**	**80**
Category II	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category III	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category IV	**50**	**60**	**70**	**80**

In case of Category IV plastic packaging category (plastic sheet or like used for packaging and carry bags made of compostable plastics) the minimum level of recycling means processing plastic packaging waste for composting through industrial composting facilities.

(c)End of life disposal (refer examples 1 to 3 in Annexure):

(i) Only those plastics which cannot be recycled will be sent for end-of-life disposal such as road construction waste to energy waste to oil cement kilns (for co processing) etc. as per relevant guidelines issued by Indian Road Congress or Central Pollution Control Board from time to time.

(ii)The producers shall ensure end of life disposal of the plastic packaging waste only through methodologies specified in Rule 5 (1) (b) of Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016

(d) Obligation for use of recycled plastic content (Refer example 6 in Annexure)

The Producer shall ensure use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging category-wise as given below namely: -

Mandatory use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging

(% of plastic manufactured for the year)

Plastic packaging category	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 and onwards
Category I	30	40	50	60
Category II	10	10	20	20
Category III	5	5	10	10

In cases where it is not possible to meet the obligation in respect of recycled plastic content on account of statutory requirements the exemption will be granted by Central Pollution Control Board on case-to-case basis. However in such cases the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners will have to fulfil its obligation of use of recycled content (in quantitative terms) through purchase of certificate of equivalent quantity from such Producers Importers & Brand-Owners who have used recycled content in excess of their obligation. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for such exchange on the centralized online portal.

7.3 Importer (I):

(a) Extended Producer Responsibility Target (Refer example 1 to 3 in Annexure) Eligible Quantity in MT (Q 2) shall be the average weight of all plastic packaging material and / or plastic packaging of imported products (category-wise) imported and sold in the last two financial years (A) plus average quantity of pre-consumer plastic packaging in the last two financial years (B) waste minus the annual quantity (C) supplied to the entities covered under sub-clause 4 (iii) in the previous financial years as under: -

Q 2 (in MT) = (A + B) - C

and the Extended Producer Responsibility target shall be determined category-wise as given below namely: -

	Year	Extended Producer Responsibility target (as a percentage of Q 2 - category-wise)
I	2021 - 22	25 %
II	2022 - 23	70 %
III	2023 - 24	100 %

The Extended Producer Responsibility target in MT category-wise as applicable shall be provided by Importer as part of Action Plan on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board.

(b) Obligation for recycling (Refer example 1 to 3 in Annexure) The Importer shall ensure minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste collected under extended producer responsibility Target category-wise as given below.

Minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste
(% of extended producer responsibility Target)

Plastic packaging category	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28 and onwards
Category I	**60**	**70**	**80**
Category II	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category III	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category IV	**60**	**70**	**80**

In case of Category IV plastic packaging category (plastic sheet or like used for packaging and carry bags made of compostable plastics) the minimum level of recycling means processing plastic packaging waste for composting through industrial composting facilities.

(c) End of life disposal (refer examples 1 to 3 in Annexure)

(i) Only those plastics which cannot be recycled will be sent for end-of-life disposal such as road construction waste to energy waste to oil as per relevant guidelines issued by Indian Road Congress or Central Pollution Control Board from time to time.

(ii) (ii) The importer shall ensure end of life disposal of the plastic packaging waste only through methodologies specified in rule 5 (1) (b) of Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016, as amended.

(d) Obligation for use of recycled plastic content (Refer example 6 in Annexure)
The Importer shall ensure use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging category-wise as given below.

Mandatory use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging
(% of imported plastic for the year)

Plastic packaging category	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 and onwards
Category I	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category II	**10**	**10**	**20**	**20**
Category III	**5**	**5**	**10**	**10**

Any recycled plastic used in imported material shall not be counted towards fulfillment of obligation. The importer will have to fulfill its obligation of use of recycled content (in quantitative terms) through purchase of certificate of equivalent quantity from such Producers Importers & Brand-Owners who have used recycled content in excess of their obligation. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for such exchange on the centralized online portal.

7.4 Brand Owner (BO):

(a) Extended Producer Responsibility target (refer examples 1 to 3 in Annexure)

Eligible Quantity in MT (Q 3) shall be the average weight of virgin plastic packaging material (category-wise) purchased and introduced in market in the last two financial years (A) plus average quantity of (B) of pre-consumer plastic packaging in the last two financial years as under: -

Q 3 (in MT) = A + B

The Extended Producer Responsibility target shall be determined category-wise as given below namely: -

	Year	Extended Producer Responsibility Target (as a percentage of Q3 - category-wise)
	2021- 22	**25%**
	2022 – 23	**70%**
	2023 – 24	**100%**

The Extended Producer Responsibility target in MT category-wise as applicable shall be provided by Brand Owner as part of the Action Plan on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board.

(b) Obligation for reuse (refer examples 4 and 5 in Annexure):

I . The Brand Owner using Category I (rigid) plastic packaging for their products shall have minimum obligation to reuse such packaging as given below: -

Provided that the reuse of Category I rigid plastic packaging in food contact applications shall be subject to regulation of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

(II) Minimum obligation to reuse for Category I (rigid plastic packaging).

	Year	**Target (as percentage of Category I rigid plastic packaging in products sold annually)**
A	**Category I rigid plastic packaging with volume or weight equal or more than 0.9 liter or kg but less than 4.9 litres or kg as the case may be**	
I	**2025 – 26**	**10**
II	**2026 – 27**	**15**
III	**2027-28**	**20**
IV	**2028-29 and onwards**	**25**
B	**Category I rigid plastic packaging with volume of weight equal or more than 4.9 litres or kg.**	
I	**2025 – 26**	**70**
II	**2026 – 27**	**75**
III	**2027-28**	**80**
IV	**2028-29 and onwards**	**85**

(III) The quantity of rigid packaging reused by brand Owner shall be calculated by reducing virgin plastic packaging manufactured/imported/purchased in that year from the sales of the Brand Owner. The brand owner shall provide this information on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board.

(IV) The quantity of Category I rigid plastic packaging reused shall be reduced from the total plastic packaging used under Category I by the obligated entities (Brand Owners).

III. The quantity of Category-I rigid plastic packaging reused during the year 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 shall be reduced from the total plastic packaging used under Category I.

(c) Obligation for recycling (refer examples 1 to 3 in Annexure): The Brand Owner shall ensure minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste collected under Extended Producer Responsibility target category-wise as given below.

Minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste (% of Extended Producer Responsibility Target)

Plastic packaging category	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**	**2027-28 and onwards**
Category I	**50**	**60**	**70**	**80**
Category II	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category III	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category IV	**50**	**60**	**70**	**80**

In case of Category IV plastic packaging category (plastic sheet or like used for packaging and carry bags made of compostable plastics) the minimum level of recycling means processing plastic packaging waste for composting through industrial composting facilities.

(d) End of life disposal (refer examples 1 to 3 in Annexure)

(i) Only those plastics which cannot be recycled will be sent for end-of-life disposal such as road construction waste to energy waste to oil as per relevant guidelines issued by Indian Road Congress or Central Pollution Control Board from time to time.

(ii)The Brand Owner shall ensure end of life disposal of the plastic packaging waste only through methodologies specified in rule 5 (1) (b) of the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 as amended.

(e) Obligation for use of recycled plastic content (refer examples 6 in Annexure)

(i) The Brand Owner shall ensure use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging category wise as given below namely:

Mandatory use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging

(% of manufactured plastic for the year)

Plastic packaging category	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 and onwards
Category I	**30**	**40**	**50**	**60**
Category II	**10**	**10**	**20**	**20**
Category III	**5**	**5**	**10**	**10**

(ii) In cases where it is not possible to meet the obligation in respect of recycled plastic content on account of statutory requirements the exemption will be granted by Central Pollution Control Board on case-to-case basis. However in such cases the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners will have to fulfil its obligation of use of recycled content (in quantitative terms) through purchase of certificate of equivalent quantity from such Producers Importers & Brand-Owners who have used recycled content in excess of their obligation. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for such exchange on the centralized online portal.

(iii) In case where Brand Owner is also Producer and/or Importer of plastic packaging material the clause 7.2 and 7.3 shall also apply for determining their Extended Producer Responsibility targets and obligations as Producer and /or Importer respectively. (7.5)The Extended Producer Responsibility target in MT category-wise as applicable shall be provided by all Producers Importers & Brand-Owners as part of Action Plan on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. (7.6)The obligations for reuse recycling of waste and use of recycled plastic content in packaging shall be reviewed every five years based upon available technologies for meeting the Targets specified.

(7.7) Extended Producer Responsibility on plastic packaging will promote sustainable packaging as per guidelines prepared by Central Pollution Control Board inter alia based on the following criteria

(i) Package designing promoting reuse;

(ii) Package designing amenable for recycling;

(iii) Recycled plastic content in plastic packaging material and;

(iii) **Package designing for environment**.

In case, the obligated entity utilizes plastic packaging which is 100% biodegradable in the ambient environment leaving no traces of micro plastics or chemical residue or any other traces having adverse environmental and health impacts as certified by regulatory entities Central Pollution Control Board, Bureau of Indian Standards, Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology, the Extended Producer Responsibility target will not be applicable for such material

(7.8) Manufacturer or importer of plastic raw material - Extended Producer Responsibility Target:

(i) The extended producer responsibility of producers which are micro and small enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act 2006 (27 of 2006) hereinafter referred to as micro and small producers shall be fulfilled by manufacturer or importer of plastic raw material who has supplied the plastic raw material to such micro and small producers: Provided that the target for use of recycled plastic content shall be fulfilled by such producers.

(ii) The Extended Producer Responsibility target category-wise for manufacturer or importer of plastic raw material shall be the quantity of plastic raw material sold to micro and small producers where the sale invoice is authenticated by the manufacturer or importer of plastic raw material on the centralized online portal excluding the sale made by such micro and small producers to Brand Owners and Producers which are not categorized as micro and small enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act 2006 (27 of 2006).

(iii) The producer which is a micro or small enterprise shall declare category of plastic packaging manufactured by it on the centralized online portal.

(iv) While fulfilling the Extended Producer Responsibility target the manufacturer or importer of plastic raw material shall ensure minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste collected under the Extended Producer Responsibility Target category-wise as given in the Table below namely: -

TABLE

Minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic packaging waste (% of Extended Producer Responsibility Target)

Plastic packaging category	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28 and onwards
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Category I	50	60	70	80
Category II	30	40	50	60
Category III	30	40	50	60

8. Generation of surplus Extended Producer Responsibility certificates carry forward and offsetting against previous year Extended Producer Responsibility targets and obligations and sale and purchase of surplus Extended Producer Responsibility certificates:

(8.1) A Brand Owner who has fulfilled their Extended Producer Responsibility targets category-wise can use the surplus for the following namely: -

(i) Offsetting previous year shortfall subject to clause 9.5;

(ii) Carry forward for use in succeeding year;

(iii) Sell it to other Producers Importers & Brand-Owners.

(8.2) Surplus in one category can only be used for off-setting carry forward and sale in the same category. A surplus under reuse can be used for against reuse recycling and also end of life disposal. A surplus under recycling can be used for recycling and end of life disposal. A surplus under end-of-life disposal cannot be used for reuse or recycle.

(8.3) Producers Importers & Brand-Owners can also meet their Extended Producer Responsibility obligations under a category by purchasing surplus Extended Producer Responsibility certificates from other Producers Importers & Brand-Owners of the same category.

(8.4) Such transactions shall be recorded and submitted by the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners on the online portal while filing annual returns under the Extended Producer Responsibility framework. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for such exchange on the centralized portal.

(8.5) The Central Pollution Control Board shall issue guidelines for authorization of agencies for establishment of electronic platform for trade of Extended Producer Responsibility certificates between obligated entities.

(8.6) The number of electronic platforms may be restricted keeping in view volume of trade of Extended Producer Responsibility certificates.

(8.7) The operation of electronic platform shall be as per guidelines issued by Central Pollution Control Board after approval of the Central Government.

(8.8) The Central Pollution Control Board shall fix the highest and the lowest price for extended producer responsibility certificates which shall be equal to 100 % and 30 % respectively of the Environment Compensation leviable on the obligated entities for

non-fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility obligations under rule 18 of these rules.

(8.9) The exchange price of Extended Producer Responsibility certificate between registered entities through the portal shall be between the highest and the lowest prices as fixed above.

9. Imposition of Environmental Compensation:

(9.1) Environmental Compensation shall be levied based upon polluter pays principle with respect to non-fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility targets by Producers Importers &Brand Owners for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing controlling and abating environment pollution.

(9.2) Central Pollution Control Board shall lay down guidelines for imposition and collection of environment compensation on Producers Importers & Brand-Owners recyclers and end of life processors in case of non-fulfillment of obligations set out in these guidelines and the same shall be notified. The Guidelines for Environmental Compensation shall be updated as required.

(9.3) The Environment Compensation as applicable shall be levied by Central Pollution Control Board on the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners operating in more than two states with respect to non-fulfillment of their Extended Producer Responsibility targets responsibilities and obligations in these guidelines.

(9.4) The Environment Compensation as applicable shall be levied by respective State Pollution Control Board on the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners operating in their jurisdiction (for Producers Importers & Brand-Owners not operating in more than two states/Union Territory‘s) Plastic Waste Processors which includes recyclers and other waste processors – waste to energy waste to oil co-processors with respect to non-fulfillment of their Extended Producer Responsibility targets or responsibilities and obligations set out under these guidelines. In case the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee does not take action in reasonable time the Central Pollution Control Board shall issue directions to the State Pollution Control Board /Pollution Control Committee.

(9.5) Payment of environmental compensation shall not absolve the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners of the obligations set out in these guidelines. The unfulfilled Extended Producer Responsibility obligations for a particular year will be carried forward to the next year for a period of three years. In case the shortfall of Extended Producer Responsibility obligation is addressed within three years. The environmental

compensation levied shall be returned to the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners as given below namely

(i) Within one year of levying of EC: 75% return;
(ii) Within two years 60% return;
(iii)Within three years 40% return

After completion of three years on environmental compensation getting due the entire environmental compensation amount shall be forfeited. This arrangement shall allow for collection and recycling of plastic packaging waste by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners in later years as well.

(9.6) The funds collected under environmental compensation shall be kept in a separate Escrow account by Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee. The funds collected shall be utilized in collection recycling and end of life disposal of uncollected and non-recycled or non-end of life disposal of plastic packaging waste on which the environmental compensation is levied. Modalities for utilization of the funds for plastic waste management on an annual basis would be recommended by the Committee for Extended Producer Responsibility implementation and approved by the Competent Authority in the Ministry.

10. Role of Producers Importers Brand-Owners and manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic:

(10.1) The Producers Importers Brand-Owners and manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic shall have to register through the online centralized portal.

(10.2) Producers Importers & Brand-Owners shall provide Action Plan containing information on the Extended Producer Responsibility Target category-wise where applicable through the online centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board along with application for registration or renewal of registration under Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016. The Action Plan shall cover tenure of the Registration as per the provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016. The standard operating procedure for registration and the action plan pro forma shall be developed by Central Pollution Control Board as per these guidelines.

(10.3) Brand Owner covered under clause 4 (iii) shall provide details of plastic packaging purchased from Producers and/or Importers covered under clause 4 (i) and 4 (ii) separately. The quantities attributed to each Producer and Importer covered under clause 4 (i) and 4 (ii) obligated upon Brand Owner shall be deducted from the obligation of Producers and Importers. The record of such

purchase including category-wise quantity purchased shall be maintained separately by Brand Owner.

(10.4) The Producers and Importers covered under clauses 4 (i) and 4 (ii) will maintain the record of the quantity of plastic packaging material made available to Brand Owner covered under clause 4 (iii). The record of such sale including category-wise quantity sold will be maintained separately by Producers and Importers. In case such records are not maintained they will have to fulfil the complete Extended Producer Responsibility obligation. The online platform shall cross-check the declaration of transactions among Producers Importers & Brand-Owners.

(10.5) Producers Importers Brand-Owners and manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastic may operate schemes such as deposit refund system or buy back or any other model in order to develop a separate waste stream for collection of plastic packaging waste for directly fulfilling Extended Producer Responsibility obligations to prevent mixing of plastic packaging waste with solid waste.

(10.6) The Producers Importers & Brand-Owners **manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastics s**hall file annual returns on the plastic packaging waste collected and processed towards fulfilling obligations under Extended Producer Responsibility with the Central Pollution Control Board or concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee as per pro forma prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board by the 30th June of the next financial year. Information on the reuse and/or recycled content used for packaging purposes will also be provided. The details of the registered recyclers from whom the recycled plastic has been procured will also be provided that the last date for filing of annual returns shall be the 30th November 2023 for the financial year 2022-2023. **Provided that the annual return under this sub paragraph in respect of the financial year 2022-2023 may be filed on or before 31st March 2024.**

11. Role of Plastic Waste Processors (Recyclers or Other Waste Processors including industrial composting facilities)

(11.1) All plastic waste processors shall have to register with concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee in accordance with provision 13(3) of Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. Central Pollution Control Board shall lay down uniform procedure for registration within three months of the publication of these guidelines.

(11.2) The Plastic waste processors shall submit annual returns after end of

every financial year by 30th April of the next financial year on the quantity of plastic waste processed category-wise as per prescribed pro forma on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. **Provided that the annual returns under this sub-paragraph in respect of the financial year 2022-2023 may be filed on or before the 31st March 2024.**

(11.3) The total quantity of plastic waste processed by plastic waste processors and attributed to Producers Importers & Brand-Owners on an annual basis will be made available on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board as also on the website of Plastic waste processors.

(11.4) In case at any stage it is found that the information provided by the plastic waste processor is false the plastic waste processor shall be debarred by State Pollution Control Board as per procedure laid down by Central Pollution Control Board from operating under the Extended Producer Responsibility framework for a period of one year.

(11.5) Only plastic waste processors registered under Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 as amended shall provide certificates for plastic waste processing except in case of use of plastic waste in road construction. In case where plastic waste is used in road construction the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners shall provide a self-declaration certificate in pro forma developed by Central Pollution Control Board. The certificate provided by only registered plastic waste processors shall be considered for fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility obligations by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners.

(11.6) The pro forma for the certificate shall be developed by Central Pollution Control Board. In no case the amount of plastic packaging waste recycled by the enterprise shall be more than installed capacity of the enterprise. The certificates will be for plastic packaging category-wise and shall include GST data of the enterprise.

(11.7) The certificate for plastic packaging waste provided by registered plastic waste processors shall be in the name of registered Producers Importers & Brand-Owners or Local authorities as applicable based upon agreed modalities. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for issuance of such certificate on the centralized portal.

(11.8) The Plastic Waste Processors undertaking end-of-life disposal of plastic packaging waste viz. waste to energy waste to oil cement kilns (co processing) shall provide information on an annual basis as per prescribed pro forma on the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. These entities shall ensure the disposal of plastic packaging waste as per relevant rules guidelines framed by regulatory bodies in an environmentally sound manner.

12. Role of Central Pollution Control Board

(12.1) The Central Pollution Control Board shall register Producers Importers & Brand Owners who are operating in more than two states and plastic waste processors through online portal. Central Pollution Control Board shall prescribe the standard operating procedure for registration of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners under Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016.

(12.2) The Central Pollution Control Board may charge fee for processing of applications for registration and an annual fee for processing of returns as per procedure prescribed by CPCB. In case, where Producers Importers & Brand-Owners are operating in the jurisdiction of a State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee the Central Pollution Control Board as per guidelines so decided will share the application fee with the concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee.

(12.3) The registration shall be done within two weeks from the submission of a complete application online by the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners. The tenure of registration shall be as per Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016.

(12.4) Central Pollution Control Board by itself or through a designated agency shall verify compliance of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners through inspection and periodic audit as deemed appropriate. Central Pollution Control Board as required can also verify compliance of Plastic Waste Processors through inspection and periodic audit. In case of plastic waste processors and Producers Importers & Brand-Owners operating in a State or Union Territory Central Pollution Control Board may if required direct State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee to take action. (12.5) Central Pollution Control Board shall publish the list of Producers Importers &

Brand-Owners who have failed to meet Extended Producer Responsibility targets and obligations in the previous financial year on an annual basis by 30th September of the next financial year.

(12.6) The Central Pollution Control Board will establish a mechanism to ensure a regular dialogue between relevant stakeholders involved in the fulfilment of extended producer responsibility obligations for plastics under the Plastic Waste Management Rule 2016.

(12.7) The Central Pollution Control Board shall carry out a compositional survey of collected mixed municipal waste to determine the share of plastic waste as well as different categories of plastics packaging material on a half-yearly basis.

(12.8) The Central Pollution Control Board shall carry out review of technologies related to plastic packaging and plastic waste management for techno-economic viability and feasibility specifically with respect to clause 7.6.

(12.9) The Central Government may permit filing of annual returns by Producers Importers and Brand owners under clause 10.6 and by Plastic Waste Processors under clause 11.2 for a period not exceeding nine months for the reasons to be recorded in writing.

13. Role of State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee:

(13.1) The concerned State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall register Producers Importers & Brand-Owners (operating in one or two states) and plastic waste processors through the online portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board. Provision for registration shall be made on the Extended Producer Responsibility portal. State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee by itself or through a designated agency shall verify compliance of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners through inspection and periodic audit as deemed appropriate of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners as well as plastic waste processors in their jurisdiction as per the Plastic Waste Management Rule 2016.

(13.2) The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall bring out a list of entities (Exception Report) who have not fulfilled their Extended Producer Responsibility responsibilities on annual basis and publish the same on their website. The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall submit the Annual Reports submitted by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners and plastic waste processors in their jurisdiction to Central Pollution Control Board and upload the same on the online Extended Producer Responsibility portal.

(13.3) State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee will establish a mechanism to ensure a regular dialogue between relevant stakeholders involved in the fulfilment of extended producer responsibility obligations under the Plastic Waste Management Rule 2016.

(13.4) State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall carry out a compositional survey of collected mixed municipal waste to determine the share of plastic waste as well as different categories of plastics packaging material on a half yearly basis.

14. Plastic Packaging Waste Collection System by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners

(14.1) Producers Importers & Brand-Owners while fulfilling their Extended Producer Responsibility obligations may develop collection and segregation infrastructure of plastic packaging waste as required based on the category of plastics. It may include the following based on implementation modality of Extended Producer Responsibility adopted by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners: -

(a) establish waste plastic collection points and Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs);

(b) ensure the collection of the plastic packaging waste from the collection points with a frequency that is proportionate to the area covered and the volume;

(c) offer the collection of plastic from the entities like urban local bodies gram panchayats other public authorities or third parties carrying out waste management and provide for the collection from all entities that have made use of that offer; provide for the necessary practical arrangements for collection and transport;

(d) ensure that the plastic packaging waste collected from the collection points are subsequently subject to recycling in a registered facility by a recycler or its permitted end use in the designated manner.

(14.2) Producers Importers & Brand-Owners may ensure the network of collection points taking into account population size expected volume of plastic or packaging waste accessibility and vicinity to end-users not being limited to areas where the collection and subsequent management is profitable.

(14.3) The entities involved in waste collection will hand over the waste for treatment and recycling or for identified end uses.

(14.4) Participation of voluntary collection points - voluntary collection points will hand over plastic packaging waste to the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners or third-party agencies acting on their behalf with a view to their treatment and recycling or their identified end use.

15. Fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility Obligations The Producers Importers & Brand-Owners shall have to provide the details of recycling certificate only from registered recyclers along with the details of quantity sent for end-of-life disposal by 30th June of next financial year while filing annual returns on the online portal. The details provided by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners and registered plastic waste processors will be cross-checked by the online portal. In case of difference the lower figure would be considered towards fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility obligation of Producers Importers &Brand-Owners. The certificates shall be subject to verification by Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee as the case may be.

15..A) Purchase of extended producer responsibility certificate from different categories.-

(1) The Central Pollution Control Board may allow purchase of extended producer responsibility certificates for those categories where surplus exists over the extended producer responsibility obligation of that category for fulfillment of extended producer responsibility obligation of such

category where deficit exists.

(2) In such cases the Central Pollution Control Board shall prescribe the quantum of extended producer responsibility certificates of the category required to be procured where surplus exists for fulfillment of extended producer responsibility obligation of the category where deficit is present based on the availability and cost of collection segregation and processing for different categories of plastic packaging waste.

(3) The provision of this paragraph shall cease to apply at the end of 2025-2026.

(15.1) The Producers Importers Brand-Owners and manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastics or biodegradable plastics shall provide the details of certificates for plastic waste recycled and sent for end-of-life disposal by 30th June of next financial year while filing annual returns on the online portal.

(15.2) The details of certificates provided by Producers Importers Brand-Owners and manufacturers and manufacturers of commodities made from compostable plastic or biodegradable plastics and registered plastic waste processors shall be verified and in case of difference the lower figure shall be considered towards fulfilment of Extended Producer Responsibility obligation under these rules.

(15.3) The certificates shall be subject to verification by Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee concerned as the case may be.

(15.4) The Manufacturer of biodegradable plastics shall fulfil their Extended Producer Responsibility obligations by obtaining Extended Producer Responsibility certificates generated by local authorities as per agreed modalities.

(15.5) The local authorities shall generate Extended Producer Responsibility certificates equal to the biodegradable plastic collected by them and put to end of life biodegradation in the respective recipient environment as per standard notified by Bureau of Indian Standards which shall be recorded and details of such certificates obtained by the manufacturers of commodities of biodegradable plastics shall be submitted on the centralized online portal while filing annual returns under these rules. Central Pollution Control Board will develop mechanism for such exchange on the centralized online portal.

16. Centralized Online Portal

(16.1) Central Pollution Control Board shall establish an online system for the registration as well as for filing of annual returns by Producers Importers & Brand Owners plastic waste processors of plastic packaging waste by 31st March 2022:-

(16.2) The online system developed by Central Pollution Control Board for the registration as well as for filing of returns by Producers Importers & Brand-Owners shall reflect the plastic packaging material introduced in the market Producers Importers & Brand-Owners in a financial year. It shall also reflect the details regarding the audit of the Producers Importers & Brand-Owners as well as recyclers or other waste processors of plastic packaging waste.

(16.3) The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall also use the centralized portal developed by Central Pollution Control Board for registration of Producers Importers & Brand-Owners as well as recyclers/waste processors. The centralized portal would act as the single point data repository with respect to orders and guidelines related to implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging under Plastic Waste Management Rule 2016 Producers Importers & Brand-Owners may if they so desire facilitate the development of online web portal or platform.

(16.3) Till the online web portal is developed all activities related to implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility under the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 will be done in an offline manner.

17. Monitoring

State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall submit annual report on Extended Producer Responsibility portal with respect to fulfillment of Extended Producer Responsibility by Producers Importers &Brand-Owners (which include manufacturers of plastic packaging material) and plastic waste processors in the State/Union Territory to Central Pollution Control Board. The report shall also be submitted to the State Level Monitoring Committee constituted under the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016. State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall also submit annual report with respect to recyclers or end of life disposal in the State or Union Territory to Central Pollution Control Board by 31st July of the next year.

18. Committee for Extended Producer Responsibility under PWM Rules

(18.1) A committee shall be constituted by the Central Pollution Control Board under chairpersonship of Chairman Central Pollution Control Board to recommend measures to Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change for effective implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility including amendments to Extended Producer Responsibility guidelines. The committee shall monitor the implementations of Extended Producer Responsibility and also take such measures as required for removal of difficulties. The Committee shall also be tasked with the guiding and supervision of the online portal including

approval of requisite forms or pro forma.

(18.2) The committee shall comprise of representative from concerned line Ministries/Departments such as Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals; Bureau of Indian Standards three State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and three industry associations and any other invitee as decided by the chairperson of the committee.