

KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD കേരള സംസ്ഥാന മലിനീകരണ നിയന്ത്രണ ബോർഡ്

Pattom P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 004

No. PCB/HO/PLA/GEN/2010

Date: 22.11.2010

Notification

WHEREAS the Hon'ble High Court in the judgement in DBP No: 53 & 72 of 2010 dated 03.11.2010 has directed the Kerala State Pollution Control Board to take action to prohibit and restrict the use of plastic at Sabarimala and other areas connected with Sabarimala pilgrimage during the festival season so as to prevent the environmental pollution in the area;

WHEREAS the pet bottles, plastic carry bags, etc. disposed at Sabarimala during festival season is a serious threat to environment;

WHEREAS the State Board notification no: PCB/L/3120/2005 dated 16.12.2006, imposed the specification that the minimum thickness of plastic carry bags and containers including plastic cups, bottles and packing material shall be 50 micron which was later fixed to 30 microns as per order dated 08-02-2007 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala vide in WP(C) 1260/07;

WHEREAS the Chairman of the Board is delegated the power by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India vide notification no. 1(35)/96-PL dated 10.04.2001 under the section 5 of the Environment Protection Act to issue directions to any industry/any local or other authority for violation of the standards and rules relating to municipal solid waste including plastic wastes;

AND WHEREAS the main problems relating to the use of plastic during Sabarimala Pilgrimage are the following

- Pilgrims disposing PET (Polyethylene teraphthalate) bottles used for carrying drinking water.
- ii. Pilgrims disposing plastic (Polyethylene) carry bags used for carrying food materials and clothes.
- iii. Pilgrims disposing plastic covers/pouches used to carry worship materials like turmeric powder, oil, camphor etc.
 - iv. Pilgrims leaving in river empty shampoo sachets. This problem is felt most severely in Erumeli where pilgrims take bath after being adorned with multicolor powder.

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers vested with the undersigned under section V of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, the Board hereby impose ban on sale and use of plastic carry bags and dumping of plastic materials including PET bottles and sachets/pouches in to water bodies and open areas, in and around Sannidhanam, Pamba, Chalakkayam, Nilakkal and Erumeli. The Travancore Devaswom Board, Police Department and concerned local self government bodies shall ensure compliance of the aforesaid ban.

Dated this the 22th day of November 2010.

For and on behalf of the
KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Sd/C H A I R M A N

FORWARDED / BY ORDER

CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER-