

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 993/2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "PACKAGE Where has the plastic waste disappeared" appearing in The Times of India dated 30.07.2024

I N D E X

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1.	Copy of Notice dated 19.01.2026 issued by CPCB	1-2

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CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

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F.No. CP-20/80/2021-UPC-II-HO

Dated 19.01.2026

Subject: Notice on "Removal of Difficulties" for implementation of EPR Guidelines for Plastic Packaging – reg.

This is to inform that additional measures were undertaken vide CPCBs notice even no. dated 28.11.2025, for the purpose of "removal of difficulties" to facilitate effective implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Guidelines.

MoEFCC, vide Amendment to the Plastic Waste Management Rules dated 30.10.2023, has notified the following:

1. As per the clause 8.2 of the EPR Guidelines under Schedule II of the PWM Rules, 2016 (as amended), "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 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 recycling."
2. As per the clause 15A of the EPR guidelines, "Purchase of extended producer responsibility certificate from different categories" –
 - i. 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 fulfilment of extended producer responsibility obligation of such category where deficit exists.
 - ii. 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 fulfilment 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.
 - iii. The provision of this paragraph shall cease to apply at the end of 2025-2026.

In view of above, the following measures have been undertaken to facilitate the implementation of the EPR Guidelines:

1. The EPR obligations for the respective Recycling Category I to III of plastic waste, applicable to PIBOs, shall be fulfilled by the EPR certificates of the same category. Exchange of obligations across recycling category shall not be permitted.
2. A surplus generated under end of life disposal shall not be permitted for adjustment against recycling target, in accordance with the provisions of Clause 8.2 of schedule II of the EPR guidelines, under the PWM Rules, 2016 (as amended).

Contd.

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3. CPCBs Notice dated 28.11.25, allowing fulfilment of EPR Obligation under 'Recycling' to be met through 'End-of-Life' (EOL) EPR Certificates stands withdrawn, with immediate effect.
4. Accordingly, registered PIBOs are required to ensure timely filing of their respective Annual Returns (ARs) on the EPR portal on or before the stipulated deadline, i.e., **31 January 2026**.
5. The additional EOL certificates transferred to the Annual Report for FY 2024-25 shall be considered for fulfilment of EOL for subsequent annual returns.

The above provisions are applicable for the period valid till the Annual Return filing of FY 2024 - 25. All registered PIBOs are required to follow the aforementioned for effective implementation of EPR guidelines.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

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11/11/26

(G.Thirumurthy)
Director & DH UPC II

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