

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, AT CHENNAI

Execution Application No. 05 of 2024 (SZ)

IN

Original Application No. 22 of 2022 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

ANTONY CLEMENT RUBIN,

No. 1B, E-Block VGN Mahalakshmi Nagar

Thiruverkadu, Chennai – 600077

.....Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India and Ors

..... Respondent(s)

Action Taken Report in the matter of EA No. 5 of 2024 in OA No. 22 of 2022 (SZ) submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Bench, Chennai.

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Place: Hyderabad

Date: 01.01.2026



Counsel for GHMC

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION in EA No. 5 of 2024 in OA No. 22 of 2022 before
the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.**

I, R V Karnan, IAS, S/o Veeraragavan Rajagopalan, aged about 40 years, Occ: Commissioner, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, R/o. Hyderabad, do hereby solemnly swear and state on oath as follows:

1. It is respectfully submitted that, I am working as Commissioner of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Hyderabad. As such, I am well acquainted with the facts of the case. Further, I am deposing this based on the report dated 09.12.2022 filed by the Telangana Pollution Control Board (Respondent No 16) and orders of the Hon'ble Tribunal dated 12.11.2025.

2. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone), Chennai, vide Order dated 10.08.2023 in OA No. 22 of 2022 and proceedings in EA No. 05 of 2024, directed the Metropolitan Local Bodies, including the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), to examine the Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) established in Puducherry and submit an Action Taken Report, with specific reference to environmentally sound management of plastic waste.

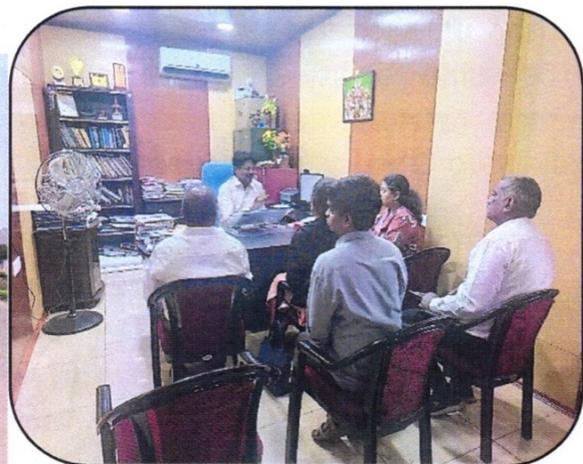
3. In compliance with the above directions, a team was constituted and visited Puducherry to examine the MRFs and associated plastic waste processing facilities with particular emphasis on Multi-Layer Plastic (MLP) waste management. Based on the site visit and assessments, the following Observations were made:

- A. The team interacted with Member Secretary, Puducherry Pollution Control Committee (PPCC) and detailed discussions were held on regulatory controls, enforcement measures, and re-processing mechanisms adopted for Multi-Layer Plastic (MLP) waste and downstream processing facilities in accordance with the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended.



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- B. PPCC informed that MLP waste management is regulated strictly under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, with emphasis on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), registration of processing units, and enforcement against non-compliance. Regular monitoring, imposition of penalties and statutory reporting to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) are undertaken.
- C. MLP waste generated in Puducherry broadly falls under the following categories:
- Laminated Plastic Waste (e.g., biscuit wrappers)
 - Metallised Plastic Waste (e.g., shampoo sachets)
 - Aluminium foil-based MLP waste (e.g., coffee packs and airtight packaging)
- D. MLP waste collected from MRFs is channelized to M/s. Padma Polymers, Thirubuvanaipalayam, Puducherry, an authorised plastic waste re-processing unit holding valid Consent to establish and Registration from PPCC.
- E. M/s. Padma Polymers processes non-aluminium MLP waste by converting it into granules, lumps, and blocks, which are utilised for manufacturing value-added products such as ropes, doors, pavers, and flexible hoses. Further, the unit has installed aluminium extraction machinery for recovery of aluminium metal from aluminium foil-embedded MLP waste, thereby ensuring environmentally sound management and material recovery.




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F. The team also visited the Local Administration Department, and interacted with Assistant Engineer (SWM), and Team Leader, PMU (SBM & Amrut). During the interaction, discussions were held on the collection, segregation, and disposal mechanisms of MLP waste, including prevailing operational practices and compliance with the Plastic Waste Management Rules. Also visited M/s. Feedback Foundation, a facility engaged in the collection (dry waste generated within 15 wards of Puducherry Municipality), segregation (all recyclables in 14 streams), and baling of paper and plastic waste, to understand operational practices adopted for handling recyclable fractions.



4. In view of the observations, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation shall initiate the following actions related to Multi-Layer Plastic (MLP) waste management:

- Strengthening of segregation and dedicated channelization of MLP waste at MRFs within GHMC limits;


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- Ensuring that MLP waste is handed over only to authorized recyclers or re-processors in compliance with PWM Rules;
- Encouraging adoption of advanced re-processing technologies, including aluminium recovery from aluminium foil-based MLP waste;
- Reinforcement of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) compliance for brand owners and producers generating MLP waste; and
- Continued prohibition of environmentally unsafe practices such as open burning or unauthorised disposal of MLP waste.

5. Further, it is submitted that at present the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has been collecting biodegradable waste and non-biodegradable waste including plastic waste, with help of Swatch Auto's, managing the entire process from door to door collection to Transfer station. From Transfer station to Processing & Disposal facility at Jawahar nagar is managed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, primarily handled by private operators like **M/s. Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Ltd. (HIMSW), being the GHMC's Concessionaire.** This private entity operates under a BOT (Build, Operate, and Transfer) model, managing waste collection, processing and disposal facilities.

6. The produced Refused Derived Fuel (RDF) by M/s.HIMSW which includes the Plastic waste are being disposed through decentralized Waste to Energy Projects located at Jawaharnagar 48 MW plant and 14.5 MW plant at Dundigal in compliance with plastic waste management Rules 2016 and its amendments. Thus, the generated multi-layered plastic in the GHMC premises is being disposed of in a scientific manner.

7. Further, it is submitted that a detailed note on the regular plastic waste management practices followed by GHMC is enclosed as an Annexure.

Sworn and signed on this the
1st day of January, 2026 at Hyderabad


Commissioner,
GHMC
Commissioner
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

VERIFICATION

I, R V Karnan, IAS, S/o Veeraragavan Rajagopalan, aged about 40 years, Occ: Commissioner, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, R/o Hyderabad, do hereby declare that the contents made in the above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and based on records available with Respondent Corporation and I believe the same to be true and correct.

Hence verified on this the 1st day of January' 2026.


**Commissioner,
GHMC**
Commissioner
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

ANNEXURE
NOTE ON PLASTIC WASTE

I. BACKGROUND:

- Plastic is an ubiquitous material. It is light weight, hygienic and resistant. It can be moulded into different shapes and used in a wide range of applications.
- The Ministry of Environmental, Forest and Climate Change, GoI has issued the Plastic Waste Management, (Amendment) Rules 2018 on 27.03.2018 and omitted the clause in 2016 Rules related to Explicit pricing of plastic bags wherein "the shopkeepers and street vendors willing to provide plastic bags for dispensing their commodities shall register with the local body, while a plastic management fee is prescribed by local body depending on the sale capacity".
- Subsequently, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced flag-ship program to phase out Single Use plastic by 2022 in view of the high environmental costs associated with management of single-use plastics, particularly the adverse effect on marine environment, and the need for a definitive response, to combat single-use plastic pollution.
- Single Use Plastic (SUP): As per the "Standard Guidelines for Single-Use Plastics" on 21st January 2019 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Single-Use Plastics, also referred to as disposable plastics (use and throw items), are plastic commonly used for packaging and plastic items intended to be used only once, before they are thrown or recycled such as carry bags, food packaging bottles, straws, containers, cups and cutlery etc.
- Accordingly, MoEF&CC, GoI has issued **Plastic Waste Management Rules 2021, amended on 21st August 2021** and as per which all the states shall meet the following targets.


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a) Timelines for Plastic Ban:

The manufacture, importer, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags made up of virgin or recycled plastic shall not be less than:

- 75 micron thickness with effect from **30th Sept'2021**
- 120 micron thickness with effect from **31st Dec'2022**
- Non-woven plastic carry bag shall not be less than 60 micron
- Gram Per Square Meter (GSM) with effect from the **30th Sept' 2021**

b) Timelines for Single Use Plastic Ban:

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:-**

- ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocoal] for decoration.
- 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. (shall not be applicable to commodities made of compostable plastic)

II. ACTION TAKEN REPORT FROM GHMC:

City Level Task Force in GHMC area (under million plus city category) was constituted for effective implementation on ground and for taking measures to eliminate single use plastics with the following members, through G.O.Rt.No.926, MA&UD (GHMC.II) DeptDt.20.12.2021,


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inline with State Level Task Force (SLTF) which was formed under chairmanship of Chief Secretary vide G.O.Rt. No. 80, Dt: 07/08/2021 of Environment, Forests Science & Technology (FOR.III) Dept.

i.	Commissioner, GHMC - Chairman
ii.	Director, EV&DM GHMC - Member
iii.	Additional Commissioner (SWM) – Member
iv.	All Zonal Commissioners of GHMC - Members
v.	Additional Collectors from Districts of Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri and Sangareddy
vi.	Representative from Environment, Science & Technology ,Go
vii.	Representative from MA & UD
viii.	Representative from General Administration
ix.	Nodal officer from TSPCB
x.	Nodal officer from Industries and Commerce Dept
xi.	Nodal officer from School Education
xii.	Nodal officer from Higher Education
xiii.	Nodal officer from Youth Advancement, Tourism and Cultural
xiv.	Any other officer/expert nominated by the Commissioner GHMC.

1. Ban on plastics less than 120 micron :

GHMC has initiated a Comprehensive challan management system, a mobile application which enables the enforcement officers to levy penalties on retailers and user of plastics less than 120 microns.

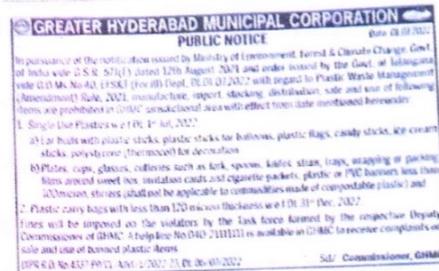
2. Ban on less than 75-micron thickness plastics:

- i. **Paper notification:** The Commissioner, GHMC banned the sale and usage of carry bags below 75-micron thickness and single use plastic items through public notification vide notice ULB Code 802918, Dt. 29.01.2022 published in three vernacular languages


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through daily newspapers viz. Vaartha (Telugu), New Indian Express (English) and Hindi Milap (Hindi) Dt. 10.02.2022.

7 JUL 2022
Indian Express



- ii. **Approval of the Standing Committee, GHMC** : The Standing Committee, GHMC **vide resolution 124, Dt.09.03.2022** approved the ban of sale and usage of carry bags below 75-micron thickness and single use plastic items in GHMC jurisdictional area and recommend the Corporation (General Body) to accord approval for the same.
- iii. **Creating inventory of vendors, stockist and manufacturers of SUP:**A circular vide No.SWM/OW/008/2021-01, Dt. 13.12.2021 was issued to all the zonal Commissioners of GHMC to inform about the target items to be banned as per PWM amendment rules, 2021 and requested to prepare inventory of vendors, stockist, distributors. Further a circular memo vide C.M.No.SWM/OW/008/2021/AE-3(SWM)HO,Dt.05.02.2022 was issued to all the Deputy Commissioners, GHMC to conduct market survey to check the availability of the prohibited SUP items, alternative available in place of SUP items and action taken against usage of banned SUP items.


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III. Action taken by GHMC prior to notification of PWM Amendment Rules, 2021

1. **Ban on less than 50 microns plastics** :The Commissioner GHMC issued circular no.1139/AC(H&S)/EE(SWM)/GHMC/2016,dt:08.08.2016 to curb the usage of plastic in compliance to SWM Rules and laid out the guidelines to strictly enforce it. As per the circular, the enforcement officer shall ensure:
 - a. Prohibition on stocking, distribution, selling and use of any carry bag (handle or non-handle) has thickness less than 50 microns.
 - b. Sachets/ Pouch using plastic material (including VMCH resin) shall not be used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala (excluding those made from compostable material as per IS/ISO:17088: 2012).
 - c. Those found stocking/selling such carry bags or using sachets/pouches containing plastic material shall be penalized as below:
 - i. 1st time offence - Rs.10,000/-
 - ii. 2nd time offence - Rs.25,000/-
 - iii. 3rd time offence - closing the unit or confiscation of stocked or sold material.
 - d. The GHMC has passed a resolution vide resolution no.266 of the General Body, dt:23.05.2018 to impose ban on manufacture, supply, sale and use of all type of plastics including above 50 micron within GHMC limits and recommended Govt. of Telangana to issue suitable orders and notification for implementing ban on plastic.


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e. Penalties were imposed on violators

- i. During 2018-19 : Rs. 10.40 Lakhs against 1058 no instances.
- ii. During 2019-20 : Rs. 50.31 Lakhs against 3821 no instances.
- iii. During 2020-21 : Rs. 2.60 Lakhs against 144 no instances.
- iv. During 2021-22 : Rs. 8.11 Lakhs against 707 instances
- v. During 2022-23: Rs. 17.46 Lakhs against 1297 instances.

2. **Social Awareness and public education:**

Intensive Information, Education and Communication activities are conducted in all 30 circles of GHMC to create awareness on Plastic ban, 3R policy, and alternatives for Single Use plastic.

a. **SIP, STYLE and SUSTAIN – Use of Milk packets for making bags.**



b. **Mass Plastic Cleanliness drive:**




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c. Single Use Plastic Clean up drives - GHMC



d. National festivals – innovative ideas using plastics



3. Action by Government offices:

Vide DO Lr No.20/Prl.Sec/MA&UD/2018, dt:13.06.2018 the Principal Secretary to Govt., MA&UD Dept. have directed all the ULB offices of MAUD, Govt of Telangana to discontinue the usage of single use plastic items like

- Drinking Water in plastic bottles and tetra packs
- Single use straw
- Plastic/ Styrofoam tea cups/ Containers
- Any other forms of single use/banned plastic.

Accordingly, GHMC is implementing the same in all its offices.

4. Promotion of Eco-friendly alternatives

GHMC have trained members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to encourage and involve in manufacturing of cloth bags, jute bags as an alternative


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to reduce impact of plastic on ecosystem and information of the same disseminated to public through GHMC website



5. Plastic Waste Management system:

- a) About 2400 TPD of low value and contaminated plastic waste from mixed solid waste is utilized as RDF for the operational Waste energy plant (24 MW capacity) at Jawaharnagar SWM treatment and disposal facility and the upcoming phase 2 waste to energy plant at Jawaharnagar.
- b) A minimal qty of about 0.3 TPD of High grade plastic waste is able separated manually and channelized to the recycling units in the market.
- c) Plastic Re-cycling Unit: About 20 TPD of plastic is processed in plastic recycling unit at the Jawaharnagar Site to produce plastic granules and plastic bags of above 50 microns, primarily used as bags for disposing bio-medical waste.
- d) Dry Resource Centers (DRCs): About 2 TPD of high value Plastic waste of various categories is channelizing to formal/ informal recycling industries through various Dry Resource Centers are established under CSR Initiative by ITC and Godrej and are maintained by Waste Pickers Associations.


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BY GHMC**

**M/s. D. SREENIVASAN,
(E.No.154/1997)**

**COUNSEL FOR GHMC
PH:9841099880**