ENDORSEMENT

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India has issued a copy of D.O. Letter No. 12/79/2018-HSMD Dated 08.03.2019 received from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi vide Endorsement No. GAC-21(27)/2019-Cdn. Dated 11.06.2019 regarding World Environment Day and reduction of use of single use plastic in India – instructions is forwarded for information, guidance/compliance and necessary action please.

(R.A. Sahu)
Administrative Officer
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
KRISHI BHAVAN : NEW DELHI

F.No.GAC-21(27)/2019-Cdn.

Dated: 11 June 2019

ENDORSEMENT

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India has issued DO letter No.12/79/2018-HSMD dated 8.3.2019 regarding World Environment Day and reduction of use of single use plastic in India. The same has been uploaded on the ICAR website www.icar.org.in and e-office for necessary action.

Distribution:

1. Directors/Project Directors of all ICAR Institutes/National Research Centres/Project Directorates/Bureaux
2. All Officers/Sections at ICAR, Krishi Bhavan/KAB-I & II/NASC
3. PD, DKMA for placing on the ICAR website
4. PSO to DG, ICAR/PPS to Secretary, ICAR/PPS to FA, DARE & ICAR
5. Secretary (Staff Side), CJSC, IIS&WC, Dehradun
6. Secretary (Staff Side), HJSC, ICAR
7. Guard File / Spare Copies

(Ajai Verma)

Under Secretary (GAC)
Dear Dr. Harsh Vardhan Ji,


I am having the matter looked into.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Radha Mohan Singh)

Dr. Harsh Vardhan
Minister
Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Government of India
Paryavaran Bhavan
Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi 110 003
As you are aware that India was the Global Host of World Environment Day (WED) this year celebrated on June 05, 2018, in collaboration with UN Environment with the theme "Beat Plastic Pollution." The Ministry is making intensive efforts to reduce the use of single-use plastic in India.

I would like to state that plastic itself is not a problem but littering of non-degradable plastic and unsafe disposal of single-use plastic in unhygienic places is causing severe pollution. As they end up in landfills and oceans, they degrade over thousands of years to degrade. These degraded plastic products gradually release harmful toxins into the environment. The per capita consumption of plastics in India is on the rise and is one of the biggest environmental challenges for our country.

3. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has taken the first step and has prohibited the use of single-use plastics items such as PET bottles, plastic cups and plates, plastic jugs, plastic bags, and straws. In collaboration with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, it has also conducted workshops and seminars across India to raise awareness among professionals and stakeholders on the need for reducing the use of single-use plastic.

4. Taking the above into consideration, I would urge you to start the necessary action in all offices under the administrative control of your Ministry to "Beat Plastic Pollution" by taking following initiatives:

- Encourage employees to refuse, reduce and reuse plastic products in their daily lives.
- Prohibit the use of single-use plastic products including water bottles, take away coffee cups, lunch wraps, plastic bags, etc. in all offices.
- Replace non-degradable plastic cups with biodegradable ones.
- Promote the use of reusable and sustainable alternatives such as glass, metal, or bamboo.
- Organize cleanliness drives and campaigns to promote awareness among employees.
- Encourage the use of biodegradable and other types of compostable utensils in place of plastic and bring a fork, knife, and spoon from home.
- Encourage the use of biodegradable and other types of compostable utensils in place of plastic and bring a fork, knife, and spoon from home.

We hope that these initiatives will help in reducing plastic pollution and create a more sustainable environment for future generations.
5. We need to transform our habits and practices to dramatically reduce plastic litter and the harm it causes to our environment. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has advocated for transformative action on this front.

6. Taking the above into consideration, I urge you to motivate the departments and offices, in the administrative control of your Ministry to remove/eliminate single-use plastic. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, looks forward to work collaboratively with your Ministry to beat plastic pollution.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Harsh Vardhan

Shri Radha Mohan Singh,
Minister of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare,
Krishi Bhavan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,,
New Delhi-110001