



ཀྲུང་ཡོངས་མཐུན་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་ལྷན་ཚོགས།
དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།
National Environment Commission
Royal Government of Bhutan



NEC/WMD/2019/ 67

January 14, 2019

To:

(See distribution list)

Sub: Reinforcement of limited Plastic Ban Notification 1999

Dear Dasho/Sir/Madam,

This has reference to the Notification on the Ban the Use/Sale of Plastic Carry Bags, Doma Wrappers and Homemade Ice Cream (Pepsi) Pouches issued by the then Ministry of Trade and Industry vide letter No. MTI/VIII-3/427 dated April 20, 1999, in conjunction with the then Ministry of Health and Education, the then Ministry of Communications, the National Environment Commission and the Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

After decades of notification and diligent efforts by relevant agencies, the implementation of the ban is still a challenge. In this connection, the National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS) consulted relevant agencies on November 13, 2018, wherein the agencies came to an agreement to reinforce the ban. Therefore, the NECS would like to notify the relevant agencies that reinforcement of the ban will commence with effect from April 1, 2019. In an effort to prepare for successful implementation, all the relevant agencies are requested to carry out the following:

1. Sensitization programs in respective fields/general public;
2. Explore the availability of alternatives; and
3. Prepare the monitoring plan/program.

With effect from the stipulated deadline, any Business establishments found selling/using the above-mentioned plastic items shall be liable to the following penalties:

1. A fine of Nu. 500.00 for the first offence;
2. A fine of Nu. 1,000.00 for the second offence; and

3. Subsequent violation shall result in cancellation of the Business license.

The NECSs solicits cooperation and support of all agencies for successful implementation of the ban in line with the purpose of Waste Prevention and Management Act of Bhutan 2009, its Regulation 2012 and Amendment 2016 to protect and sustain human health through protection of the environment by reducing the generation of waste at source.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,



(Sonam P Wangdi)

SECRETARY

Distribution List:

1. The Hon'ble Secretary, Dratshang Lhentshog, Tashichodzhong, Thimphu.
2. The Chief of Police, Royal Bhutan Police, Thimphu.
3. Director General, Bhutan Narcotic Control Authority, Thimphu.
4. Director General, Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Thimphu.
5. Director General, Department of Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Thimphu.
6. Director, Department of Forest and Park Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Thimphu.
7. Director General, Department of Local Government, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, Thimphu.
8. Director General, Road Safety and Transport Authority, Ministry of Information and Communication, Thimphu.
9. Director General, Department of Information Technology and Telecom, Ministry of Information and Communication, Thimphu.
10. Director General, Department of National Properties, Ministry of Finance, Thimphu.

11. Director General, Department of Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Thimphu.
12. Director General, Department of Industry, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Thimphu.
13. Director General, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Thimphu.
14. Director, Department of Engineering Services, Ministry of Works and Human Settlements, Thimphu.
15. The Director, Department of Revenue and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Thimphu.
16. Director, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Thimphu.
17. Director, Tourism Council of Bhutan, Thimphu.
18. Drug Controller, Drug Regulatory Authority, Thimphu.
19. ~~Dzongdags~~, 20 Dzongkhag Administrations.
20. Thrompon, Gelephu Thromde, Gelephu, Sarpang.
21. Thrompon, Phuentsholing Thromde, Phuntsholing, Chukha.
22. Thrompon, SamdrupJongkhar Thromde, SamdrupJongkhar.
23. Thrompon, Thimphu Thromde, Thimphu.
24. The Secretary General, Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Thimphu.
25. Manager, Centenary Farmers Market, Thimphu.