Decoding EPR Guidelines

For Plastic Packaging

Under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended)

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Overview of the Rules



- Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change released Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended) in exercise of powers under Environmental Protection Act, 1986.
- The Rules provide a regulatory framework for management of plastic packaging waste generated in the country.

Important Rules:

EPR Targets

EPR Targets: Regulations mandate 70% EPR Obligation in FY 2022-23 & **100% achievement** from **FY 2023-24** onwards.



- Target is calculated basis the average plastic consumption of your pervious 2 Financial Years.
- Pre-consumer & post-consumer plastic consumption both are considered.
- Brand & geography neutral.

Obligated Entities

Producers Importers Brand Owners Plastic Waste Processors

- PIBOs are not allowed to do business without registration & shall not deal with any un-registered entities.
- Micro & Small Brand Owners are exempted to do Registration.
- In order to issue the certificates, it is mandatory for PWPs to register on the online portal.

Plastic Packaging Type

- 1. Cat I (Rigid Plastic)
- 2. Cat II (Flexible)
- 3. Cat III (MLP)
- **4. Cat IV** (Compostable)



Regulatory Implementation

- Online Registration
- Thickness for Plastic Sheets & Carry bags defined.
- Marking & labelling for Plastic Packaging.
- Prohibition of specified Single Used Plastics from 01.07.2022.
- Protocols for Compostable & Biodegradable packaging.
- Additional Obligation for- Reuse,
 Recycling & Use of Recycled plastic
 packaging
- Environmental Compensation
- Fulfill EPR & File Annual Returns
- Real time Update of procurement & sales of Plastic packaging

Targets

EPR & Additional Circularity

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Additional Circularity Targets



Obligations	Producer	Importer	Brand Owner
REUSE	×	×	~
RECYCLING	✓	✓	✓
USE OF RECYCLED PLASTIC	✓	✓	✓

	Category/ Year	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 and onwards
REUSE (only for Rigid	Cat I: ≥ 0.9 L / Kg but < 4.9 L / Kg	×	10%	15%	20%	25%
Plastic Packaging)	Cat I: ≥ 4.9 L or Kg	×	70%	75%	80%	85%
	Category I	50%	60%	70%	80%	
RECYCLING	Category II	30%	40%	50%	60%	
RECYCLING	Category III	30%	40%	50%	60%	
	Category IV	50%	60%	70%	80%	
	Category I	X	30%	40%	50%	60%
USE of RECYCLED CONTENT	Category II	X	10%	10%	20%	20%
	Category III	X	5%	5%	10%	10%

Annexure: Exemptions & highlights for Obligations

Updated and Advanced Version of Module I

Module I(A)

Under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended)

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Key Highlights



CPCB announced the launch of Module IA and Module III on 19.11.22 and conducted various training sessions to apprise PIBOs of the change and various requirements.

Key Highlights

MODULE I(A): Registration of PIBOs-Updated and advanced Version of Module 1

- Real time Capture of Procurement /Sales of Plastic Packaging Crossvalidation of Transactions between PIBOs/PWPs (Invoice No. generation / Auto-population of Sales/ Procurement detail)
- Dynamic fixing of Annual EPR Target as per EPR Guidelines (Autogeneration of next year EPR target)
- Assessment of use of recycled plastic/reuse (Cat I rigid plastic) EPR credits
- Existing Registration of PIBOs is auto-migrated to Module I(A).
- New Registrations application basis updated version checklist
- Late fee mechanism introduced for Registration application.
- Change of authorized signatory/ mobile number is now possible.

MODULE III: Generation & Transfer of Certificates by PWP

- Only Portal generated EPR Certificate will be considered for EPR fulfilment.
- Physical verification of PWPs by SPCBs / PCCs; Conversion factor applicable for generation of certificate
- Without physical verification & approval by assigned authority certificate generation will not happen
- Generation & Transfer of certificate requires production, inventory & sales data to be provided by PWP

Capacity Building Module and FAQs

Training programs with FAQs and Clarifications

Module- 1(A) – Post Registration



It covers operations to be carried out post Registration which includes

- Providing real time information of procurement & sales.
- Validation of transactions between PIBOs/PWP,
- assessment of the quantity of recycled plastic used as well as that of reuse of Cat I plastic packaging

REAL TIME INFORMATION OF PROCUREMENT & SALES

Type of entity		Packaging/Products at bice Level	Sale of Plastic Packaging/ Products at GST Invoice Level		
. ype er enney	Registered Entity	Unregistered Entity	Registered Entity	Unregistered Entity	
BRAND OWNER	Auto-fetched	Enter Manually	Not Active	Not Active	
PRODUCER	Auto-fetched	Enter Manually	Enter Manually	Enter Manually	
IMPORTER	Enter Manually	Enter Manually	Enter Manually	Enter Manually	

Is EPR obligation state wise or pan India? Can PIBO purchase certificates from any state?

EPR obligation is brand &geography neutral. The certificates have to be procured on the EPR Portal

Will fulfilment of EPR obligation of previous F.Y. be carry forwarded? if it is not be carry forwarded then will it be mandatory to fulfil 25% of EPR obligation of 2021-22?

Surplus EPR credits can be transferred to the next year. However, the EPR Guidelines have been notified on February 16, 2022 and PIBOs have got registered in 2022-2023. EPR obligations for the period prior to February 2022 shall be fulfilled as per the EPR regime prevalent at that time and shall not get transferred to this year

Whether the certificate number remain same every year or it get changed?

The certificate number shall remain unchanged. However, for PIBOs registered through offline mode, new Registration No. shall be provided when registered on the EPR Portal

If Producer A is selling to producer B and producer B finally selling to a brand owner, will EPR obligation of producer A be deducted?

EPR targets shall be adjusted for both producer to producer as well as producer to brand owner transactions. If X is EPR obligation of Producer 1 and he has sold Y to Producer/ Brand owner, then his EPR liability shall be X-Y, provided all three entities are registered on EPR Portal Labeling on rigid packaging is very tough, will BO can get exemption for labeling requirements?

Labelling is to be in accordance with provision of PWM Rules

Whether ULBs are required to register at Portal to generate credit certificate?

Yes

Whether third party and contract manufacturer is required to register on portal?

All PIBOs (excluding Micro / Small brandowners) are required to be registered on the portal

Environmental Compensation

For non-compliance

Under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended)

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PIBOs: EC under EPR Guidelines



	gnis							
	Violator			PIBOs				
		Rule 9.1	Rule 10.6	Rule 12.4, 13.1 & 11.6	Rule 10.1	Rule 10.1 & 11.1	Rule 11.4	
	Violations	SHORTFALL IN EPR TARGET in following types 1. Recycling 2. End-of-life Recycling 3. Mandated Use of Recycled Plastic 4. Reuse of Plastic (Cat I) Illustration 1	ANNUAL RETURN not Filed (To be filed by June 30) Illustration 2	misreporting in quantity of plastic packaging placed on market and use of recycled plastics Illustration 3	SUBMISSION OF FALSE INFORMATION	NON- COMPLIANCE of conditions stipulated in Certificate Illustration 4 Illustration 5	DO NOT GET REGISTRATION ON THE CENTRALIZED PORTAL	
	Actions	 EC to be levied Violation I - Rs. 5000/ton Violation II - Rs. 10,000/ton Violation III - Rs. 20,000/ton EC can be carried forward up to 3 years as per EPR Guidelines 	 Notice will be issued for 5 days: Rs. 5000/ - for next 5 days Rs. 10,000/- for 2nd time default Rs. 20,000/- for 3rd time default Rs. 10,000/- for next 10 days Rs. 20,000/- for 2nd time default Rs. 40,000/- for 3rd time default Thereafter Annual Report to be Autofiled on the EPR Portal and EC to be levied on shortfall, if any. 	1. Increased EPR target and EC proportional to the Penalty up to Rs 1,00,000/- i. Violation I - 2x of application fees, ii. Violation II - 4x the application fees iii. Violation III - 8x the application fees	 Cancellation of Registration EC of proportionate Penalty up to Rs. 1,00,000/- Violation I: 2x of application fee Violation II: 4x of application fees Violation III: 8x of the application fees 	CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION	EC to be levied i. Violation I - Rs. 5000/ton ii. Violation II - Rs. 10,000/ton iii. Violation III - Rs. 20,000/ton EC can be carried forward up to 3 years as per EPR guidelines	

EC & Penal Action for Non-Compliance of PWM Rules = $\frac{A A GARG \& CO}{Compliance . Consulting . F&PO}$



Violator	Producer							
	Rule 4(c) & 4(j)	Rule 4(d)	Rule 4(f) & 4(i)	Rule 4(h)	Rule 11(1)			
Violations	MANUFACTURING Carry bags not meeting specifications: • Thickness > 75μm from 30.09.2021 • Thickness > 120μm from 31.12.2022 • Non-woven Plastic carry bag > 60GSM	MANUFACTURING sheets not meeting thickness specifications > 50μm	USING Plastic material for storing, packing or selling gutka, tobacco and pan masala Plastic packaging shall not be used in any form: Vinyl Acetate Maleic Acid Vinyl Chloride Copolymer	PRODUCTION of prohibited SUP items	SPECIFICATIONS NOT MET for Marking & Labelling (Illustration 5)			
Actions	Type of Compensation to be levied: (i) Seizure of manufactured products & closure of unit (ii) EC for to be levied on quantity of plastic bags manufactured from the date of inception of the unit or date of notification of PWM Rules (March 18, 2016) whichever is later: i. Violation I: Rs. 5000/ton ii. Violation II: Rs. 10,000/ton iii. Violation III: Rs. 20,000/ton (iii) Penalty as per section 15(1) of EPA 1986		Type of Compensation to be levied: (i) Seizure of products & closure of unit (ii) EC for to be levied for plastic used in packaging of tobacco products from the date of inception of the unit or date of notification of PWM Rules (March 18, 2016) whichever is later: i. Violation I: Rs. 5,000/ton ii. Violation II: Rs. 10,000/ton iii. Violation III: Rs. 20,000/ton (iii) Penalty as per section 15(1) of EPA 1986	 EC to be levied on quantity of plastic SUP items produced from the date of inception of the unit or July 01,2022 whichever is later. Violation I: Rs. 5000/ton Violation II: Rs. 10,000/ton Violation III: Rs. 20,000/ton 2. Revocation of Consent	 Cancellation of EPR Certificate Fine: Violation I - Rs. 2000/- Violation II - Rs. 5000/- Violation III - Rs. 10,000/- 			

PIBOs: EC under EPR Guidelines

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Insigh	hts Compliance . Consulting . F&PO							
Violator	Brand Owners							
Viol	Rule 9.1	Rule 10.6	Rule 12.4, 13.1 & 11.6	Rule 10.1	Rule 10.1 & 11.1	Rule 11.4	Rule 11(1)	
Violations	SHORTFALL IN EPR TARGET in following types 1. Recycling 2. End-of-life Recycling 3. Mandated Use of Recycled Plastic 4. Reuse of Plastic (Cat I) Illustration 1	ANNUAL RETURN not Filed (To be filed by June 30) Illustration 2	in quantity of plastic packaging placed on market and use of recycled plastics Illustration 3	SUBMISSION OF FALSE INFORMATION	NON- COMPLIANCE of conditions stipulated in Certificate	DO NOT GET REGISTRATION ON THE CENTRALIZED PORTAL Illustration 4	SPECIFICATIONS NOT MET for Marking & Labelling Refer Details	
Actions	 EC to be levied Violation I - Rs. 5000/ton Violation II - Rs. 10,000/ton Violation III - Rs. 20,000/ton EC can be carried forward up to 3 years as per EPR Guidelines 	 Notice will be issued for 5 days: Rs. 5000/ - for next 5 days Rs. 10,000/- for 2nd time default Rs. 20,000/- for 3rd time default Rs. 10,000/- for next 10 days Rs. 20,000/- for 2nd time default Rs. 40,000/- for 3rd time default Thereafter Annual Report to be Autofiled on the EPR Portal and EC to be levied on shortfall, if any. 	1. Increased EPR target and EC proportional to the Penalty up to Rs 1,00,000/- i. Violation I - 2x of application fees, ii. Violation II - 4x the application fees iii. Violation III - 8x the application fees	1. Cancellation of Registration 2. EC of proportionate Penalty up to Rs. 1,00,000/- i. Violation I: 2x of application fee ii. Violation II: 4x of application fees iii. Violation III: 8x of the application fees	CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION	 EC to be levied Violation I - Rs. 5000/ton Violation II - Rs. 10,000/ton Violation III - Rs. 20,000/ton EC can be carried forward up to 3 years as per EPR guidelines 	 Cancellation of EPR Certificate Fine: Violation I - Rs. 2000/- Violation II - Rs. 5000/- Violation III - Rs. 10,000/- 	



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