WHEREAS indiscriminate littering of plastic carry-bags has seriously affected the environment and is also causing serious clogging of the drainage system which ultimately leads to water logging, and also plastic wastes prevent the natural aeration of land and water bodies and hamper agriculture and pisciculture, and coloured or recycled plastic carry-bags are hazardous to the human health, even the animals die by inadvertently ingesting plastic carry-bags;

WHEREAS the Chief Secretary to the Government of West Bengal has issued a Circular vide his Memo No. EN/981/T-V-1/002/2004, dated 23-05-2007, directing the West Bengal Pollution Control Board to issue Circular restricting the manufacture, use and storage of plastic carry bags of thickness below 40 microns (micrometres) and of size of 16" x 12" within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of West Bengal;

HENCE, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read with Rule 4 of the Environment (Protection) Rules 1986, and also other provisions of the said Rules, the Manufacture, Use and Storage plastic carry bags of thickness below 40 microns (micrometres) and of size of 16" x 12" are hereby prohibited with effect from 5th June 2007, within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of West Bengal;
2. The District Magistrates of all Districts, the Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, Superintendents of Police of all districts in West Bengal, Municipal Commissioners of the Municipal Corporations, and the Executive Officers of the Municipalities in West Bengal shall take steps to enforce and ensure compliance of prohibition on manufacture, use and storage of plastic carry bags of thickness below 40 microns (micrometres) and of size of 16" x 12" within their respective jurisdictions and take necessary actions against the violators in accordance with law;

3. This order will take effect from 5th June 2007.

By Order

Sd/-
(Prof. A. N. Basu)
Chairman
West Bengal Pollution Control Board