WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
(Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal)
Paribesh Bhawan,10A, Block – LA, Sector III, Salt Lake
Kolkata – 700 098, Ph.: (033)335 8212, Fax : (033)335-8073
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Memo No. 1724 –46L/WPB/2003 Dated: 05/09/2003

D I R E C T I O N

WHEREAS the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as the 'WBPCB') is entrusted with the enforcement of the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of protection of environment and for the prevention and control of pollution in the State of West Bengal;

WHEREAS it is observed that due to extensive and indiscriminate use of non-biodegradable plastic carrybags in the under mentioned areas, huge quantity of garbage containing plastic carrybags accumulates causing environmental pollution due to contamination of water in such areas or in their vicinity;

WHEREAS it has been observed that such garbage containing plastic carrybags is disposed of by way of burning, thereby causing serious air pollution;

WHEREAS the WBPCB has already prohibited the use, sale and processing of plastic carrybags in the hilly areas of Darjeeling district vide order no. 1833A-3S-89/2001 dated 03.09.2001;

WHEREAS for the purpose of protecting the environment in the undermentioned areas, the entry, storage, use, sale and processing of the plastic carrybags should be prohibited;

AND WHEREAS the WBPCB, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3B) of section 12 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and by section 15 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, has decided to declare all Executive Magistrates of Darjeeling District, the Block Development Officers of the Development Blocks of Darjeeling District as well as the Executive Officers of the Municipalities located in Darjeeling District, to act as **Ex-Officio Environment Officers of the WBPCB** within their jurisdiction to enforce the ban on the entry, storage, use, sale, manufacture and processing of plastic carrybags;

NOW THEREFORE in exercise of the powers conferred by section 33 and 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and by section 31 and 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, **the WBPCB prohibits the entry, use, sale of plastic carrybags in the following areas with effect from 15.09.2003;**

I. The entire Siliguri Sub division;

II. The area under the Siliguri Municipal Corporation which lies in Jalpaiguri District.

AND the WBPCB declares all the Executive Magistrates of Darjeeling District, the Block Development Officers of the Development Blocks of Darjeeling District as well as the Executive Officers of the Municipalities located under Darjeeling District as ex-officio Environment Officers of the WBPCB in order to enable them to take necessary action within their respective jurisdiction, to prevent and control, as prescribed under the aforementioned Acts, the pollution caused by any institution, individual or inhabitant by way of entry, storage, use, sale, manufacture and processing of the plastic carrybags.

2. In case of any violation of this order by any institution, individual or inhabitant the aforementioned authorities will take appropriate action with the help of police authorities, who will be at liberty to take action u/s. 188 of the IPC.

3. The Officers-in-Charge of the police stations concerned are also directed to oversee that the aforementioned direction is not violated in any manner and in case any violation is noted, immediate action under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code may be initiated against the violator.

4. The aforementioned authorities should take necessary steps for proper execution and implementation of the aforementioned direction under intimation to the WBPCB.

5. This order will take effect from 14th September, 2003.

By Order
Sd/-
(Dr. Symal Kr. Sarkar)
Member Secretary
West Bengal Pollution Control Board