

## **Swachhata Hi Sewa -Plastic Waste Management and Banning of Single Use Plastics (SUPs)**

### **Action Plan of Department of Pharmaceuticals**

#### **A. Action Plan for Department of Pharmaceuticals and its attached office (NPPA) to do in own premises:**

- i. To ban single use plastics such as water bottles, glasses, polybags etc.
- ii. To distribute pamphlets/ leaflets/ caps/ T-shirts encouraging the employees to stop use of single use plastics.
- iii. To set up separate Dustbins to collect plastic waste so that it can be collected properly for further carrying to recycle location/disposal centers.
- iv. To distribute jute/ cloth bags to all employees as alternatives to Single Use Plastics.

#### **B. Department of Pharmaceuticals has the following institutes and PSUs**

- i. 7 National Institute of Pharmaceuticals and Research Central (NIPERs) – Mohali, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Raebareli, Ahmedabad, Hajipur, Kolkata
- ii. PSUs (functional)
  - Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.( BCPL)
  - Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (KAPL)

They all will adopt a village or a ward where they are situated and do the following activities.

#### **Phase-I (11<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2019)**

- i. To carry out awareness drives & sensitization workshops/ training on the harmful impacts of single use plastics and Plastic Waste Management of Single Use Plastic
- ii. To distribute pamphlets/ leaflets/ caps/ T-shirts to encourage the people to stop use of single use plastics.
- iii. To distribute Cloth/Jute Bags as substitutes of single use plastics.
- iv. To involve Local Educational Institutions, Local Bodies, Other Government Employees and General Public in this awareness campaign.

- v. To encourage General Public to do Shramdaan by picking up any plastic waste in their surrounding and bringing them to a central location in each Village/Ward/Hospital.
- vi. To organize Nukkad Nataks/Local Workshops for awareness regarding hazards of using Single Use Plastics.

### **Phase-II (2<sup>nd</sup> October) Shramdaan**

'Shramdaan' by employees, students, villagers and general public concerned by picking up plastic waste in their surroundings and bringing them to a central location of respective Village/Municipal Ward/hospital.

### **Phase-III (2<sup>nd</sup> October to 22<sup>nd</sup> October)**

- i. The plastic waste collected at local sites during Shramdaan will be carried to recycling sites/disposal sites to be recycled/disposed off in consultation with the District/Municipal/Gram Panchayat administration so that it could be used for effective recycling or disposing.

### **C. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) will have the following Plan and action**

- I. Delivery of medicines in environment friendly carry bags made of paper, jute, etc. to the consumers. Also, encourage consumers to bring their own reusable bags for medicines.
- II. All plastic packaging materials in which medicines are sent to the outlets are to be stored separately by the outlet owners in bins. These wastes shall be handed over to Municipal authorities/agencies hired for disposal in environment friendly manner. In case of Kendras at villages /towns, such plastic waste will be recollected by the distributors for disposal.
- III. All Janaushadhi Kendras will initiate a campaign against use of plastic and create awareness in their surroundings about harmful effects of plastic on our environment.
- IV. In ensuring the successful implementation of dissuading the usage of single-use plastic items, BPPI authorities shall carry internal audits along with various stakeholders.

#### D. Initiatives by the Industry

A meeting was called by Secretary (Pharma) on 6/9/2019 at 11.00 a.m. in the Department. The following action plan has been given by the Industry which was represented by IDMA, CII, OPPI, FICCI etc.

- i. Adopt *at least* one (1) Village/Ward (depending on the size and location of the unit/plant of the company) where it would run a campaign in three phases as included.
- ii. Pass a resolution within their Company to ban single-use-plastic such as disposable cutlery, polybags, water bottles etc. by their employees. The same should have the support/ voice of the Senior Management.
- iii. Every company should appoint a nodal officer- preferably from their EHS (Environment, Health & safety) or CSR department to run this "Say No to SUPs" campaign
- iv. Encourage employees to do Volunteering (Shramdaan) between the commencement of the campaign as well as on October 2, 2019. The plastic waste collected at sites would be brought to respective central locations designated by Municipal Authority/ District Collectors.
- v. Promote use of Cloth/Jute bags instead of SUPs.
- vi. To coordinate with local District/Block administration as well as Health Centers (such as PHC's) so that other stakeholders could be brought on board in unison and a concerted campaign is run.
- vii. Utilize creative competitions/ events/ such as street plays, painting competitions in nearby schools spreading information about the hazards of SUP's.
- viii. Distribute caps/mugs/t shirts for volunteers who take part in volunteering.
- ix. Write to their partners/vendors/associates that they have adopted "Zero tolerance to SUPs" policy and they expect their partners to do the same
- x. Write to all the C&F agencies, stockists and distributors to sensitize them about the hazards of using SUPs and the immediate need to stop doing the same and locally solicit their partnership in doing the same.
- xi. Have screen savers/posters/banners (the last one on recyclable material) in premises of companies, on employees workstations, advocating the use of paper/Jute instead of plastic.

- xii. Give prominence to the campaign on Company IT systems, such as mail signature, stationery wherever possible.
- xiii. Shoot pictures/ videos of individual Company activities on the above and post it on Social media/ DoP website etc.
- xiv. Issues press notes activities of the companies.

#### **Action plan of All India Organization of Chemists and Druggists**

- xv. Chemist fraternity to stop using single use plastic, which will be monitored w.e.f. 11.09.2019.
- xvi. Suggest retailers to return plastic waste alongwith periodic returns of Breakage/Expiry/Damage goods to their Distributors, who will return the same to Companies (Manufacturers), for effective disposal.

In addition, a **National Level Workshop/Conference** involving scientists/ researchers & experts will be organized by the Industry in partnership with Department of Pharmaceuticals to brainstorm and suggest future course of action to reduce single use plastic in Pharma Sector.