

Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2023

The Central Government, through its notification dated 27 April 2023 has issued the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2023.

Following are the highlights of the notification.

- While registering on the centralized online portal of the Central Pollution Control Board ('CPCB') it is mandatory to provide PAN, GSTIN, CIN of the company as well as Aadhar number, PAN and other necessary information of authorized person or representative.
- Registration granted carries a validity for 1 year, subject to revocation, suspension, or cancellation. Subsequent registration will be granted for a period of 3 years.
- The deadline for the provisional certificates issued by the CPCB for biodegradable plastics, has been extended by one year. Thus, the provisional certificates will now remain valid till 30 June 2024. This is a transitional provision to comply with the existing standard (IS 17899 T:2022) till the Bureau of Indian Standards ('BIS') notifies the revised standard.
- The rule requiring each plastic carry bag to include the name and registration number of the producer or brand owner, as well as the thickness (in the case of carry bags and plastic packaging), now excludes 'rigid plastic packaging.'
- As per the amendment, the registration granted under rule 13 (as indicated above) can only be modified upon the request of producers, importers, and brand owners, under the existing 'Extended Producer Responsibility' registration.
- For the financial year 2022-2023, the deadline for filing annual returns is set as follows:
 1. Producers, importers, and brand owners of plastic packaging: 31 October 2023.
 2. Plastic waste processors, recyclers, and other waste processors, including industrial composting facilities: 31 July 2023.

Weblink <https://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2023/245496.pdf>

Therefore

The amended rules aim to enhance the management of plastic waste in the country. Relaxation is provided by extending the period of provisional certificates by 1 year till 30 June 2024. These amendments aim to streamline and improve plastic waste management practices, encouraging responsible practices among producers, importers, and brand owners. Making it mandatory for companies and authorized persons to produce the required documentation will make them more responsible and accountable, thereby ensuring good governance.