

**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,

Web: www.wbpcb.gov.in, Email: wbpccnet@cal3.vsnl.net.in

Memo No. 445/2L/WPB-A/74(Pt.-V)

Dated: 19/05/2003

O R D E R

WHEREAS the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as 'WBPCB') has been entrusted to maintain the wholesomeness of water in terms of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and to prevent, control and abate the air pollution in terms of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;

AND WHEREAS it has been observed that water courses, the embankments thereon as well as tourist spots and other areas in Sunderbans, including in particular, market places and ferry-ghats have been polluted, owing to the accumulation of garbage containing huge quantities of plastic carrybags, causing serious environmental degradation in water courses;

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

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 appoint the Project Officers of Sunderban Development Board and the Block Development Officers of the Development Blocks located in the Sunderbans in the State of West Bengal to act as **Ex-Officio Environment Officers of the WBPCB** within their jurisdictions to ban the manufacture, entry, storage, sale, use and burning of plastic carrybags in the tourist spots and the entire area of Sunderbans including ferry-ghats viz. entry points of Sunderbans in the State of West Bengal in terms of the Water

(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as amended time to time;

NOW THEREFORE, the Project Officers of the Sunderban Development Board and the Block Development Officers of the Development Blocks located in the Sunderbans in the State of West Bengal are hereby declared and appointed 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 above mentioned Acts, the pollution caused by the tourists, visitors and inhabitants by way of the manufacture, entry, storage, sale, use and burning of non-biodegradable plastic carrybags;

AND in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3B) of Section 12 of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and in exercise the powers conferred by Section 15 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the WBPCB delegates its powers and functions under Sections 20, 23, 24, 31, 32 and 33 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and under Sections 22A, 23, 24 and 25 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as amended from time to time, to the Project Officers of the Sunderban Development Board and the Block Development Officers of the Development Blocks located in the Sunderbans in the State of West Bengal for the purpose of enforcing the prohibition on the manufacture, entry, storage, sale, use and burning of plastic carrybags for the protection of environment in the Sunderbans.

This order will take immediate effect.

By Order
Sd/-Ravi Kant
Member Secretary
WBPCB.