



PLASTIC BANN IN MAHARASHTRA NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FRONT OF THE ENTREPRENEURS

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ABSTRACT

With plastic pollution in the international limelight this year, Government of Maharashtra ban on plastic stands out as a shining example in India's larger effort to align with international priorities. The view on the ground however, is that the ban in its current form is weak and is likely to fail. While it closed multiple opportunities, the ban on plastics also opened some. It has been over two Months since Maharashtra banned single-use plastics in a bid to make the state cleaner and greener. This study stepped out to assess how the city is adapting to the change. One of the biggest hit was the hoteliers who are still struggling. While some have added paper and aluminium foiled containers, lack of cheaper alternatives has meant production costs have gone up. This even as a big chunk of their lucrative parcel service that accounts for over 30% of their business is seeing a drop. The change has been the most difficult for unorganised players like the recycling industry operating out of the slums of Dharavi. Dharavi units recycle all types of plastic before sending it to different manufacturing units around the city. The ban has meant a direct hit on employment of the daily wagers in these recycling units with no job alternatives. "The impact of this ban will be such that around 25,000-30,000 people are to set to lose jobs in Dharavi alone. This ban will affect 50% of total recycling industry."

Keywords: Plastic ban, Recycle, employment, opportunities.

INTRODUCTION

The ban on plastic bags has raised a new crop of entrepreneurs around the country. Shoppers are slowly adjusting to life without the plastic bags with traders swapping plastics for packets, paper bags and envelopes. Employers now using palm tree leaves to weave eco-friendly baskets whose demand is rising by the day. This ban on plastic is likely to prove a

DR. JITENDRANATH BOSE

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1Page



headache for some companies. But it's also set to boost other firms that are developing alternatives and finding innovative ways to turn waste plastic into something useful. Since plastic bags are banned, there has been a sharp increase in demand for cloth bags, positioned as the cheapest and easily available alternative. This has been a positive for many non-governmental organisations and small scale textile businesses. The expected outcome following the plastic ban is that cloth bag and paper bag manufacturers will see a boom in business. However, entrepreneurs currently involved in cloth and paper bag manufacturing have seen a minor in business but a huge increase in inquiries. The total ban on plastic carry bags in state is likely to affect local plastic industry that may lead to unemployment for many in MIDC industrial area. When the government was planning the ban, the state industrial development corporation had given sanction to a local unit early this year to set up a plastic manufacturing unit in MIDC.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Over 50,000 entrepreneurs on verge of closure due to plastic ban in Maharashtra:

Due to plastic ban there is possibility of the closed of around 50,000 units and fearing immediate unemployment of nearly 400,000. The state government has asked enforcement bodies to implement the order and impose a fine of Rs 5,000 for violating this order. The state government's proposed immediate ban on sales of plastic bags as well as plastic packaging materials and production of such materials has adversely impact thousands of people engaged in the industry such as manufacturers, employees, dealers, consumers including the public at large as also by the state's economy. Due to the ban is enforced; it will certainly create new entrepreneurial opportunities.

Manufacturers Can Start paper, cloth bags production in the wake of plastic ban:

Manufacturers of plastic can start new business of paper bags and cloth bags and it is briskly increasing their business to fill in the gap caused by Maharashtra's ban on plastic. As one plastic bag manufacturer said, though, there was no need for this extreme ban involving complete overhaul. "Around 90 % of all plastic is recycled. Even a rag picker knows that." Lot of manufacturers of plastic, cloth and paper carry bags is doubling their capacity for cloth bags. These are manufactured from thin or thick cotton as well as canvas. Interestingly now manufacturer got maximum profit on cloth bags, and the least on plastic. So the ban will benefit them. But some of them are looking the larger picture. Three to four lakh workers in the plastic bag industry lost their jobs. They cannot be employed to stitch cloth bags because that requires tailoring skills. Shopkeepers meanwhile are hurriedly seeking out manufacturers who can supply large quantities of paper bags at early deadlines so manufacturers are making changes in their production line to increase capacity. Medical stores had already switched to



paper bags many months ago. As for grocers now the ban is actually passed in the state, only a few traders are making casual inquiries. They had no firm plan. Now the rush has increased. So they have opportunity to Increase their business.

Sari Bags:

Innovative idea utilised by the big Bazar and D-mart; N-mart as like Bazars in A, A+ and Metropolitan cities. Used saris collected by the various malls in Pune, Satara, Kolhapur, Thane, after Plastic Bann these are used in various malls. Lot of the small bags are make from one sari and daily need of the bags are covered by this system.

Paper material:

With the help of raw material from papers following material developed such as Paper bags, Dish, Cup, paper glass, Straws etcetera. That bags or material easily vanished can be recycling with Easy method so it is called as Eco material. Lot of things other than daily used material is used by the paper material such as Shree Ganesh and Mahalaxmi Murties (Statues) are developed with this material and dissolved very easily in the water. Use of raw or recycled material is very useful for environment. Plastic does not dissolved in the water as well as vanished with fire so that Paper and products of papers are very important in place of plastic Bags.

GUNNY BAGS:

This will also be a great opportunity to revive the cotton industry. While farmers may not see the opportunity, leaders from those areas must push the government to direct resources and encourage farmers to restart cotton growing. Most important is to provide disease-resistant seeds and extension services to improve yields and support the entire textile industry ecosystem.

Glass Bottle:

The packaging of milk products needs to revert to old ways of using glass bottles. The business model too can change and have milk dispensed into reusable bottles. This too applies to many plastics used for bottled water. Just like with beer and soft drink manufacturers, bottled water manufacturers and milk processors should do the same and create a new supply chain to enable current glass bottle manufacturers to scale up and serve more people. Glass bottles should be extended in place of plastic ones to cover all pharmaceuticals and chemical manufacturers, including oils and soaps.



CONCLUSIONS:

- 1) When things such as plastic elements banned by the Government then lot of problems are arrived in front of retailers and shop keepers. That should be recovered by other products such as raw papers and sari bags, gunny bags etc.
- 2) Malls in second level metropolitan cities are arranged rough sari and raw cloth bags with which lot of the problem is covered at the time of Bann.
- 3) Big opportunities arrived in front of the small entrepreneur's when plastic is banned.
- 4) Paper bags, paper dish, making are the businesses can be settled against the plastic business.
- 5) In India all State Government think about the plastic ban due to its pollution and vanish problem.
- 6) Another way of thinking against plastic ban is required.

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