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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

L.D.B. 4/81(XIII)

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACT, No. 47 OF 1980

Order under Section 23W(1)

BY VIRTUE of the powers vested in me by Section 23W(1) of the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980, as amended by Act, No. 56 of 1988, I, Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment, do by this Order, prohibit the use of the following plastic items and the use of the said items in any process, trade or industry for in country use, with effect from October 01, 2023.

- (i) Single-use drinking-straws and stirrers.
- (ii) Single-use food containers, plates, cups, spoons, forks and knives, except in air travels.
- (iii) Garlands.
- (iv) String hopper trays.

For the purposes of this Order-

"cups" includes drinking cups but does not include yoghurt cups;

"food containers" means the meal boxes manufactured from expanded polystyrene for in country use;



"plastic" means all forms of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), high density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polypropylene (PP), polystyrene, expanded polystyrene, biodegradable plastic or any other similar raw material or any mixture thereof;

"process" includes manufacturing;

"single-use" means a product designed or intended to be used once, before being disposed off;

"straw" means all straws including straws attached to products; and

"trade" includes importation for local use, sale, offer for sale, display for sale, offer free of charge or to exhibit.

The Order published in the *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 2034/38 of September 01, 2017 is hereby revoked without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

NASEER AHAMED, Minister of Environment.

Colombo, 13th July, 2023.

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