

SUCCESS! Flow of plastic waste to Vellalore yard stops post ban

Presence of Plastic Affected Composting

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Coimbatore: Almost two months after the ban on single-use plastic products was implemented, the amount of plastic dumped at the Vellalore yard has drastically come down.

"Before the ban, at least three to seven per cent of 950 to 980 tonnes of wastes dumped in the yard consisted of plastic. We had a tough time



File photo

GOING GREEN: After the plastic ban was implemented, the amount of such waste has come down to zero, an official in charge of the yard says

segregating plastic waste, which affects the composting process. After the ban was implemented, the amount of plastic has come down to ze-

ro," said an official in charge of the yard.

"One of the plastic items that was found commonly in the yard was carry bag used to

carry edible products. As it was difficult to segregate, it would often end up among the wet waste. Presence of plastic will impact the aeration process when waste starts to decompose," he told TOI.

Post ban, the amount of single use plastic products like plastic covers, cups and plates collected from households and trash bins has come down at least by 50%, a sanitary inspector said. "It has become easy for sanitary workers to segregate dry waste from wet waste."

While the corporation sends wet wastes to the dump yard, dry wastes were sent either for recycling or for safe disposal. "As much as 400 ton-

nes of dry waste collected every week from the city ₹10 lakh earned by the sale of dry waste is given as incentive to sanitary workers," the official said.

Another official, who deals with dry plastic, said that the workers would further segregate dry wastes into recyclable and non-recyclable. "Thermoplastics including single-use plastics were recycled. Thermosetting plastics like multi-layered plastics were sent to a cement factory at Madukkari for safe disposal."

Meanwhile, the corporation officials have seized over 2.5 tonnes of banned plastics from houses and shops after the ban.