

TNPCB sensitizes stakeholders 2 mths ahead of plastic ban

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Participants were sensitized about the various options available to replace plastic by the TNPCB at Trichy on Friday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Trichy: With only two months left for the state-wide ban on plastics to come into effect, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) conducted a meeting for stakeholders here on Friday. Representatives from the TNPCB, civic body, plastic manufacturing units, NGOs and from the seven central districts were sensitised about the ban and urged to promote alternative environment-friendly products.

"If state government prohibits the production of plastic carry bags less than 50-micron thickness, people have no other option than to go for environment-friendly alternatives," secretary of Thaneer eNGO, KC Neelamegam, said.

Civic body officials from 18 municipalities were also sensitised about Trichy Corporation's source segregation model in recycling plastic waste and selling it to vendors.

The participants were also explained about the option of recycling multilayer film plastic such as biscuit

WASTE COLLECTED

▶ Trichy : **450 MT (a day)**

▶ Thanjavur : **110 MT**

▶ Karur : **110 MT**

▶ Kumbakonam : **75 MT**

▶ Nagapattinam : **32 MT**

▶ Thiruvarur : **22 MT**

▶ Plastic on average accounts for 15-20% of total waste

and chips packets by sending them as reusable fuel to cement factories. To this, plastic manufacturers sought a similar option for recycling plastic carry bags more than 50 micron in thickness.

"Banning all plastic products irrespective of thickness would jeopardise the business of cottage industries selling eatables in plastic covers. Though multinational corporates using multilayer film plastic for food package can evade the ban, small-time vendors would lose business," president of Trichy and Pudukkottai Districts Plastic Manufacturers and Traders Association, T Muthumanickam said.