

GUIDELINES FOR TEMPLES

Large temples are Bulk waste Generators under the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016, especially Rules 3 (8) and 4 (7), which apply to the whole of India.

These Rules require that **bio-degradable waste shall be processed, treated and disposed off through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible.** This includes *nirmalya*, offerings, *prasadam*, food waste and organics used for serving food.

Additionally, as per Plastic Management Rules 2016 and Government Order, **the use of plastic carry bags, banners & buntings, flex, flags, plates, water pot, spoons, cling films, dining table sheets & items made up of thermocol etc. are banned in temples as well as other religious places.**

Many temples are making their precincts and surroundings plastic-free. They also deter the use of plastic bags to carry or wrapping flowers, oil, *kumkum* and *agarbati* packets, or thermocol in garlands, etc, to do not compromise composting.

MANDATORY TEMPLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Source segregation of waste is mandatory

- wet waste composting within temple premises, or holders land, is priority

Food leftovers, flower waste and other organics disposed of by *pujaris*'s services have to be composted or given to GP vehicle according to the schedule.

The recyclable non-biodegradable wastes, unsoiled by food waste, oil bottles and sachets shall be separated from the floral waste and given to GP vehicle according to the schedule.

pujaris/purohits/religious service operators, responsible for purification rituals generating cloth waste shall provide a clean bin only for cloths, urging devotees to use it.

- Keep a stern ban on plastic use within the temple and surroundings

Avert the use of plastics to carry flowers, oil, *kumkum* and *agarbati*, or thermocol in garlands, etc, on the offerings

SUITABLE PROVISIONS

- Put up signs [Kannada and Hindi] on the need to keep the place clean

- Stop using all banned plastic items

- Provide accessible drinking water [and refilling point if possible]

NAMASKAR!