

Airports Authority of India

Press Release

Doing its bit towards environmental conservation, AAI bans single -use plastic items at its airports

New Delhi, 07th January, 2019:

“The Earth is what we all have in common.”

American Novelist, Wendell Berry

Rampant modernisation and commercialisation are leading to exerting our planet and making it devoid of its natural resources. Being an environmentally-conscious public sector enterprise and for underlining its commitment towards its Corporate Social Responsibility, Airports Authority of India has decided to make its airports plastic free by banning the use of single-use plastic items at its airports across the country. Various steps have been undertaken to eliminate the single-use plastic items at passenger terminals and city side. These steps include banning of single-use plastic items like straws, plastic cutleries, plastic plates etc.

On the basis of Third- Party Assessment carried out by Quality Council of India; Sixteen AAI Airports namely Indore, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Tirupati, Trichy, Vijayawada, Dehradun, Chandigarh, Vadodara, Madurai, Raipur, Vizag, Pune, Kolkata, Varanasi have been declared as Single-Use Plastic Free.

AAI is also enhancing its waste management systems and is promoting the use of eco-friendly sustainable alternatives progressively like use of biodegradable garbage bags in the garbage bins and installation of plastic bottle crushing machine at airports. AAI airports have also started various awareness campaigns for sensitizing all stakeholders specially passengers towards the cause and to drive engagement and cooperation from all of them.

In its quest for making environmental conservation an ingrained organisational mission, Airports Authority of India has formulated an Environment Policy which envisages its commitment for reduction of Green House Gases (GHG) and sustainable development by implementing cost effective carbon mitigation action to conserve environment and reduce adverse impact on society, community and ecosystem thus contributing to national sustainable development goals.

As a part of this policy, AAI is conscious and committed towards sensitizing all employees and stakeholders to fulfil environmental obligation by reducing carbon footprint.

In ensuring the successful implementation of dissuading the usage of single-use plastic items, AAI has been carrying out internal audits of its airports along with stakeholders. AAI has also engaged Quality Council of India to assess/check the implementation of the ban of single-use plastic items at 34 airports handling one million passengers per annum which will be completed by 31st January 2019.

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Eco-friendly garbage bags at DABH Airport, Indore