

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation look up to other states for banned plastic disposal

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to look at other states to get contractor who can dispose off plastics, seized by blue squad, scientifically. In the second consecutive attempts, the civic body failed to get bidders, registered with the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), to dispose off plastic.

A senior official from the market department said that they are looking for ways to relax conditions so that bidders from other states affiliated to their respective pollution board can also bid. The BMC had floated tender second time in February for disposal of plastic kept in godowns after seizing. However, not a single bidder showed interest. The Maharashtra government had banned the single-use plastic in April 2018. A three-month grace was given by the state government to enable citizens, establishments and other organisations to stop the use of prohibited items and dispose of the plastic material at the collection centres.

For speedy collection of banned plastic, the BMC also put up numerous trolley bins across the city. A 300-member blue squad consisting of officials from the market, license and shop and establishments department was formed. They visited shops and checked for banned plastic items. The team visited over six lakh shops and collected fined over Rs 2.5 crore.

Maharashtra government had banned the single-use plastic on April 2018. 3-month grace was given to enable citizens, establishments to stop the use of prohibited items.