

Rs. 5,000 EC for possessing banned plastic in Delhi: NGT



- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) today imposed an interim ban on use of non-biodegradable plastic bags which are less than 50 microns in the entire national Capital.
- A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar also announced an environment compensation of Rs. 5,000 on anyone found in possession of such banned plastic.
- The tribunal has also directed the Delhi government to seize the entire stock of plastic within one week from today.
- The green panel had last year banned the use of disposable plastic in Delhi and NCR with effect from January 1, 2017 and directed the city government to take steps to reduce dumped waste.

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SpaceX launches most powerful Falcon 9 rocket, carrying Bangladesh's first communication satellite

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On 11th May 2018, SpaceX launched its most powerful Falcon 9 rocket named Block 5, carrying the first high-orbit communications satellite for Bangladesh named Bangabandhu Satellite-1 from Cape Canaveral, Florida.
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The Block 5 Falcon 9 rocket:

- The rocket is designed for less maintenance and refurbishment between flights. It has been certified to carry humans to space.
- The Block 5 Falcon 9 rockets main aim was to propel Bangabandhu Satellite-1 to a geostationary transfer orbit nearly 35,000 km above earth.
- Bangabandhu Satellite-1 is a communications satellite for Bangladesh. It will provide video and communications coverage over Bangladesh and its territorial waters in the Bay of Bengal, and in India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and Indonesia.
- It will also offer broadband connectivity to rural areas in Bangladesh. It has been named after the father of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

v. It has been designed and manufactured by Thales Alenia Space, France. SpaceX said that the mission would last for a minimum of 15 years.

vi. The rocket has been built to re-fly up to 10 times with minimal refurbishment. After liftoff, the rocket landed on the Of Course I Still Love You drone ship in the Atlantic Ocean.

About SpaceX:

? CEO Elon Musk

? Headquarters Hawthorne, California, United States

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World's second oldest rock is from Odisha

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A rock sample found eight years ago in Champua, in Kendujhar district of Odisha has been declared the world's second oldest rock.

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World's second oldest rock is from Odisha:

- i. Scientists have found a grain of magmatic zircon (a mineral that contains traces of radioactive isotopes) in the rock. Through which it has been estimated to be 4,240 million years old.
- ii. The discovery was made by researchers from University of Calcutta and Curtin University, Malaysia, and Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Beijing.
- iii. The findings were published in the journal Scientific Reports. Presence of zircon older than this was found only in Jack Hill, Western Australia, which is 4,400 million years old, making it the oldest known rock sample.

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Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan (VISA KA)

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Ministry/Department : Ministry of Human Resource Development

Objective : To make people aware about cashless economic system.

Scheme:

- (1). VISA KA aims to create awareness among people about digital economy and cashless modes of transactions
- (2). It was launched on line with Prime Minister's appeal to youth in Mann Ki Baat for creating awareness for making India digital and cashless economy.
- (3). Under it, young students and faculty members will be roped to encourage and motivate people to use a digitally enabled cashless economic system for transfer of fund.

(4). For active participation of youth and faculty, HRD Minister also launched a webpage where students can register themselves.

(5). On this website, students and faculty members also can provide their feedback and suggestions on the initiative as well as upload the progress of their work.

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Odisha government and Facebook launches ?SheMeansBusiness? programme

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Odisha government and social networking giant Facebook has launched SheMeansBusiness programme to train women entrepreneurs in the state.

It was launched in partnership between Odishas MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) department and Project Mission Shakti.

Key Facts

Under this initiative, 25, 000 women entrepreneurs and self-help group (SHG) members from the state will be given training on digital marketing skills within by the end of 2018. Facebook will monitor the growth of the MSMEs in Odisha after imparting training to them in next one year.

It will also prepare a data base of the MSMEs through registrations in which they will take the email ids and mobile numbers of entrepreneurs in all the workshops.

SheMeansBusiness programme

The programme has been launched in 16 countries around the world including India. It is designed to reach out to aspiring and established women entrepreneurs to help them build and grow their business online.

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