

## **Awareness of Plastic Ban Legislation among residents of Pune city**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Background: Earth provides its valuable resources to satisfy every man's necessity. But human beings are misusing earth's resources for their greed. Objective of this was to create awareness among the samples in regards to the policy of plastic ban in society. Methods: A descriptive study design was used. The study was conducted in selected urban area of Pune city. Sample size was 400 and Non probability Convenience sampling technique was used. Data collection was done by using structured questionnaire.

Keywords: Carry bags, Attitude, Eco-friendly, Alternatives

## **INTRODUCTION**

Earth provides its valuable resources to satisfy every man's necessity. But human beings are misusing earth's resources for their greed.

**OBJECTIVE** of this was to create awareness among the samples in regards to the policy of plastic ban in society

## **METHODS**

A descriptive study design was used. The study was conducted in selected urban area of Pune city. Sample size was 400 and Non probability Convenience sampling technique was used. Data collection was done by using structured questionnaire.

**Ethical Approval and Informed Consent:** Ethical approval was obtained from Institutional Ethics Committee.

## RESULTS

**Table 1: Socio demographic data**

**(n=400)**

SR. N	Charterisitics	Frequency	Percentage %
1.	<b>Age (in years)</b>		
	<b>Below 40</b>	208	52
	<b>Above 40</b>	192	48
2.	<b>Sex</b>		
	<b>Male</b>	184	46
	<b>Female</b>	216	54
3.	<b>Occupation</b>		
	<b>Professionals / skilled/ semi-skilled</b>	304	76
	<b>Unskilled / unemployed</b>	96	24
4.	<b>Education</b>		
	<b>Above schooling</b>	240	60
	<b>Up to schooling</b>	160	40
5.	<b>Marital status</b>		
	<b>Never married</b>	128	32
	<b>Married/ divorced/widowed</b>	272	68
6.	<b>Socio economic class (modified BG Prasad classification)</b>		
	<b>Middle class and above</b>	320	80
	<b>Below middle class</b>	80	20
7.	<b>Type of family</b>		
	<b>Nuclear</b>	248	62
	<b>Joint / three generation</b>	152	38

**Figure 1: Awareness on plastic banned**

(n=250)

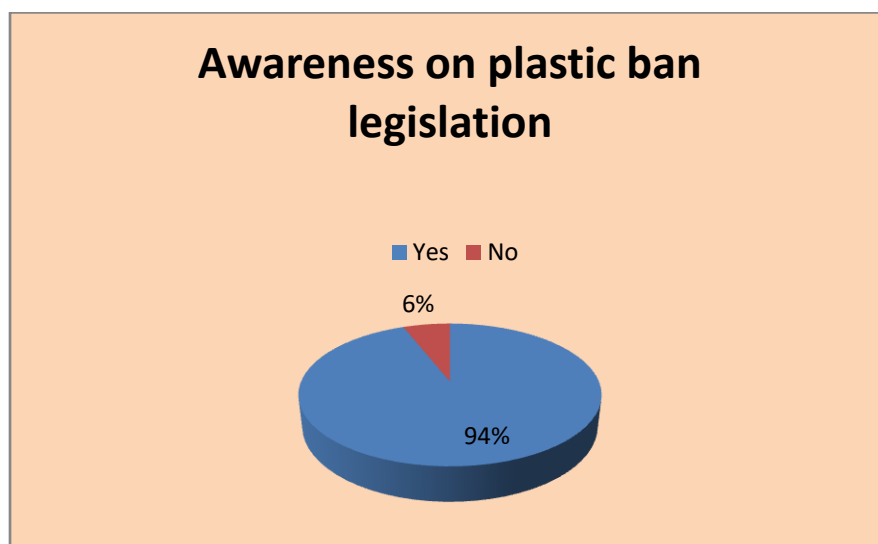


Figure 1 shows that among the 400 study participants, nearly (94%) participants were aware about the plastic ban legislation, whereas 6% were ignorant about the plastic ban legislation. Awareness on the plastic ban legislation was obtained through various sources of information.

**Table 2: Knowledge about effects of plastic use on health and environment**

(n=400)

SR. N	Characteristic	Frequency	Percentage %
1.	Use of plastic bags is hazardous to health		
	Yes	320	80
	No	80	20
2.	plastic bags can cause cancer		
	Yes	256	64
	No	144	36
3.	Polyethyleneare degradable		
	Yes	120	30
	No	280	70
4.	Animals might eat Polyethylene bags along with food		
	Yes	248	62

	No	152	38
<b>5.</b>	Polyethylene can pollute air, water and soil		
	Yes	312	78
	No	88	22

**Table 3 Attitude towards the Polyethylene ban legislation****(n=400)**

SR.N	Willingness	Agree		Neutral		Disagree	
		Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy	%	Freque ncy	%
<b>1.</b>	Ready to accept the idea of using reusable bags	312	78	48	12	40	10
<b>2.</b>	Ready to advise others to stop using plastic bags	304	76	56	14	40	10
<b>3.</b>	Will always prefer the shop that do not use Polyethylene	232	58	36	9	132	33

## DISCUSSION

Plastic burden is a great threat to the Health and environment in the country. This study was conducted on 400 samples in Pune district, Maharashtra, to know the current status of awareness, practices on plastic bag usage and acceptance though plastic is ban legislation.

### Awareness of plastic ban legislation among study participants

In the current study, 94% of the study participants were aware of the plastic ban legislation. Of them only 78% accepted and agreed to use reusable bags and a proportion of 10% opposed the ban. Whereas, a study conducted in Delhi shows that 76% of the study participants were against the ban on plastic bags.<sup>12</sup> this indicates the knowledge about the harmful effects on using plastic bags that has made the population accept the ban leaving alone a small proportion to oppose. In this study, 6% of the participants were unaware of the plastic ban legislation, which is much lesser when compared to a study conducted by Joseph et al, in Mangalore, where nearly 15% of the respondents were ignorant about the law that was passed towards banning use of plastics.<sup>11</sup>

**CONCLUSION** The current study had revealed that sample have knowledgeable about plastic banned but still they are reluctant to stop use of it.

**Ethical Considerations:** Ethical approval was obtained from Institutional Ethics Committee.

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**Conflict Of Interest:** Nil

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