## **Black Plastic**

## Source: IE

**Black Plastic,** widely used in kitchenware and containers, faces scrutiny over potential health risks, raising concerns about its safety.

- About: Black plastic is often made from recycled <u>electronic waste</u>. Its black color comes from a substance called <u>Black Carbon</u> (short-lived pollutant, significant contributor to warming).
- Composition: Its composition may contain toxic substances such as brominated flame retardants, antimony, lead, cadmium, and mercury.
  - These heavy metals are **toxic at high exposure levels** and banned in many countries. The flame-retardant **decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209)** in black plastic poses potential health risks.
  - Despite bans on certain chemicals, **legacy plastics** (cannot be reused or recycled) with harmful elements continue to enter the recycling chain.
- Concerns: While exposure through kitchen utensils is lower, concerns about cumulative chemical exposure remain.



Read more: India as the World Largest Plastic Polluter

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