

Press Release from SPCB-Sikkim

SPCB-Sikkim Organized Inspection Drive to Enforce Ban on Single-Use-Plastics

On 17th July 2026, SPCB-Sikkim in co-ordination with ULB officials and Sikkim Police personnel organized inspection drives to enforce ban on Single-use-Plastics (SUPs) within the municipal areas of Gangtok, Mangan, Nayabazar-Jorethang, Rangpo, Singtam, Namchi and Gyalshing.

Banned SUP items include ear buds with plastic sticks, balloon sticks, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice cream sticks, polystyrene (Thermocol) for decorations, plates, cups, glasses, cutlery (forks, spoons, knives), straws, trays, wrapping or packing films on sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, as well as plastic or PVC banners less than 100 microns and stirrers.

Additionally, non-woven plastic carry bags below 60 GSM, polyethylene bags under 120 microns without proper markings, and PET bottles for packaged drinking water (including alkaline water) of 2 litres or less are strictly prohibited.

Local shops and commercial outlets in the municipalities were inspected to ensure compliance with the ban on SUP items under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and subsequent amendments. The general public, shopkeepers, and vendors were also sensitized briefly on the banned SUP items.

Seizures and fines realized in detail are as follows:

- Namchi Municipal Council; 6.1 kg of SUP items; Fine: Rs. 1,500.
- Singtam Nagar Panchayat; 3.0 kg of SUP items; Fine: Rs. 1,000.

In total, 9.1 kg of prohibited SUP item were seized, and fines amounting to Rs. 2,500 were realised during the enforcement drive.

SPCB Sikkim solicits support from general public, shopkeepers, retailers, and distributors in this enforcement drive and requests them to co-operate in maintaining a plastic-litter-free state by avoiding banned SUP items.

Enforcement drives will occur four days each month.