

Press Release from Tourism and Civil Aviation Department

Tourism & Civil Aviation Department organises Awareness Programme on the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan under Sewa Pakhwada Initiative

Gangtok, September 26: The Tourism & Civil Aviation Department organised an Awareness Programme on the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan under the Sewa Pakhwada Initiative at Paryatan Bhawan, Conference Hall, Tadong, Gangtok on September 25, 2025.

The programme was chaired by Shri C. S. Rao, IFS, Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, in the presence of Shri Binod Sharma, Principal Director (Accounts) and other senior officials of the department.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Ms. Tashi Lhamu Bhutia, Joint Director-cum-Nodal Officer, Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Tourism & Civil Aviation Department. She highlighted the significance of raising awareness against substance abuse and encouraged officers to collectively work towards a healthier and more productive workplace.

The primary objective of the programme was to curb drug and alcohol abuse within government offices and to educate employees on ways to overcome such challenges.

As part of the awareness drive, Shri Mahesh Sharma, Additional Director, Social Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, delivered a presentation on how the state government is addressing issues of substance abuse both within official institutions and in society at large.

This was followed by an insightful presentation from Dr. Satish Rasaily, Centre for Addiction Medicine (CAM), Chuwatar, who elaborated on identifying individuals struggling with substance abuse, the importance of timely intervention, and the impact of addiction on social and mental health. He also emphasized the critical need for proper treatment and rehabilitation.

Before the conclusion, Shri C. S. Rao, IFS, Additional Chief Secretary, T&CAV addressed the gathering and underlined the importance of sustained awareness programmes. He assured that the department remains committed to creating a drug- and alcohol-free workplace environment and will continue to strengthen measures that promote the well-being of its workforce.

Lastly, the Nasha Mukta pledge was administered by the Inspector, Social Welfare Department, reaffirming the collective commitment of the officials to a drug-free and alcohol-free workplace.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Dewan Gurung, Deputy Director (Asset), Tourism & Civil Aviation Department.