

## **SDM Durbuk Leads Single-Use Plastic Awareness and Sensitization Drive in Durbuk Market**

**Durbuk, JUNE 22, 2026:** Sub-Divisional Magistrate Durbuk Leads Single-Use Plastic Awareness and Sensitization Drive in Durbuk Market. In a decisive move to protect the fragile Himalayan ecosystem of the Changthang region, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Durbuk, today spearheaded a comprehensive awareness-cum-sensitization drive against the use of Single-Use Plastics (SUP) and open littering throughout the main Durbuk market.

The primary objective of today's initiative was to educate stakeholders on the severe environmental hazards of non-biodegradable plastic waste and the new legal implications of non-compliance.

During the drive, the SDM Durbuk strictly emphasized that the use, sale, storage, stocking, distribution, and supply of identified SUP items—including plastic cutlery, plates, cups, straws, trays, wrapping films, and low-thickness plastic banners—are completely prohibited.

Under the newly implemented UT framework, commercial establishments or individuals found violating the single-use plastic ban will face an environmental penalty of ₹10,000, while public littering will attract a spot fine of ₹5,000.

Speaking to the market association and local residents, the SDM stressed that protecting our environment is a collective responsibility and development and tourism must go hand-in-hand with ecological accountability. Shopkeepers were explicitly directed to immediately remove any remaining stocks of banned single-use plastic products. Install dedicated, visible dustbins outside their business premises. Refrain from disposing of commercial waste in open spaces, local streams, or roadside drains.

The market community assured their full cooperation in transforming Durbuk into a plastic-free zone.

