

PRESS RELEASE

A team comprising of Sr R.T.O and R.T.O, Motor Vehicle Department, Police Inspector and Naik, Sadar Police Station, AD (Permit), Tourism & Civil Aviation Department and Tourist Police conducted a joint inspection on JN Road and Tashi View Point on 29th to 31st May 2011 to check the vehicles for overcharging, improper documents, provision of garbage disposal bags and mobile phone usage while driving. Eighty nine vehicles were penalized on the spot for improper documentation, unauthorized, i.e private vehicles carrying tourists and unsafe vehicle conditions were reported out of which twelve vehicles were penalized for overcharging.

Instances of such kind tend to disturb the smooth functioning of the entire tourism trade of a place due to interdependency of the service providers along the chain which can undoubtedly hamper tourism in the long run. The need is, therefore, felt to nurture a positive responsiveness among the service providers so that a safe, honourable and responsible tourism can be ensured to the tourists.

The concerned Departments shall be conducting such inspection from time to time and the offenders will be strictly penalized and actions taken if necessary. We would like to appeal to the transport owners to be proactive in this issue and advise their drivers to strictly adhere to the set guidelines of the Government towards encouraging a responsible tourism in the State.

N Yethenpa, IAS
Secretary,
Tourism & Civil Aviation Department.
Government of Sikkim