GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE CHAMBA,
DISTRICT CHAMBA, HIMACHAL PRADESH

No.CBA-LB/D/2026: 4027-46

To

1. All Sub Divisional Magistrate (s) in District Chamba.
2. The Deputy Director, Higher Education Chamba.
3. The Deputy Director, Elementary Education Chamba.
4. The District Development Officer Chamba, Distt. Chamba, H.P.
5. The Regional Officer, H.P. State Pollution Control Board Chamba.
6. The Sr. Executive Officer, Municipal Council Chamba/Dalhousie.
7. The Secretary, Nagar Panchayat Chowari/Banikhet.

Dated: Chamba the 2 November, 2026.

Subject:- Regarding strict compliance with the directions concerning the sale and use of firecrackers during the upcoming festive season of Diwali, Gurupurab, Christmas and New Year, 2027.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite your attention to the subject cited above and to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Department of Environment, Science Technology & Climate Change letter No. STE-E(3)-14/2020 dated –Nil- issued by the Secretary (Environment, Science, Technology & Climate Change) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh on the subject of Original Application No. 249 of 2020 titled as "Tribunal on its Own Motion Versus Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change & Others."

The aforesaid communication has been issued keeping in view the approaching festive season of Diwali, Gurupurab, Christmas and New Year during which the use of firecrackers is likely to adversely affect ambient air quality and the respiratory health of the general public, particularly vulnerable groups.

It has also referred to the judgment dated 23.10.2018 and order dated 31.10.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 728 of 2015 titled as Arjun Gopal and Others versus Union of India and connected Matters, whereby directions concerning the use of firecrackers were issued. Further, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 09.11.2020 passed in aforesaid O.A. has issued directions regulating the sale and use of firecrackers, including restrictions based on the ambient air quality of different cities/towns.

In terms of the aforesaid directions and the subsequent instructions issued by the State Government, only green crackers shall be permitted and their use shall be restricted to the following prescribed dates and timings throughout the State;

Festival	Date	Permitted timings
Diwali	8th November, 2026	8:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Gurupurab	24th November, 2026	4:00 AM to 5:00 AM and; 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Christmas Eve	25th –26th December, 2026	11:55 PM to 12:30 AM
New Year Eve	31st December, 2026-1st January, 2027	11:55 PM to 12:30 AM

It has further been specifically directed vide aforesaid communication that no e-commerce website, including Flipkart, Amazon etc. shall accept online orders or effect online sales of firecrackers within the State of Himachal Pradesh.

In view of the above, you are requested to further circulate the instructions among all subordinate offices, field functionaries, educational institutions, local bodies, market associations and other stakeholders falling under your respective jurisdictions/control. Adequate publicity be also be made through public announcements, notices, social media platforms and other available communication channels so that the general public is made fully aware of the restrictions.

The Sub Divisional Magistrate(s) shall ensure strict enforcement of the aforesaid directions in their respective jurisdictions. The Deputy Directors of Higher and Elementary Education shall ensure circulation of these instructions among all Government and private educational institutions. The H.P. State Pollution Control Board shall undertake necessary monitoring of ambient air quality/AQI and awareness activities. All DDOs and Executive Officers of Municipal Councils/Nagar Panchayats shall further disseminate these instructions among their subordinate staff, local representatives, shopkeepers and the general public.

It may be ensured that the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and the State Government are complied with in letter and spirit. Any violation of the aforesaid directions shall invite immediate penal action, including action under Section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, as referred to in the Government communication and other applicable provisions of law. This matter may be given TOP PRIORITY.

Assistant Commissioner to,
the Deputy Commissioner,
Chamba, Distt. Chamba, H.P.

Enclosure:-As above.

Endst. No. As above. 40327-46 Dated:- 2-11-2026

Copy forwarded to;

1. The Secretary (Environment, Science, Technology & Climate Change) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla with reference to their office's letter as referred to above for favour of information.
2. The Superintendent of Police Chamba, Distt. Chamba, H.P. with the request to ensure strict enforcement of the aforesaid directions of the State Government in the area of his jurisdiction please.
3. The District Public Relations Officer Chamba, Distt. Chamba, H.P. for wider publicity through Electronic/Print Media.
4. Guard File.

Assistant Commissioner to,
the Deputy Commissioner,
Chamba, Distt. Chamba, H.P.