

Implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026

1. Introduction

The Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026, notified by the Government of India under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, provide a comprehensive framework for scientific management of municipal solid waste in urban areas. The Rules emphasize waste minimization, mandatory source segregation, decentralized waste processing, scientific collection, transportation and disposal of waste, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), compliance by Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs), prohibition of littering and open dumping, and strict enforcement against the use of banned Single Use Plastic (SUP) items. The Rules also assign clear responsibilities to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), Bulk Waste Generators, commercial establishments, institutions, and citizens to ensure environmentally sound waste management and promote a circular economy through the principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (3R).

This Action Plan has been prepared to facilitate implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 across the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Jammu & Kashmir **except of the ULBs involving in SANJY 2026** under Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban (SBM-U) 2.0. The proposed IEC interventions focus on awareness generation, capacity building, citizen participation and support to enforcement for achieving sustainable solid waste management practices, source segregation, elimination of littering and Single Use Plastic (SUP), and improved compliance by Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs). The Action Plan also envisages the development of model colonies demonstrating full compliance with the SWM Rules, 2026, thereby creating replicable examples of sustainable urban waste management across the Union Territory.

2. Objectives

- Build awareness and technical capacity of Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs).
- Promote source segregation and home composting.
- Support enforcement against littering and SUP usage.
- Develop one Model Colony in each ULB compliant with SWM Rules, 2026.

3. Activity Plan

S. No.	Activity Name	Description	Responsibility
1	Capacity Building Sessions of BWGs for Implementation of SWM Rules, 2026	Conduct structured training sessions for BWGs covering legal provisions, source segregation, on-site waste processing, record maintenance and compliance responsibilities.	Swaaha: - Awareness sessions of BWGs. ULBs: - Coordination with BWGs and execution of the CB Sessions.
2	Identification of Defaulters for Littering in Public Spaces	Identify habitual littering offenders through field surveys and submit verified lists to the concerned ULBs with a copy to the MD, SBM-U 2.0 for penalization.	Swaaha: - Handholding of ULBs. ULBs: - Deployment of enforcement Team along with the SEs
3	Identification of Shopkeepers Using SUP/Polythene Bags	Survey markets to identify commercial establishments using banned SUP/polythene bags and submit lists to concerned ULBs with a copy to the MD, SBM-U 2.0.	Swaaha: - Handholding of ULBs. ULBs: - Deployment of enforcement Team along with the SEs
4	Model Colony in Each ULB with Compliance of SWM Rules, 2026	Develop one model residential colony in every ULB demonstrating source segregation, home composting, zero littering and active citizen participation.	Swaaha: - Awareness sessions of HHS through Community Mobilizers. ULBs: - Deployment of Sanitary Staff and D2D vehicle on daily basis

4. Conclusion

The proposed IEC Action Plan provides a practical roadmap for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 across all 80 ULBs of Jammu & Kashmir. Through focused capacity building, behaviour change communication, community mobilisation and support to enforcement, the plan will enhance compliance, reduce environmental violations and establish sustainable solid waste management systems.