

BMC's plastic ban squad to carry out checks at shops

250 inspectors appointed by the BMC to implement the plastic ban will fan out across the city to visit shops, restaurants and other commercial establishments and penalize those found in possession of banned items.

A total of 61 companies and 50 women's self-help groups will display alternatives to plastic products. All 250 inspectors will participate in this exhibition. The exhibition will be inaugurated at the National Sports Club of India in Worli in the presence of actors Ajay Devgan and Kajol, chief minister Devendra Fadnavis' wife Amruta Fadnavis, Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray, environment minister Ramdas Kadam and other leaders and civic officials.

The BMC plans to arrange a panel discussion at the exhibition to gauge senior politicians' opinion on certain types of plastics for which alternatives are not available. The government might consider excluding a few items such as garbage bin liners from the ban. The BMC has conducted a workshop for its 250 inspectors. They will be provided with uniforms and each will be assigned specific areas and won't be allowed to visit others'. They must show their identity cards to those they intend to penalize. The BMC has put up list of the inspectors on its website along with the areas allotted to them.