

Press Release

Let us celebrate a Noiseless and Smoke Pollution Free Deepavali-2023

We all know Deepavali is one of the important festivals celebrated by people of our country. During Deepavali along with wearing of new clothes and distribution of sweets, bursting of crackers & colourful lights have become customary for many generations to show the happiness.

However, bursting of fire crackers has severe deleterious effects on our health like causing deafness both temporary and permanent, depending on the intensity of noise they generate. It also causes land, water and air pollution and ultimately impact the environment. In this regard, a Public Interest Litigation was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India with a request to ban the production and sale of crackers. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgment dated 23.10.2018 have instructed the manufactures to manufacture the crackers by using the raw materials that will reduce the emission level besides directing them to manufacture and sell the Green crackers in future.

The Hon'ble Court has also directed to create adequate awareness on the pollution of air due to bursting of crackers and to encourage the community fire cracking at particular period of time. Based on the above, the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021& 2022 have permitted the people of Tamil Nadu to burst the crackers between 6.00 AM to 7.00 AM and 7.00 PM to 8.00 PM. Similarly this year also the **Government have permitted to burst the crackers between 6.00 AM to 7.00 AM and 7.00 PM to 8.00 PM.**

Further considering the significance and the harmfulness caused due to the bursting of crackers to the Environment and Health of the people and there on to protect the environment, the TNPCB every year taking various follow-up actions in this regard. Accordingly action is taken to create awareness among the public through schools, colleges, Eco clubs and National Green Corps (NGC) with the help of School Education, Higher Education Departments and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department, Director General of Police, all District Collectors, Director of Environment and Commissioners of all Municipal Corporations in Tamil Nadu.

As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court direction, the public are requested to follow the DO's and Don'ts to celebrate safe and pollution free Deepavali:

Do's:

- i). Public shall burst fire crackers of less polluting and low sound generating green crackers.

- ii). Burst the crackers as community fire cracking in a common place with the permission of district administration / local bodies through the local Welfare Associations etc.

Don'ts:

- i). Avoid bursting of joined (Series) fire crackers which creates huge noise.
ii). Avoid bursting of fire crackers in silence areas like hospitals, schools, courts and religious places.
iii). Avoid bursting of fire crackers near huts and fire prone areas.

Deepavali is a family festival and can be enjoyed by everyone. Government of Tamil Nadu is making a sincere appeal to the people to celebrate a noiseless, smoke free and safe Deepavali with families, relatives, friends and neighbors.

Let us celebrate this Deepavali, as a festival of light in an environment friendly manner rather than bursting noise and smoke emitting crackers.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Green Deepavali.

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