

Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Thiru Siva. V. Meyyanathan Press Release

REQUEST THE PUBLIC TO CELEBRATE SMOKE FREE BHOGI FESTIVAL

Our forefathers celebrated Bhogi festival before Pongal festival, which was traditionally based on hope by discarding dark thinking and hooting and hollering good thoughts in order to commemorate Pongal festival. They heralded the Bhogi festival with old materials and goods crafted from natural materials, and these initiatives did not pollute the atmosphere or have an influence on the environment.

Nowadays during Bhogi, air pollution is caused by the incorrect practice of firing discarded tyres, plastic goods, tubes, papers with chemical residues and so on. Because of these activities, dense black smoke is produced and disrupting landing/take off regular flights in Airports and driving on City Streets.

Furthermore, it creates air pollution and health hazards to the public causing eye irritation, sneezing etc.,

To prevent such illicit practices, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is creating public awareness for the past 19 years through the distribution of hand out, audio messages via auto rickshaws, and other means. Because of these public awareness campaigns, the activities of on burning of waste tyres, rubber tubes, and so on has been reduced significantly.

By following similar practice for the upcoming Bhogi Festival 2023, TNPCB is taking steps to create public awareness in the Greater Chennai Corporation and all Districts, throughout the state of Tamil Nadu.

To monitor the ambient air quality, TNPCB will conduct Ambient air quality survey in 15 locations at Chennai throughout the day for 24 hours on Bhogi festival and day before and after of Bhogi festival. Arrangements have also been made to publish ambient air quality data in web site of the TNPC Board.

Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Pollution Control request the public to celebrate smoke free Bhogi Festival.

Let us Celebrate Smokeless Bhogi

Wishing everyone a very Happy Pongal

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