

Press Release

**Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services**

Deepavali, the festival of lights, will be celebrated all over the State on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2017. Bursting of crackers is an important part of the celebration. In order to make the Deepavali free from fire accidents this department has made the following arrangements;

- Crackers and Fire Safety awareness campaign and programs are conducted in various Schools, Public places Slum areas etc., by Fire Prevention Wings and selected teams from various Fire and Rescue Stations.
- Pamphlets, stickers and posters are distributed to public to create awareness.
- In Chennai City 34 vulnerable places are identified, where one water tender with Fire Fighters Crew along with metro water lorry will be deployed at the round clock basis with effect from 16.10.2017 onwards to meet any fire incidents with the concept of minimizing response time.
- In addition to the above arrangements, existing Fire and Rescue Stations (38 in Chennai City) will be placed with regular fire fighting units and personnel.
- All the Fire units and Fire Control Room are connected through wireless communication.

In order to celebrate the Deepavali without any fire accidents the department the public to follow the following Do's and Don'ts

**DO's**

Always purchase fireworks from a licensed shop only

Children should burst crackers in the presence of elders

Light crackers in open spaces

Wear tight cotton clothes while bursting crackers

Wear shoes, spectacles for safety

Keep a bucket of water and sand ready, while igniting fire crackers

Read the fire safety instructions and precautions written on fire cracker boxes

While lighting rockets take precaution that it does not point towards windows or doors

Always immerse the used / exhausted fire crackers like sparkles, rockets into a bucket of water or dry loose sand.

Light fire crackers using long lighting -wand and keep your face away from crackers.

Don't run when your clothes catches. Pour water to put out the fire, stop, drop and roll.

Show concern for old people, children, women patients and animals while bursting crackers.

### **DON'Ts**

Never allow children to light fireworks in the absence of elders./

Don't relight fireworks that fail to ignite

Don't light fireworks very close to the buildings

Don't hold crackers, rockets, flower pots, atom-bombs in hand during display.

Don't burst crackers before 06.00 am and after 10.00 pm

Don't ignite crackers with match sticks

Don't try to remove pieces of clothes from burn injuries

Don't apply ink, oil etc., on the burn injuries

Don't burst fire crackers near or in front cracker shop

Don't burst fire crackers near petrol pumps

Never ignite fireworks in a closed container or bottles.

Crackers should not be burst and launched in congested streets and roads

**Issued By :- DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.**