

	DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE 4-6th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI -110006 Visit us at http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in
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F. No DPCC/(10)(10)(01)/ leg-2015/ 144

Dated:06.11.2020

Subject: Directions u/s 31 (A) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, read with Rule 20 (A) (6) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Union Territories) Rules, 1983, to stop bursting and sale of all kind of fire crackers.

Whereas, Delhi Pollution Control Committee in view of the Hon'ble Supreme Court directives dated 23.10.2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 728/2015 titled as, " Arjun Gopal and Another's Versus Union of India and Others" and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 31 (A) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and keeping in view to curb high air pollution in Delhi, issued directions on 29.10.2020 prohibiting bursting of fire crackers and restricted the Licensed Traders only to sale/ store fire crackers with reduced emission (improved crackers) and Green Crackers. The fire crackers which were compliant with PESO prescribed standards, only to be manufactured, stored and sold through Licensed Traders. It was further directed that no e-commerce websites shall accept any online orders and effect online sales and on Diwali days or on any other festivals like GURPURAB etc., when such fireworks generally take place, it would strictly be from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM only. On Christmas eve and New Year eve, it would be from 11:55 PM to 12:30 AM only and use of barium salts in the fireworks was also banned.

Whereas, Delhi faces grave air pollution particularly in winter season and level of pollutants like Particulate Matter Concentration (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) goes much beyond the prescribed standards for Ambient Air Quality.

Whereas, air quality of Delhi is deteriorating day by day and as on 05.11.2020 at 6.00 PM, Air Quality Index (AQI) reached 435, which is classified as "Severe" category warranting extreme measures to contain further worsening and prevent hazards, as a result of air pollution, to public at large.

Whereas the city of Delhi is reeling under a third peak of out-break of COVID19 and large scale celebrations by bursting of fire crackers will result not only in agglomeration of people, in violation of social distancing norms, but also would result in high level of air pollution leading to serious health issues in Delhi, which under the prevalent pandemic crisis situation is not favourable for the cause of larger community health given the possible high level of exposure to air pollutants leading to short term and long term adverse health effects given the significant relationship between air pollution and respiratory infections.

Whereas, when severe AQI levels reach such a dangerous level, the deadly air pollutants can make their way into lungs causing severe discomfort and health issues, and hazardous AQI levels can be highly unacceptable to health by aggravating chronic health conditions caused by breathing poisonous air.

Whereas, burning of fire crackers would cause extensive air pollution and releases metal particles, dangerous toxins, harmful chemicals and noxious gases which would form one of the main sources of air pollution particularly when AQI is already reeling under "Severe" category. The air quality in the severe category may cause respiratory effects even on healthy people and severe health impact on people with lung /heart diseases. The health impacts may be experienced even during light physical activity.

Now, therefore, in view of the above in suppression of directions issued vide even number dated 29.10.2020 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 31(A) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, read with Rule 20 (A) (6) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Union Territories) Rules, 1983, and keeping in view the need in public interest to curb high air pollution in Delhi, Delhi Pollution Control Committee hereby directs as under:

"There will be a 'Complete Ban' on bursting and sale of all kinds of fire crackers from 07.11.2020 to 30.11.2020 in the territory of NCT of Delhi."

The District Magistrates and Deputy Commissioners of Police shall implement the aforesaid directions. Daily action taken reports are required to be submitted to Delhi Pollution Control Committee on email ID: msdpcc@nic.in

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Dr. K.S. Jayachandran)
Member Secretary

To,

1. Commissioner of Delhi Police, Jai Singh Road, near Bangla Sahib Gurdwara, New Delhi-1.
2. The Divisional Commissioner, 5 Shamnath Marg, Delhi-110054.

Copy for information:

1. The Vice Chairman (DDA), Delhi, Development Authority, Vikas Sadan, I.N.A., New Delhi-110023.
2. The Commissioner, North Delhi Municipal Corporation, 4th Floor, Dr. SPM, Civic Centre, Minto Road, Delhi – 110002.
3. The Commissioner, South Delhi Municipal Corporation 9th Floor, Dr. SPM, Civic Centre, Minto Road, Delhi – 110002.
4. The Commissioner, East Delhi Municipal Corporation, Plot No.419, Udyog Sadan, FIE, Patparganj, Delhi-110092.
5. The Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board, Sadar Bazar, Delhi Cantt. , Delhi-110010.
6. The Secretary, New Delhi Municipal Council, 3rd floor, Palika Kendra, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001.

Copy to:

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi.
3. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister (E&F), GNCTD
4. OSD to Chief Secretary, Govt. Of Delhi.