

**P.R.NO.715**

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## **Press Release**

### **Let us celebrate a Noiseless and Smoke Free Deepavali-2021**

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 with 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 of India in its Judgment dated 23.10.2018 have instructed to manufacture crackers by using raw materials that will reduce emission level besides directing them to manufacture and sell Green crackers in future.

The Hon'ble Court have also directed to create adequate awareness on pollution of air/noise due to bursting of crackers and to encourage community bursting of crackers at particular place and particular period of time. Based on the above the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2018,2019& 2020 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 green crackers between 6.00 am to 7.00 am and 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.**

Further to create awareness about the harmful effects of crackers, the District Administration takes awareness activities every year. Accordingly action is being 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, Police Department, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and Local bodies.

As per direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Public are requested to celebrate safe and pollution free Deepavali with the following DO's and Don'ts:

**Do's:**

- i). Public shall burst green crackers of less polluting and low sound generating green crackers.
- ii). Burst the green 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 neighbours.

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.**

**PRESS RELEASE: INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, THANJAVUR**