



JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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NOTICE

APPEAL TO OBSERVE POLLUTION FREE BISWAKARMA PUJA, DURGA PUJA, KALI PUJA, GAJALAXMI PUJA AND SARASWATI PUJA

This is for information to all the concerned that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has notified the revised guidelines for Idol Immersion.

❖ Puja Organising Committee/ Organisers

- Promote idols made up of natural clay instead of baked clay, plaster of paris, resin fibers, thermocoal etc.
- Use of eco-friendly, water soluble and non-toxic materials made up of natural clay, idols stuffed with eco-friendly food materials such as corn, spinach, wheat and vegetable powder, idols decorated with biodegradable, organic colours such as turmeric, Chandan etc.
- Use of cleaned multi-use metallic or glass or plastic utensils is ideal choice, especially when such material is available from utensil banks.
- Only bio-degradable plates such as Patravali or Pattal or Vistaraku or Vistar or Khali or trencher made with broad dried leaves such as Arca/Banana/Banyan/Sal leaves, biodegradable paper cups/plates and earthen pots may be used.
- Three bin system to be provided at all pooja pandals for proper segregation of bio-degradable and non-bio-degradable pooja refuse and other materials for ensuring efficient disposal.
- Worship material like flowers, Patri (leaves), vastras (clothes), decorating materials (made of paper and bio-degradable or compostable plastic but not single use plastic) etc. should be ensured to remove before immersion of idols and segregated in colour coded bins provided at the designated idol immersion areas/spots.
- The Pooja Organizing Committees shall procure eco-friendly idols only from the respective ULB's registered or authorised craftsman or artisans.
- The Pooja Organising Committees should seek prior permission from concerned ULB as the case may be by providing management plan and the required provisions (as per the format to be issued by the ULBs) for ensuring Local bodies /District Authorities generally make efforts to identify adequate number of designated immersion spots.

❖ **District Authorities or Urban Local Bodies**

- Licenses/ permits/ registration may be granted by ULBs and District Administration to only those Idol manufactures or makers or craftsman or artisans who uses eco-friendly natural clay materials.
- ULBs shall impose restrictions on the height of the idol to idol making agencies depending on availability of water bodies.
- Arrangements for separate colour coded bins shall be made and the collected & segregated materials should be transported & disposed of in accordance with the prevailing provisions of Solid Waste Management Reules 2016.
- Aware the public to purchase the eco-friendly idols from the licenced or permitted idol makers or craftsman or artians, location, material type etc.
- Littering and burning of solid wastes such as used flowers, clothes, decorating materials, etc. should be prohibited strictly at the idol immersion sites.
- Within 24 hours of the immersion of idols, theleft-over material at idol immersion points on the banks of rivers, lakes, ponds etc. should be collected by the local bodies for disposal.
- In case of immersion of idols in rivers and lakes, arrangement may be made for construction of temporary confined ponds with earthen bunds for the purpose of immersion of idols. After the completion of immersion, supernatant water may be allowed to flow in river, pond and lake, as the case may be, after checking for colour and turbidity. Lime may be added in temporary confined ponds.
- Specific leaflets and poster for mass awareness shall be prepared and the same shall be displayed by the Pooja committees during festival season.

❖ **Households**

- Individual Households shall encourage use of eco-friendly idols made of natural clay and bio-degradable materials.
- Immersion of idols at their homes in eco-friendly manner or immerse the idols in the designated on-land temporary artificial ponds or tanks located nearby or artificial movable tanks arranged by ULBs.
- Do not throw puja overs tied in polythene bags into the river or any waterbody, rather dispose in designated immersion sites.

(Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)

Member Secretary