



झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद

Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board
T.A. Division Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi
दूरभाष : 2400851, 2400852, 2400979 फ़ैक्स : 0651- 2400850,
E-mail: ranchijspcb@gmail.com; Web: www.jspcb.nic.in

Office Order No.: B-135.....

Ranchi, dated 5/10/2018

Order

WHEREAS the Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (hereinafter for the sake of brevity and convenience referred to as the 'State Board'), is implementing different environmental laws within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of Jharkhand for prevention and control of water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution and other pollution hazards;

AND WHEREAS the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 was enacted for the maintenance of the wholesomeness of water. The State Board is the executing agency to implement different provisions of the said Act within the territorial jurisdiction of Jharkhand state to maintain the wholesomeness of water;

AND WHEREAS it is observed in course of inspection that immersion of idols in river or water bodies during Pujas, causes pollution due to decomposition of different materials used in the idols thrown away during immersion of idols ;

AND WHEREAS Central Pollution Control Board has provided the Guidelines of Idol Immersion published under Programme Objective Series: PROBES/136/13/2010 (available in website - www.cpcb.nic.in) vide memo no. A-19014/1/09-Mon dated 12.08.2015 to all State Pollution Control Board for implementation;

AND WHEREAS it is observed that the State Board has informed all the Deputy Commissioner/Municipal Corporations/ Municipalities to issue necessary instructions upon the Puja Organizers to take steps after immersion to collect wastes from the river beds and if necessary, Municipal Corporations / Municipal authorities may take initiative to clean the wastes as specified in CPCB guidelines;

HENCE, in exercise of Power under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act. 1974, all the Municipal Corporations, the Municipalities and the Panchayats are directed to ensure that the provisions of the action plan of the state are implemented within their jurisdictions and for such cleaning, Corporations, Municipalities and other Panchayat authorities are at liberty to collect suitable costs from the Puja Organizers, if required;

The guidelines prepared by the State Board in this respect are also enclosed for wide circulation among the Puja Organizers for proper compliance. Media like Press, Electronic media, T.V., Radio are also requested to carry the contents of this order for maintenance of the wholesomeness of water in public interest.

By Order

Sd/-
(Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
Member Secretary

Memo No.

Ranchi, dated

Copy to: Additional Chief Secretary, Deptt. of Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi/ Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resource Deptt., Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi / Principal Secretary, Deptt. of Home, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi/ Principal Secretary, Rural Department, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi/Secretary, Deptt. of Urban Development, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi / DGP, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi for information & necessary action.

Sd/-

(Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
Member Secretary

Memo No. 3-1063

Ranchi, dated 5/10/18

Copy to: All District Magistrate/All Superintendent of Police/ All Divisional Forest Officer / All Municipal Corporation/ All Municipalities/ All Village Panchayat for information & necessary action.

Rajeev
(Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
Member Secretary



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Guidelines For maintaining wholesomeness of water bodies after Idol Immersion on different festival occasions

1. Background:

Many festivals such as Karma, Sarhul, Durga puja, Ganesh puja, Vishwakarma puja, Saraswati puja, Kali Puja, Chatthaetcare celebrated in the state of Jharkhand as a social and community activity. With time, the celebration of these festivalshas changed in terms of their scale and involvement of people. These activities also cause environmentalconcerns in terms of water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution etc.

It is therefore important that we celebrate these festivals keeping in view the need for environment protection and prevention& control of pollution. To regulate this concern, there are laws in place concerning environment protection and control of pollution. These legislations will be effective, if they are supported by people inits successful implementation.

We have therefore proposed certain guidelines for Idol Immersion to facilitate celebration of these festivals in an environment friendly manner. We urge all concerned to follow these guidelines and help in environment protection.

Theidols are immersed in water bodies. Such water bodies include rivers, lakes, ponds, wells etc. Consequent pollution of such water bodies has been a matter of concern and there have been public interest litigations as well. In addition to silting, toxic chemicals used in making idols tend to leach out and pose serious problems of water pollution. Studies carried out to assess deterioration in water quality due to immersion of idols have revealed that water quality gets deterioratedin conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand and has concentration of heavy metals.

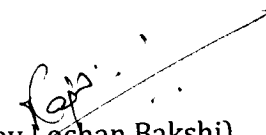
2. Guidelines and Recommendations

- i. Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB) shall undertake water quality assessment preferably in Class-I cities (having population more than one lac). Water quality monitoring shall be conducted at three stages - pre-immersion, during immersion and post immersion. Considering the size of water body, an appropriate number of sampling locations shall be determined in order to get a fairly representative assessment of water quality. For ascertaining water quality, physico-chemical parameters such as pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Bio-chemical oxygen demand, Chemical Oxygen Demand, conductivity, turbidity, total dissolved solids, total solids

and metals (cadmium, chromium, iron, nickel, lead, zinc and copper) may be analysed.

- ii. Efforts have to be made by local bodies to identify adequate number of designated immersion centers to avoid overcrowding and also to reduce pollution load on water bodies. Such places should be notified and adequate publicity arranged preferably a month before such festivals.
- iii. It would be appropriate to use traditional clay for idol making rather than baked clay. Use of painted idols should be discouraged. In case painted idols are used, water soluble and non-toxic natural dyes may be used. Use of toxic and non-degradable chemical dyes should be strictly prohibited. Natural colors used in food products and permitted in Pharmaceuticals may be preferred.
- iv. In order to create awareness among the devotees and Citizens, Local Bodies, shall undertake awareness programme in advance before the festivals and the conditions on immersion of idols or puja material should be spelled out in the permission itself.
- v. In order to protect the quality of water the places such as drinking water source should be avoided.
- vi. A co-ordination committee comprising District Administration, Police, Forest Officials, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB), Non-Government Organization and representatives of religious groups may be set up for guiding the public in carrying out immersion with minimal adverse impacts on water bodies.
- vii. In case of immersion of idols in rivers and lakes, arrangements may be made for construction of temporary confined ponds/bunds for the purpose of immersion of idols including disposal of material used for worship. After the completion of immersion, supernatant river water/pond water may be disposed in river/pond/lake after checking for colour and turbidity. If necessary, treatment should also be done prior to disposal.
- viii. Prior to immersion, worship material like, flowers, vastras (clothes), decorating material (made of paper and plastics), etc. should be removed. Such material may be separately collected either for recycling or composting if bio-degradable or for disposal, if non bio-degradable. The puja pandals may contact the local forest officials and hand over the bio-degradable material for further composting.
- ix. Within 24 hours of the immersion of idols, the left over material (near rivers, lakes, etc.) should be collected by the local bodies and disposed of. If required, local body may levy costs.

- x. At the immersion sites, burning of solid wastes should not be allowed.
- xi. People should be encouraged to go for smaller size idols.
- xii. Media should be educated about the ill effects of such activities on holy water bodies & encouraged to publicize these guidelines to minimize the adverse effects on water bodies.


(Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
Member Secretary