

**Government of Punjab**  
**Department of Science, Technology Environment (STE Branch)**

No.: (0/34)/2021-STE(4)/361

Dated: 10-10-2022

**Subject: Regulations for sale and use of fire crackers in the State of Punjab in compliance to Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.**

**ORDER**

The festive season of Diwali, Gurupurab, Christmas and New Year Eve is approaching during which people usually burst crackers, which can adversely affect the respiratory health of vulnerable groups, besides aggravating health condition of COVID-19 positive persons, elderly people etc.

and whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide judgment dated 23.10.2018 and order dated 31.10.2018 passed in Writ Petition (Civil) no.728 of 2015 titled as Arjun Gopal and others v/s Union of India and other connected matters had issued certain directions relating to the use of fire crackers for compliance by the State Governments;

and whereas, considering the adverse impact of pollution by use of fire crackers, aggravated risk to lives and health during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had issued certain directions for compliance by the States with regard to the use of fire crackers vide order dated 09.11.2020 passed in Original Application No. 249 of 2020 titled as Tribunal on its own Motion v/s Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and others and other connected matters;

and whereas, in order to draw a balance between the potentially harmful consequences of bursting of cracker, the COVID-19 pandemic situation on the health of citizens and the economic impact on small traders and keeping in view the order dated 23.10.2018 and 31.10.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 728 of 2015, the order dated 9.11.2020 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A No. 249 of 2020 and other connected matters, the State Government in exercise of the powers delegated by the Central Government u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 hereby prohibit, restrict and regulate the sale and use of fire crackers in the State of Punjab by issuing the following directions:

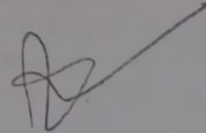
- a. The manufacture, stock, distribute, sale and use of joined fire crackers (series crackers or laries) is hereby banned in whole of the State.

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accordance with the guidelines issued by the Government of Punjab, Department of Industries and Commerce.

1. District Magistrates of 9 Non-Attainment Cities shall take special precautions after taking into account Ambient Air Quality of the concerned cities and will pass appropriate orders for compliance of the Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Any violation of the directions aforementioned will invite immediate penal action under Section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 besides legal action under Section 188 of the IPC and other provisions as applicable.

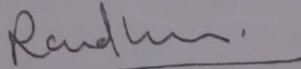


(Rahul Tiwari, IAS)  
Secretary to Government of  
Punjab, Department of  
Science, Technology and  
Environment, Chandigarh.

Endst: 10/341/2021-STE(4)/362-366

Dated. 10.10.2022

1. All the Administrative Secretaries in the State of Punjab.
2. Director General of Police, Punjab, Chandigarh.
3. All the Deputy Commissioners in the State of Punjab.
4. All the Commissioners of Police/ Senior Superintendent of Police in the State of Punjab.
5. Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board.



**MANJEET SINGH RANDHAWA**  
**SUPERINTENDENT**