

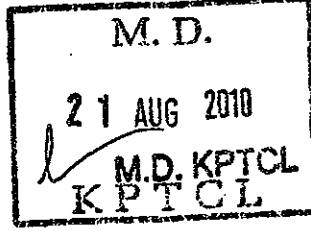
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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಇಎನ್ 2 ಸಮನ್ವಯ 2010 (ಭಾಗ-1)
(ಕ.ಸಂ.5246)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ,
ವಿಕಾಸ ಸೌಧ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.08.2010.

ಇಂದ:
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ,
ಇಂಧನ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-1.



ಇವರಿಗೆ:

1) ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರಸಾರಣ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ,
ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560009

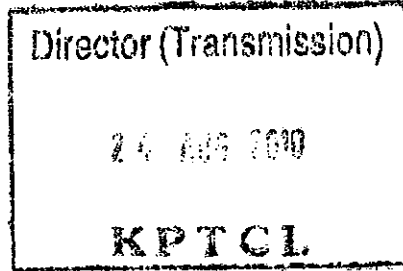
2) ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
ನಂ :82 ಶಕ್ತಿ ಭವನ, ರೇಸ್ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ರೋಡ್
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560001

ಮಾನ್ಯರೇ,

ವಿಷಯ:- **Pollution due to immersion of idols in seas, rivers and lakes etc in the state-issue of guidelines-reg.**

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಎಫ್‌ಇಇ/99/ಇಎನ್‌ವಿ/2009 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17.07.2010ರ ಅರಣ್ಯಪರಿಸರ ಮತ್ತು ಜೀವಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಇಲಾಖೆರವರ ಪತ್ರದ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸಲು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಿತನಾಗಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

Dir.(TR)



ತಮ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸಿ.

(ಎಸ್.ಜಿ.ಸಂಪತ್ ಕುಮಾರ್,
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಇಂಧನ ಇಲಾಖೆ
☎ 22034674.

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Dr. A. M. K.

In Circulate / ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No. FEE/99/ENV/2009

Karnataka Government Secretariat
Room No.704, 7th Floor, M.S.Bldg.,
Bangalore, Dated: 17-07-2010.

From

The Secretary to Government (E & E)
Forest, Ecology and Environment Dept.

To:

- (1) The Chief Executive Officer, Lake Development Authority,
Bangalore.
- (2) The Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Bangalore.
- (3) All the Heads of the Departments.
- (4) All the Deputy Commissioners in the State.

Sir.

Sub: Pollution due to immersion of idols in seas,
rivers and lakes etc. in the State -- issue of
guidelines - reg.

* * *

Please find enclosed herewith a letter received from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi addressed to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka regarding pollution due to idol immersion in water bodies. The Government of India has expressed its concern regarding impact of toxic chemicals while immersing the idols which would cause serious problem to the ecological system of water bodies.

In this regard a judgment passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Mumbai is also cited. Further, a set of guidelines have been formulated by the Central Pollution Control Board with regard to idol immersion in water bodies like lakes, rivers, seas.

I am directed to inform you that these guidelines is required to be strictly adhered and made known to the general public through media. A Co-ordination Committee comprising Police, Non-Government Organization, Local Authorities, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB's), representatives of pooja committees and stakeholders may be set up for guiding the public in carrying out the immersion with minimal impact on water bodies.

Action taken in this regard may be communicated to the Secretary to Government (E & E), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department.

Yours faithfully,

B. Manohar

(B. MANOHAR) 17/7/2010

Under Secretary to Government,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department.

... 2

23/7/10
SHAMIM BANU
Principal Secretary to Government
Energy Department

23/7

(Signature)

(Signature)

*KPCA
KPTA
23/7*

Copy for kind information to :

- (1) The P.S. to Chief Secretary to Govt. Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
- (2) The Addl. Chief Secy. to Govt. Forest, Ecology & Environment Dept.
M.S.Building, Bangalore.
- (3) All Principal Secretaries/Sécretaries to Govt.

जयराम रमेश
JAIRAM RAMESH



D.O. No. 1-50 MOS(I/C) E&F/10 34
राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
पर्यावरण एवं वन
भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली-110003
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 003

28th June 2010

Every year, as part of our religious ceremonies, the practice of idol immersion in seas, rivers and lakes takes place. Faith must be respected but there is a growing need to regulate this practice since the number of idols being immersed is increasing every year. This has led to instances of severe pollution of these water bodies taking place. The toxic chemicals used in making the idols tend to cause serious problems of water pollution and also pose a serious threat to the underwater ecological system. This is a matter of grave concern and has led to various public interest litigations being filed in High Courts across the country.

As you must be aware the Hon'ble High Court of Mumbai in its judgment in the matter of *Janhit-Manch v. The State of Maharashtra* (PIL/W.P.(C) No. 1325/2003) has given the following directions to the Central Government:

"We expect that the Central Government will consider laying down of guidelines for immersion of idols and would also consider related matters with regard to pollution of water bodies. Both the Union Government as well as the State Government shall consider it expeditiously because the time lost involving the pollution might prove dangerous for environment of the country in long run."

In view of these directions, the Central Pollution Control Board constituted a Committee which has formulated a comprehensive set of guidelines on the practice of idol immersion in lakes, rivers and seas. I attach a copy of guidelines.

These guidelines lay down specific instructions for immersion in lakes, rivers and in the sea which must be paid attention to. These guidelines further delineate and specify the role of the state pollution control boards in conducting water quality assessments of water bodies and classifying them on the basis of certain physio-chemical parameters.

I would request you to issue necessary instructions to ensure strict implementation of these guidelines.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely

(Jairam Ramesh)

Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa
Chief Minister of Karnataka

Bangalore - 560002

CM/515/903/2010
6/07/2010

28

Programme Objective Series:
PROBES/136/2010

GUIDELINES FOR IDOL IMMERSION



CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)
'Parivesh Bhawan', East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 32
Website : cpcb.nic.in e-mail: cpcb@nic.in

June, 2010

2.0 GUIDELINES

2.1 General Guidelines for Idol Immersion:

- (i) Idols should be made from natural materials as described in the holy scripts. Use of traditional clay for idol making rather than baked clay, plaster of paris, etc. may be encouraged, allowed and promoted.
- (ii) Painting of Idols should be discouraged. In case idols are to be painted, water soluble and nontoxic natural dyes should be used. Use of toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes for painting idols should be strictly prohibited.
- (iii) Worship material like flowers, *vastras* (clothes), decorating material (made of paper and plastic) etc. should be removed before immersion of idols. Bio-degradable materials should be collected separately for recycling or composting. Non-biodegradable materials should be collected separately for disposal in sanitary landfills. Clothes may be sent to local orphan house(s).
- (iv) Public should be educated on ill effects of immersion in the holy water bodies through mass awareness programme.
- (v) The 'Idol Immersion Points' shall be cordoned off and barricaded. Synthetic liner may be placed in the bottom, well in advance. The said liner shall be removed on completion of immersion ceremony so that remains of idols would be brought to the bank. Bamboo and wooden logs, if any would be reused. Clay, etc may be taken to sanitary land fill for disposal.

2.2 General Guidelines for Local Bodies/ Authorities:

- (i) Local bodies /District Authorities generally make efforts to identify adequate number of designated immersion spots to avoid overcrowding and also to reduce pollution load on water bodies, such spots need to be notified and public & *pooja* committees be informed of such designated sites through awareness programme preferably a month before such events of idol immersion. All the stakeholders such as River Authority, Port Authority, Water Supply Board, Irrigation Department, etc. be consulted for identification of the Immersion *Ghats*, where flow in stream is naturally available.
- (ii) A co-ordination Committee comprising Police, Non-Government Organizations, Local Authorities, SPCBs, representatives of *pooja* committees and stakeholders may be set up for guiding the public in carrying out the immersion with minimal impact on water bodies.

- (iii) At the immersion sites, burning of solid wastes, so generated comprising of used flowers, clothes, decorating materials, etc. should be prohibited.
- (iv) Within 48 hours of the immersion of idols, the left over material at idol immersion points on the banks of rivers, lakes, beaches, etc. should be collected by the local bodies for disposal as per point 2.1. (iii) above.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) The *Pooja* organizers be involved in a campaign on the ill effects of the toxic components of coloring materials, not only of the idols, but also other decorating materials used during the festive season. Specific leaflets and poster for mass awareness may be prepared and the *Pooja* committees persuaded to be display such posters and distribute leaflets among worshipers.

2.3 Guidelines for Idol Immersion in lakes:

In case of immersion of idols in lakes or ponds, all the flowers, leaves and artificial ornaments of idols should be removed and idols may be immersed into a corner of pond using removable synthetic liners in the bottom. Post immersion, liners may be taken out along with remains of idols and lime should be added to the pond water for settling the solids. Desludging of the pond should be undertaken afterwards.

2.4 Guidelines for Idol Immersion in Rivers:

Temporary ponds having earthen bunds along river bank should be created as idol immersion spots. Removable synthetic liner may be placed well in advance in bottom of pond. The said liner along with remains of idols should be removed from the point within 48 hours of immersion of idols.

2.5 Guidelines for Idol Immersion in Sea:

In case of Idol immersion in sea, immersion may be done between low tide line and high tide line (irrespective of its depth). The low-tide line and high tide lines may be identified and marked well in advance. Motor Boats with security personnel/home guards with adequate safety equipments be deployed to supervise the immersion.

3.0 ROLE OF STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS (SPCBS) & POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES (PCCS)

- (i) Concerned SPCB/PCC should conduct water quality assessment of the water body, preferably in Class-I cities (having population more than one lac), at three stages i.e. pre-immersion, during immersion and post immersion. Considering the size of water body, appropriate number of sampling locations may be determined in order to get a fairly representative assessment of water quality. For ascertaining water quality, Physico-chemical parameters such as pH, DO, BOD, COD, Conductivity, Turbidity, TDS, Total Solids and Metals (Chromium, Lead, Zinc and Copper) may be analyzed and results posted on the SPCB's website.

- (ii) SPCB/PCC shall help to local administration in preparing material for mass awareness for the purpose.