

MEGHALAYA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Forests & Environment Department

☎ 0364 - 2521217

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

2522802

'ARDEN', LUMPYNGGAD, SHILLONG - 793014

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No.MPCB/CL-60/2018-2019/56

Dated Shillong the 9th Oct-2018

PUBLIC NOTICE

In pursuance to the order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata O.A No.51/2016/EZ dated 06th Oct 2017 it is hereby publicized to all concerns that Plaster of Paris (PoP) and synthetic colours should not be used in Idol making as it may affect the water quality system . Following are some simple ways to celebrate Puja in an eco-friendly way:

- **Clay idols for immersion:** Create beautiful idols of Goddess Durga etc. with all the bio-degradable material like mud or clay, chaff, jute, bamboos, coconut etc and natural colours to paint them, to prevent water pollution and save the environment.
- **Hand rolled Incense sticks:** The hand rolled incense sticks can be used as they do not pose any environmental threat
- **Eco-Friendly Decorative items:** Choose decorative articles that are made from natural products such as leaves, natural colours made from turmeric, rice flour, pulse and similar items. Use plaintain saplings with roots, planted in pots for the decoration of the deity instead of cutting down the plaintain trees. The devotees could use vessels made out of areca nut sheaths to keep the puja items, which are biodegradable, instead of plastic vessels.
- **Save Energy:** Replace bright incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFL) or LED as they save electricity and money. You can save a lot of electricity by instead opting for candles and diyas for decorating your home.
- **Say No to plastic:** Use natural materials such as cloth, wood and paper for decorations. Reuse materials from previous years in different ways.
- **Say no to noise pollution:** Avoid playing loud music which can cause disturbance to the society. Try playing instruments that are soft and soothing. Make sure to turn off the music by 10pm and abide by rules. Say no to crackers as well.
- **Clean-up drive:** After the immersion ceremony, encourage associations, NGOs, social workers and volunteers in your neighborhood to participate in a clean-up drive. This helps to prevent water pollution.

O/c


MEMBER SECRETARY
MSPCB, SHILLONG

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Memo No.MPCB/CL-60/2018-2019/ 56-11

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Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force (HOFF), Meghalaya for favour of kind information.
2. The Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills/Ri-Bhoi District/West Khasi Hills/South West Khasi Hills/West Jaintia Hills/East Jaintia Hills/East Garo Hills/West Garo Hills/South Garo Hills/North Garo Hills/South West Garo Hills.
3. The Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment Deptt. for kind information.
4. The Director, Information & Public Relations, Meghalaya, Shillong for publication in one issue of any two local English dailies and the Vernacular dailies respectively.
5. The General Secretary, Central Puja Committee, Shillong for favour of information and necessary action.
6. Website of the Board.


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MSPCB, SHILLONG

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