GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Police Department)

NO:22/PRO/COP/2026

Office of the
Commissioner of Police,
Bengaluru City.
Dated:31/10/2026.

PRESS NOTE

Eco-Friendly and Safe Deepavali

Guidelines and Instructions for the Public to Follow During the Deepavali Festival

1. Purchase green crackers and celebrate an eco-friendly Deepavali.
2. As per the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, crackers shall be burst only during the permitted time, i.e., between 08:00 PM and 10:00 PM, strictly following all necessary safety precautions.
3. Ensure that crackers are not burst in and around public-sensitive areas such as hospitals, petrol pumps, gas stations, religious places, old-age homes and childcare centres.
4. While bursting crackers, wear gloves to protect your hands and safety goggles to protect your eyes. Keep water, sand and fire extinguishers readily available nearby to deal with any fire-related emergencies.
5. In case of any accident while bursting crackers, immediately contact 112 or 108 and seek medical advice.
6. Do not allow young children to burst crackers on their own. Parents must accompany their children and ensure that crackers are burst safely under their supervision.
7. Loud crackers may cause inconvenience to senior citizens, sick persons and students residing in neighbouring areas. Keeping this in mind, it is advisable to use low-noise green crackers.
8. While purchasing green crackers, scan the QR code printed on the packaging to verify their authenticity.
9. Purchase good-quality crackers only from authorised shops or outlets holding valid licences. Ensure that the licences are prominently displayed at the shops before purchasing crackers.
10. During Deepavali, certain shops may sell crackers without proper authorisation. Do not purchase crackers from such shops. If you notice any illegal sale of crackers, immediately inform the jurisdictional police station or call 112.
11. Do not purchase prohibited crackers that cause excessive noise and air pollution.
12. Do not burst crackers in crowded areas, on main roads or at places where vehicles are parked.

13. It is advisable to burst crackers in open grounds and less-crowded areas, while strictly following all safety precautions.
14. Take necessary precautions while bursting crackers to ensure that animals are not disturbed or harmed.
15. Exercise utmost caution while bursting crackers and take special care while extinguishing them. After use, collect the burnt crackers in a bucket and extinguish them by covering them with sand or pouring water over them.
16. Be particularly careful about clothing while bursting crackers. Wearing cotton clothes is advisable. Avoid wearing synthetic, nylon or polyester clothes as far as possible.
17. Holding and bursting crackers in one's hand is dangerous. Take extra care to protect sensitive parts of the body, particularly the ears, eyes and mouth. Keep a first-aid kit readily available while bursting crackers.
18. After bursting crackers, ensure cleanliness and maintain hygiene in playgrounds, roads and the open spaces in front of houses.
19. Strictly follow all orders, advisories and safety guidelines issued by the Government, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), Police Department, Fire and Emergency Services, Health Department and Pollution Control Department. Keeping all the above points in mind, celebrate this Deepavali with greater joy and enthusiasm by adhering to all safety precautions and regulations.

The Government has prescribed specific timings for bursting crackers in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. If anyone bursts crackers beyond the prescribed time or violates the stipulated rules, the Police Department will initiate appropriate legal action against the violators under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Explosives Act, Pollution Control laws and other applicable laws. Members of the public are also requested to inform the local police if they notice anyone violating the prescribed rules or illegally bursting crackers.

References:

1. Directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 728/2015, vide orders dated 23/10/2018 and 31/10/2018.
2. Directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition No. 12629/2020, vide order dated 13/11/2020.
3. Forest, Ecology and Environment Department Government Order No. FEE:46 EPE:2000, Bengaluru, dated 29/01/2004.
4. Government Order No. RD 465 TNR 2020, dated 12/11/2020.
5. Letter No. E2(1) Fireworks/Vol.II, dated 07/10/2026, issued by the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO), Mangaluru.
6. Directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in October 2026.

Government of Karnataka
(Police Department)

Date: 02-11-2026

Press Note

Warm wishes for this year's Deepavali festival to all the people of Karnataka. May this festival of lights bring peace, happiness, and prosperity into all your lives. May it serve as an inspiration for new hope, harmony, and positive thinking. It is our wish that the bonds of unity, compassion, and mutual respect among people grow even stronger. Let us all celebrate the festival safely, joyfully, and in an eco-friendly manner. Heartfelt Deepavali wishes to everyone—may this festival bring light, happiness, and prosperity into your lives!

Instructions and Guidelines for the Deepawali Festival – 2026

References:-

1. Hon'ble Supreme Court order in Writ Petition No. 728/2015, dated 23-10-2018, and subsequent directions dated 31-10-2018.
2. Hon'ble Supreme Court order in Writ Petition No. 12629/2020, dated 13-11-2020.
3. Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Government Order No. FEE:46 ENV:2000, dated 29-01-2004.
4. Government Order No.: RD 465 TNR 2020, dated 12-11-2020.
5. Karnataka State Fire and Emergency Services Department circular No. E2(1)Fireworks/Vol.II, dated 07-10-2026.
6. Directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in connection with Deepawali – 2026.

In view of the Deepawali festival, the following instructions and guidelines shall be observed to ensure public safety, prevent accidents and maintain law and order:

1. Celebrate the festival in a peaceful and orderly manner, ensuring that public safety and environmental protection are given due importance.
2. In accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, fireworks shall be burst only during the permitted period, from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Green crackers shall be used during this period.

3. Firecrackers shall not be burst in public places, including bus stands, railway stations, hospitals, educational institutions, religious places and other crowded or sensitive locations.
4. While bursting firecrackers, maintain a safe distance. Do not burst crackers near thatched structures, huts, inflammable materials, vehicles, trees or other combustible objects.
5. In the event of any accident or emergency during the bursting of firecrackers, immediately contact the emergency helplines 112 or 108 and seek assistance.
6. Children shall not be allowed to burst firecrackers without supervision. Parents and guardians shall accompany and guide children, and ensure that they follow safety precautions.
7. Firecrackers that produce excessive noise shall not be used. The prescribed noise limits shall be strictly followed. As loud noise may cause distress and harm to senior citizens, patients, infants and others, avoid bursting high-noise crackers.
8. Purchase firecrackers only from licensed shops and verify the QR code/label on the packaging to ensure that the products are genuine and authorised.
9. Purchase only good-quality firecrackers from authorised/licensed shops. Ensure that the products bear the prescribed markings and do not purchase unlabelled or unauthorized firecrackers.
10. During the festival, do not purchase firecrackers from online platforms or unauthorised vendors. If illegal sale or storage of firecrackers is noticed, inform the local police or call 112.
11. Do not purchase or use firecrackers that cause excessive noise or are otherwise prohibited.
12. Do not burst firecrackers on roads or in places where members of the public and vehicles are likely to be affected. Avoid locations used for parking or movement of vehicles.
13. At crowded places and areas with heavy pedestrian movement, take necessary precautions and ensure that firecrackers are not burst in a manner that causes inconvenience, injury or danger to the public.
14. Do not burst firecrackers near electrical installations, transformers, power lines or other electrical equipment. Take appropriate safety measures to prevent fire and electrical accidents.
15. After bursting firecrackers, ensure that they are completely extinguished. Do not leave partially burnt or unexploded crackers

unattended. Dispose of used firecrackers safely; do not throw them into drains, garbage piles or water bodies.

16. Keep a bucket of water, sand or other suitable fire-extinguishing material nearby while bursting firecrackers. In case of fire, take immediate steps to extinguish it and call the fire and emergency services, if required.
17. Give special consideration to elderly persons, children, persons with disabilities, patients and animals while celebrating. Avoid bursting crackers near them and ensure that they are not exposed to smoke, loud noise or danger.
18. After the celebrations, clean the surroundings and dispose of firecracker waste safely in designated bins or as instructed by the local authorities.

All directions and instructions issued by the Government, Police, Fire and Emergency Services, local bodies and other competent authorities shall be strictly followed. The public is requested to observe these guidelines and celebrate Deepawali safely, peacefully and responsibly.

Enforcement: As per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the directions of the competent authorities, action shall be taken against persons violating the prescribed rules. Violations may attract prosecution under the applicable provisions of law, including action by the Police, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and other enforcement agencies.