

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Central Pollution Control Board has issued **Guidelines for Idol Immersion** in the matter of PIL No. 1325 / 2003 regarding the kind of material to be used for making idols that are immersed in water during festivals. Public, in general, is requested to adhere to these guidelines in the interest of environmental conservation.

### **GUIDELINES FOR IDOL IMMERSION**

1. Idols made up of only natural, bio-degradable, eco-friendly raw materials like natural clay, pyramid of sugarcane sticks, straw, natural clay mixed with alum, food materials should be encouraged and Idols made with any toxic, inorganic raw materials (mud / Plaster of Paris / plastic / thermocol) must be avoided.
2. Only dried flower components, straw etc. for making ornaments of idols and natural resins of trees may be used for decoration.
3. Immersion of Idols made of plastic, thermocol and such materials is strictly prohibited.
4. Only naturally occurring colours, viz., turmeric, chandan, indigo and gerua should be used on idols. Use of toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes / oil paints for painting idols is strictly prohibited.
5. Innovative approaches may be adapted by craftsmen and artisans for making eco-friendly idols.

All artisans/ craftsmen are also hereby appealed advised to adhere to above guidelines in the interest of environmental conservation and should obtain license / permit by concerned local body for making eco-friendly natural clay idols.

**Issued in Public Interest by Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee.**