

Pollution in Various Festivals in India and Creating Awareness to People

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to study the origin and celebration of lot of festival in India as well as outside India and to assess the impact of all festival on environment and indispensability of eco-friendly Ganesh festival, durga festival, diwali festival in India. The celebration of all festival has change in terms of its scale as well as involvement of the people. About 80 per cent of India's 1.1 billion populations are Hindus. In recent years, their religious festivals and customs have come under increasing scrutiny as public awareness of environmental issues grows. The activities of the all festival cause the concerns in terms of water pollution, air pollution and noise pollution (1-6).

Introduction

Noise disturbance is the disturbing or excessive noise that may harm the activity or balance of human or animal life. The source of most outdoor noise worldwide is mainly caused by machines and transportation system, motor vehicles, aircraft, and trains. Outdoor noise is summarized by the word environmental noise. Poor urban planning may give rise to noise pollution, since side-by-side industrial and residential buildings can result in noise pollution in the residential areas. Documented problems associated with urban noise go back as far as Ancient Rome.

Outdoor noise can be caused by machines, construction activities, and music performances, especially in some workplaces. Noise induced hearing loss can be caused by outside (e.g. trains) or inside (e.g. music) noise. High noise levels can contribute to cardiovascular effects in humans and an increased incidence of coronary artery disease. In animals, noise can increase the risk of death by altering predator or prey detection and avoidance, interfere with reproduction and navigation, and contribute to permanent hearing loss. Noise is an unwanted sound that may cause some psychological and physical stress to human beings exposed

piness. This leads to Air pollution, as harmful gases and toxic substances like Barium, Cadmium, Sodium, Mercury, Nitrate and Nitrite are released into atmosphere. Also, respirable suspended particulate matter (RSPM) level goes high in this season as small particles are released into the environment by these firecrackers. Learn More about Ambient air Quality monitoring Increase in consumerism during the festival increases traffic congestion which in turn increases air pollutants, which are released into the atmosphere by vehicles. The celebration of Ganapati festivals lead to increase in the level of harmful gases in atmosphere like Sulphur dioxides (SO₂), Carbon Monoxides (CO), etc.

Effects of Ganapati Festival - Ganesh Chaturthi is a widely celebrated Hindu festival in India in honor of god Ganapati or Ganesha. It was introduced by Mr. Bhausaheb Laxman Javale in 1892 in Pune to unite people. It falls in Bhadrapada as per Hindu calendar and anywhere between months of August to September as per Gregorian calendar. In this Article we are going to see Effects of Ganapati Festival on Environment and the most appropriate Eco Sensitive solutions for traditional crème.

Water Pollution during Ganapati Visarjan - In recent years, we have seen increased awareness about water pollution caused by visarjan i.e. immersion of Ganesh Idols in lakes, rivers and Sea which are made out of Plaster of Paris (PoP) i.e. calcium sulphate hemi-hydrate. It takes several months to totally dissolve Ganesh Idols made up of PoP into water. Also, colors used in decoration of idols contain harmful chemicals containing mercury, lead which leaks into water as idol dissolves. It increases acid content, Total Dissolved solids (TDS) and Heavy metals in water. It kills aquatic plants and marine life, damaging ecosystem under water. Along with Ganesh idols people dump other accessories like thermocol, plastics, etc. as well adding to the level of water pollution.

Noise Pollution during Ganesh Festival Devotees celebrate - The prestigious festival with all possible means of loud music like listening to bhajjans, kirtans and songs using massive speakers. During Anant Chaturdashi, which is the final day of the auspicious Ganesh festival, we witness heavy traffic on the roads, which leads to an increase in Air (particles from vehicles) and Noise (excessive honking) pollution. All the above points add up and increase Noise pollution way beyond the permissible level of 55 bB (day) and 45 dB (night) stated by the pollution control board. Senior citizens and children are directly affected by these as in certain cases the noise level can even reach 110dB.

Plaster of Paris Idols of Ganesh Immersing or visarjan - The idol into tanks which are created by government instead of immersing, it into natural bodies. Using of natural clay (Shadu) idol i.e. Eco-friendly Ganapati idols and immersing it into bucket of water at home, as it takes several hours to totally dissolve in water. Immersing 'Betel Nut' into water which symbolizes Ganapati into water and reusing same Idol of Ganesh. Also permanent idol made up of Metal such as copper, brass can be used for every year. If some is using PoP idol then it can be reused and spread the word that from next year idol made up of natural clay can be used.

What are the needs and importance of the bad effects of festivals on the environment

The current scenario of the world is that due to excessive & over-exploited use of resources we are in a situation of worst pollution conditions. We are facing problems due to pollution in every field be it Air, Water, Noise or any other. All this is having already affecting the environment adversely. Some of the festivals nowadays have become special days or events of adding to the already deteriorating condition of the environment. Like Diwali celebration adds up to air and noise pollution enormously. Similarly, the 'Visarjan' festivals add up to water pollution greatly. Moreover, by killing innocent animals on the name of sacrifice be it in any religion, we are affecting the ecological balance by disturbing the Biodiversity. There are many other instances as well. Therefore, we should first analyze the bad effects of our 'actions' in celebrating the festivals so that we may avoid unnecessary and hazardous practices that adversely affect the environment. The festivals can be celebrated in other (alternate) ways as well. We should carefully choose our actions so that we may be able to provide a 'livable' planet 'Earth' to our future generations.

Conclusion

Hinduism is the world's oldest religion often referred to as the mother of all religion. It has branched off into myriad local variants and many sects, creeds and castes along with their respective customs, traditions, mythologies, cultures and mode of worship. Today each city, town The most famous types of fairs in the world are world's fair, state fair, Trade fair, Art fair, Street fair, Agricultural show, Auto fair, Traveling carnival, Religious fairs, cultural fairs etc. However, the needs or rural as well as urban people concerning entertainment for about, children, males, females of rural and urban areas, such as cradles, marry-go-round, magic shows, Drama and dancing parties, cart races, Animal fights, wrestling bouts, various Exhibitions, shop selling bangles, fashion goods, cloths, toys, balloons, sweet meats and eatables, shop of photographs are also found in the fair. 208 India is a land of often bewildering diversity. Most of these festivals are common to most part of India however they may be known by different names in different parts of the country. Different cultures also mean that different rituals are followed. This celebration of the festivals in our custom always attracts the pilgrims or devotees. The importance of such festivals are An ode to society, Glorifying our culture, to develop artistic effect among the society, Economic boom, Business promotion, and People take the opportunity to do spring cleaning of houses and surroundings is the main functions of the celebration of fairs and festivals. All the villages and towns have the temple of God and Goddesses. Fairs and festivals are mostly related to the deity of that region and different religious activities are held annually to Hindu calendar. In this worship there are activities of communal fasting, community meal after fasting, dance, singing, folk drama, outdoor games, devotional songs, Keertan, in such people take part actively and enthusiastically. This is a social gathering of community. The dates and durations of the fairs and festivals are fixed.

this was to make our whole life into a celebration.

The Importance of festivals

It is a important day for children. The children calculate each and every day, some use reverse counting. It brings happiness in family, society, etc. But it is blamed for environment bad health. Taking examples of Indian festival:-Holi and Diwali. Diwali is being blamed for air pollution by people who care about environment. Similarly Holi blamed for water Pollution. It is we for our enjoyment have put all blames on festival. We changed the traditional way of celebrating festival. Looking back into history Diwali was never celebrated by burning crackers and Holi was never celebrated by wasting a lot of water. Traditional way was simple. People at that time were concerned about environment and they made the environment sick. So if we have to improve the environment health we should start following traditional way of celebrating festival and to day's environment bad health will recover soon and this implies on festival. The rest will bypass them because with anything that they think is not serious, they are unable to show involvement and dedication towards that. That is the whole problem.(7-9).

1) **Effects of Fireworks in Diwali** - Unfortunately, every year, the quantum of air and noise pollution caused due to the bursting of firecrackers increases on Diwali. Firecrackers release pollutants such as sulphur dioxide, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide etc in the air, which causes ailments like asthma and bronchitis. Not only the elderly and patients in hospitals, but animals and birds are also affected due to air and noise pollution. Though various schools and organizations organized demonstrations prior to Diwali to educate the masses on a pollution-free festival, their efforts have been futile. As per directions of the Supreme Court, bursting of sound-emitting firecrackers has been banned between 10pm to 6am. However, shockingly, the direction was openly flouted as firecrackers were burst throughout the night. This caused excessive noise and air pollution. On the receiving end of this menace were the elderly and patients in hospitals. Post Diwali, the roads are littered with the remnants of fireworks. The deluge of garbage, including empty bottles used to light off rockets, on every nook and corner of the city is a worrying sign.

Effects of Diwali on Environment due to large scale of bursting firecrackers during this festival it releases harmful gases and toxic substances into the atmosphere, loud noises from loudspeakers and firecrackers, dry waste causing health problems for children, patients and senior citizens.

2) **Effects of Fireworks on Environment (from light to darkness) Air Pollution**

On this auspicious occasion unknowingly harmful gases and toxic substances released to environment by bursting fireworks such as Barium, Cadmium, Sodium, Mercury, Nitrate and Nitrite. These are called as Air pollutants. Also RSPM level goes high as small particles emitted by bursting of fireworks. RSPM means Respirable Suspended Particulate Material. Also need of electricity goes high in this period. To overcome shortage of electricity majorly electricity generated by using diesel, Coal etc. That also causes air pollution.

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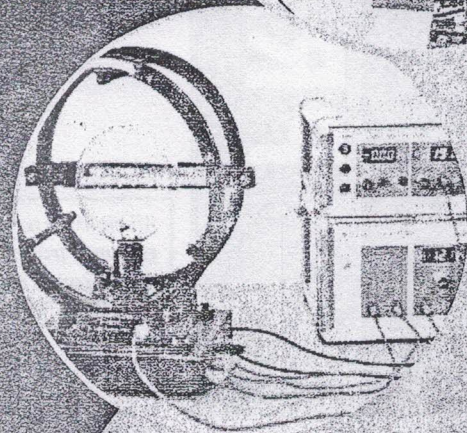
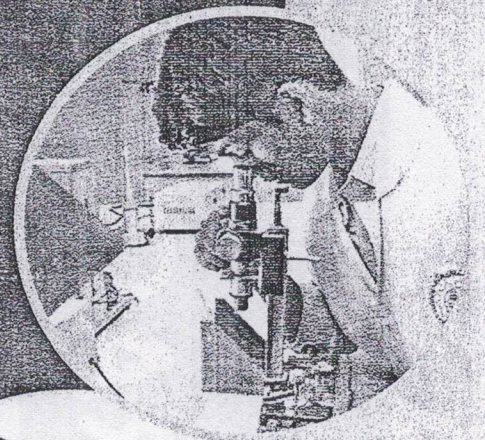
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