

News

During Diwali, the Supreme Court permits the sale and detonation of green firecrackers in Delhi-NCR.



The sale of green crackers would be allowed from October 18 to October 21, according to a ruling by a bench consisting of Justice Vinod Chandran and Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai.

The sale and detonation of green firecrackers during the next Diwali celebration in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) were approved by the Supreme Court on Wednesday.

The sale of green crackers would be allowed from October 18 to October 21, according to a ruling by a bench consisting of Justice Vinod Chandran and Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai.

The Court additionally ordered that the exploding of such firecrackers be limited to the hours of 6 to 10 p.m.

"From October 18 to October 21, green crackers may be sold. To ensure that only authorized items with QR codes are sold, police authorities should set up patrolling teams. For those who break the regulations, a violation notice will be appended. The regulation said that the use of firecrackers was limited to the hours of 6 to 10 p.m.

The Bench further stated that e-commerce websites will not be able to provide firecrackers.

After considering that a total prohibition encourages cracker smuggling, which worsens air quality, the Court issued the ruling.

More harm is done when traditional firecrackers are smuggled. We must adopt a balanced strategy. Fourteen of Haryana's twenty-two districts are in the National Capital Region. Except for the COVID era, there was little change in the quality of the air when the ban was put into effect. Green crackers were first proposed following Arjun Gopal's verdict. Green crackers have significantly decreased emissions during the past six years. It has been aided by NEERI. While easing the prohibition, the Court pointed out that a total ban on manufacturing was in place from October 14, 2024, until January 1, 2025.

The Court had already prohibited the use of firecrackers in Delhi due to the ongoing issue of poor air quality in the city. Regarding green crackers, the Court stated in April of this year that there is no chance of reexamining the previous rulings unless it is convinced that the damage they generate is negligible.

But this month, the Court upheld the ban on selling green firecrackers in regions that are restricted, while permitting their manufacturing.

The manufacturers and the governments of Delhi and the surrounding states petitioned the court for permission to use green crackers on Diwali in Delhi and other places. Additionally, they suggested similar relaxations for New Year's Eve, Christmas, and Gurpurab.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta asked the Court to abolish the fireworks prohibition during the October 10 hearing.

"No documentation indicates that the firecrackers are to blame for the bad air quality. I

strongly believe that firecrackers should not be restricted. If the timing is two hours, just one hour is spent persuading parents! We were all kids! The SG informed the Court, "The child within me is convincing the child in your lordships."

Senior Advocate K Parameshwar, representing the makers, claimed that firecrackers were prohibited in half of Haryana without an opportunity of hearing.

Only wholesalers from the specified 25 to 30 points would receive it, according to our statement. Then the check becomes more effective. Our kids are staying here too. If it doesn't work out, they may be banned the next year," he added.

Similarly, J Sai Deepak, Senior Advocate, stated,

"An already regulated sector was subject to further regulations. A wide brush was used to describe everyone. Manufacturers themselves advised us to find and punish our offenders.