

Proceedings of the meeting taken by the Environmental Engineer, Regional Office-IV, Ludhiana on 10.06.2015 of marriage palaces of Raikot w.r.t Water Act, 1974, Air Act, 1981 and Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 at M/s Katyal Marriage Palace, Raikot.

The following were present:-

From Punjab Pollution Control Board

1. Er. Maninder Singh, Asstt. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office-IV, Ludhiana

From Marriage Palaces owners

2. Sh. Vinod Katyal, M/s Katyal Marriage Palace, Raikot
3. Sh. Suresh Katyal, M/s Katyal Marriage Palace, Raikot
4. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, M/s Royal Geen Resort, Raikot
5. Sh. Jaspreet Singh, M/s Chand Palace, Raikot
6. Sh. Charanjeet Singh, M/s Sartaj Palace, Raikot
7. Sh. Harpal Singh, M/s Harpal Resort, Pakhowal, Raikot
8. Sh. Jagdeep Singh, M/s Sukhman Marriage Palace, Raikot

At the outset of the meeting, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional-IV, Ludhiana welcomed the representative of marriage palaces. They were informed regarding the necessity of introducing the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules 2000 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi vide notification no. S.O.123 (E) dated 14.02.2000. They were also given a brief regarding the notification dated 26.02.2014 issued by the Government of Punjab vide which following authorities have been notified for the enforcement of noise pollution:-

1. *District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, Sub Divisional Magistrate and executive Magistrate posted in the revenue Districts/Sub Divisions of the State of Punjab within their respective jurisdictions.*
2. *Commissioner Police, Deputy Commissioner Police, Additional Deputy Commissioner Police, Senior Superintendent of police, Superintendent of Police (HQ), Deputy Superintendent Police posted in the police Districts/Sub division of the State of Punjab within their respective jurisdictions.*
3. *Assistant Environmental Engineers/Environmental Engineer/Senior Environmental Engineer and office senior to them in Punjab Pollution Control Board within their respective jurisdictions.*
4. *Commissioner and Asstt. Commissioner of Municipal Corporations and Executive Officers of Municipal Committees of the State of Punjab within their respective jurisdictions.*

It was further informed to the representative of marriage palace owners that all the areas falling within or outside MC limits area shall be categorized into four zones viz industrial, commercial, residential and silence zone for the purpose of maintaining noise standards within different zones and ambient air standards for noise have been prescribed accordingly. An area comprising 100 meters around hospitals, educational institutions and court is treated as silence area/zone. Ambient air standard for noise prescribed under the Rules as detailed below were also discussed with the representatives of the marriage palace owners.

Area Code	Category of Area/Zone	Limits in dB(A) Leq *	
		Day Time	NightTime
(A)	Industrial area	75	70
(B)	Commercial area	65	55
(C)	Residential area	55	45
(D)	Silence Zone	50	40

During the permission time of the use of loudspeaker, the prescribed ambient noise levels shall be maintained i.e. use of loudspeaker should be done in such a manner that the noise levels are not in excess of the parameters prescribed for the zone concerned. No loudspeaker shall be allowed to be operated except after obtaining prior written permission from the authority concerned. Loudspeaker shall not be allowed to be operated during night time, i.e. after 10 PM and before 6 AM. Loud speakers should not be used or let out without sound limiter for the purpose of use in open air. Only, Distt. Magistrate, Sub Divisional Magistrate or Executive Magistrate or any other officer designated by the Distt. Magistrate/Commissioner Police shall grant permission for use of loud speakers/ public address systems in public function/ Marriage Palaces, Religious places and Religious congregations/ other places etc. in accordance with provisions of the Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 as well as the Punjab Instruments (Control of Noises) Act, 1956. Management of marriage palaces/ DJ parties/ owners of privately owned sound system or sound producing instruments etc. shall display the permissible timings and noise limits at a prominent place.

As per the notification dated 26.02.2014, in the interest of large number of students, during examination time, no open air function where loudspeakers are used should be allowed for a period lasting between 3 days prior to examinations such as Board exams., secondary examinations, senior secondary examinations, competitive exams IIT, JEE, CPMT till the time that such examinations are over. During the time of any function, the barricading of streets should be restricted so as not to create any traffic jam.

Fireworks, generating sound level exceeding 125 dB (A) or 145 dB (C) noise from four metre distance from the point of bursting, should not be allowed for use for any purpose.

It was further informed that under the provisions of aforesaid rules/acts, the concerned authorities may issue directions including the closure, prohibition or regulation of any marriage palace its operation or process; or for stoppage or regulation of the supply of electricity or water or any other service. Further, the authorities can also file a plaint in the Competent court of Law for the violations of noise pollution, which is a punishable offence.

The issues regarding the control of sound/noise pollution from marriage palaces was also deliberated and it was explained that the noise can be control by designing and fabricating the halls in such a manner so as to control the noise levels at construction stage by providing sound insulations materials and techniques at construction stage. It was also observed that planting green trees and shrubs along the periphery of marriage palaces help in noise reduction to a considerable extent. Rented DG sets without canopies/acoustic enclosures provided during the functions are not allowed and use of these DG sets are to be avoided. Inhouse DG sets are to placed in acoustic room or should have in built canopies. The D.J/music operators are to be made clear that no music system is allowed during night times and in case open air function is to be carried out then level of sound must be within limits. Noise meters (decibel meters) are now easily available in market at affordable prices and are to be procured to check the noise levels. Some mechanism like alarm system to be provided as a warning for the D.J players in case they exceed night time restrictions.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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