



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

प्रो (डॉ.) जसपाल एस. सन्धू

सचिव

*Prof. Dr. Jaspal S. Sandhu*

MBBS, MS (Ortho), DSM, FAIS, FASM, FAFSM, FFIMS, FAMS

Secretary



सत्यमेव जयते

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग  
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

बहादुरशाह ज़फ़र मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110002  
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002

Ph.: 011-23239337, 23236288,  
Fax : 011-23238858, email : jssandhu.ugc@nic.in

D.O No. 14-26/2015(CPP-II)

11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

Dear Madam / Sir,

**Sub : Awareness about ill-effects of Fireworks and upkeep of clean environment – reg**

Our Planet is no longer the green planet we had inherited from our forefathers. Environmentalists and scientists have affirmed in no uncertain terms that a host of factors like uninhibited industrialization, unchecked urbanization, fossil fuel emissions etc. have done tremendous damage to the ecology and environment and humankind has to brace for the impact of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. It is as a part of this effort that world leaders came together at COP21 in Paris recently and underscored preservation of environment as collective responsibility. In this context, I would like to draw your attention to the Supreme Courts' orders Civil Writ Petition No.728/2015 dated 16.10.2015 in which the apex court has expressed serious concerns over environmental health hazards and the toxic fallout that fireworks pose.

We know that the smoke from fireworks consists mainly of particulate matter that can enter lungs and severely affect people with asthma or multiple chemical sensitivity. Fireworks shows also spray out a toxic concoction of carcinogenic and hormone-disrupting substances that seep into soil and water. Still worse are the chemicals in fireworks that persist in environment and do not break down. On festive occasions, the levels of particulate matter in the air increases beyond the permissible levels. At a time when issues of climate change and global warming have captured international attention, we need to do all it takes to educate students about the severity of toxicity of fireworks so as to discourage their usage. May I request you to undertake following at your university departments and affiliated colleges.

- Include a module on ill-effects of fireworks in the paper of Environment Studies which has to be compulsorily studied by all students as per UGC's direction vide D.O. No. F.13-1/2000(EA/ENV/COS-I) dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015
- Organize forums, discussions and presentations related to hazards of fireworks and ways of reducing them.
- Depute student groups and/or teachers to undertake educative workshops/lectures/ presentations in schools and colleges in surrounding areas.

It would be highly appreciated if the endeavours undertaken in this regard are communicated to the UGC at [fireworks.ugc@gmail.com](mailto:fireworks.ugc@gmail.com) . Lets join hands to save our Planet.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Jaspal S. Sandhu)

To the Vice Chancellors of all universities

**Copy to for information:**

The Publication Officer, Website Division, UGC, New Delhi.

(Jaspal S. Sandhu)