

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the
Commissioner of Police,
Rachakonda.

Rc.No. M4/Notification/RCK/617/2024

Date: 01.10.2024.

NOTIFICATION

In Rachakonda Commissionerate areas various religious festivals are celebrated, involving big processions comprising of thousands of people, throughout the year.

It is observed that the use of DJ Sound Systems/DJ Sound Mixers/Sound Amplifiers/Other High Sound Generating Equipments and firecrackers in these religious processions has alarmingly increased in recent times. There is more and more competition among the procession organizers to hire bigger and louder DJ Systems. The use of DJ System is harmful to the human body besides causing lot of noise pollution. A prolonged exposure to the high decibel of sound emanated by these DJ Systems is extremely damaging for human health. Further it is also noticed that the youth tend to be overexcited and indisciplined whenever DJ System is played at extremely high volume. This can result in confusion, improper communication among the procession organizers and other Govt., departments i.e., Police, Revenue, GHMC, etc., and this can further result in lack of proper monitoring of the movement of the procession, thereby increasing the chances of uncontrolled behavior by the participants and even to the extent of creating Law & Order issues.

More importantly, there has been an exponential increase in complaints made by public through various channels, including Dial 100 about noise pollution in their residential areas, leading to health issues in old people and residents and disturbance of children's education. The use of firecrackers in a procession route filled with hundreds and thousands of people is also full of danger. In a recent example, during a Religious Procession on 19.09.2024, one generator (meant for DJ system) caught fire at Charminar probably due to sparks from firecrackers reaching the nearby generator. Luckily the fire was promptly brought under control and no damage was done. This incident led to rumour mongering and communal tension and the situation could have turned very serious.

The **Hon'ble Supreme Court of India** in its judgement dt. 30.08.2000 in the case involving petitioner Church of God (Full Gospel) in India Vs. Respondent (K.K.R. Majestic Colony Welfare Association and Others), while highlighting the problem of Noise Pollution leading to dangers to health, interruption of sleep, affecting communication, loss of efficiency, hearing loss or deafness, high blood pressure, depression, irritability, mental stress, affecting the students preparing for exams, disturbing the old and infirm

there being any nuisance of noise pollution etc., and sometimes leading to serious Law & Order problems and further highlighting that "In an organized society rights are related with duties towards others including neighbors", reiterated the ambient air quality standards in respect of noise in various zones (Industrial, Commercial, Residential and silence zone), defining day time and night time, restrictions on the use of Loudspeakers/Public Address systems/DJ Systems/Appliance or apparatus or contrivance which is capable of producing or reproducing the sound.

This calls for taking steps to maintain public order, peace and tranquility during religious processions. **Hence it is felt that there is a need to regulate the use of DJ System and firecrackers during various religious Processions.**

Accordingly, a meeting was held on 26.09.2024 at TGC&CC, where the Commissioners of Police, Hyderabad, Rachakonda, and Cyberabad attended the round table discussion along with stakeholders, GHMC Commissioner, District Collectors, Member Secretary Telangana Pollution Control Board, ENT expert/specialist, various religious processions organizers, senior representatives of various political parties, and other Govt., departments about the restriction on the use of DJ System and firecrackers in various religious processions. The Power Point Presentation was presented by tri Commissioners of Police and ENT specialist they highlighted the dangers to not only human health but also the difficulties being faced by Police and other departments about the uncontrolled use of DJ Systems and bursting of firecrackers. The real video clips of extremely high intensity sounds generated by DJ Sound Systems/DJ Sound Mixers/Sound Amplifiers/Other High Sound Generating Equipments were also played before the audience. The video appeals made by elders of various communities, speaking against the DJ Music culture in recent times, were also played. Almost all the participants, Political parties and heads of organizations, unanimously agreed on preventing the use of DJ System and Fireworks during Religious Processions and that strict measures need to be taken to enforce it.

Hence:

I. In exercise of the powers conferred on me under Section 21 (f) (II) & 22 (1) (a) (d) (e) (f) of the Hyderabad City Police Act, 1348 Fasli and under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023 (earlier U/s 144 of Cr.P.C) I, G. Sudheer Babu, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda Commissionerate, hereby inform the public in general, and the concerned Organizers in particular, that the **use of DJ sound systems, DJ sound mixers, Sound Amplifiers and Other High Sound Generating equipment, appliance or apparatus or contrivance which is capable of producing or reproducing the sound are hereby prohibited during religious processions in the limits of Rachakonda Commissionerate.**

II. As part of steps to control Sound Pollution during religious processions, the use of sound systems will be permitted but it will be restricted to the sound decibel limits as mentioned in the below table vide

G.O.Ms. No. 172. dt. 12.10.2010 of the Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, Govt. of A.P). Police Clearance will be required to be taken both by the Organizers who hire the equipment and the Dealers/Company supplying the sound system equipment.

Area Code	Category of Area / Zone	Sound Limits dB	
		Day Time	Night Time
A	Industrial Area	75	70
B	Commercial Area	65	55
C	Residential Area	55	45
D	Silence Zone	50	40

III. As per Hon'ble Supreme Court Order

*Day time shall mean from 6 AM to 10 PM.

"Night time shall mean from 10 PM to 6 AM.

"A loud speaker or a public address system or a DJ system shall not be used during the nights from 10:00 PM to 06:00 AM.

"Silence Zone is defined as an area comprising not less than 100 meters around hospitals, educational institutions and courts.

IV. The use of Firecrackers is also prohibited only during all Religious Processions in the limits of Rachakonda Commissionerate.

Violations of the above instructions regarding DJ Systems and Firecrackers will lead to penal action under the following provisions of Hyderabad City Police Act, 1348 Fasli, BNS (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita), BNSS (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita), Environment Protection Act, 1986, Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000, and Hyderabad City Loudspeakers (Regulation of use and Licensing) Rules, 1963:

Sec.67 of Hyderabad City Police Act, 1348 Fasli - Letting off and throwing a firework in or near a street or public place, except at such times or places as are permitted by the CP, Rachakonda.

Sec.76 of Hyderabad City Police Act, 1348 Fasli Contravention of any rule made under Sec.21 of this Act or any other order or Prohibition lawfully given under Sub Section 3 of Section 21 or Section 22, refusal or failure to conform to any lawful and reasonable direction of any Police Officer given in accordance with this Act, or with any rule made there under.

Sec. 223 BNS (IPC 188)- Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant.

Sec. 280 BNS (IPC 278)-Making the atmosphere noxious to health.

Sec.292 BNS (IPC 290) -Committing a public nuisance in any case not otherwise punishable by this Sanhita.

Sec. 293 BNS (IPC 291)-Continuing a public nuisance, having been enjoined by any public servant who has lawful authority to issue such injunction not to repeat or continue such nuisance.

Sec. 324 (2) BNS (IPC 426) -Committing Mischief.

Sec. 152 BNSS (Cr.P.C 133) Any unlawful obstruction or nuisance should be removed from any public place or from any way.


G.O.Ms. No. 172. dtd. 12.10.2010 of the Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, Govt. of A.P. regarding implementation of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules 2000 under the Environment Protection Act 1986.

Further. U/s 15 of Environment Protection Act 1986 a proven offender can be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years with fine, which may extend to 1 lakh rupees or with both, and in case the contravention continues with additional fine which may extend to five thousand rupees for every day during which such contravention continues after the conviction for the first such failure or contravention. Under the same rules if the failure or contravention continues beyond the period of 1 year and after the date of conviction the offender shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 7 years.

This notification shall come into force with immediate effect and will apply to all religious processions in the limits of Rachakonda Commissionerate.

All the SHOs and Addl. Inspectors of L&O Police Stations of Rachakonda Commissionerate will immediately serve this notification on all Religious Processions organizers as well as suppliers of DJ Sound Systems/DJ Sound Mixers/Sound Amplifiers/Other High Sound Generating equipment, appliance or apparatus or contrivance which is capable of producing or reproducing the sound and suppliers of fireworks.

All the SHOs and Addl. Inspectors of L&O Police stations of Rachakonda Commissionerate are hereby authorized to take appropriate legal action against those who violate this notification.


(G. Sudheer Babu, IPS.,)
Commissioner of Police
Rachakonda.