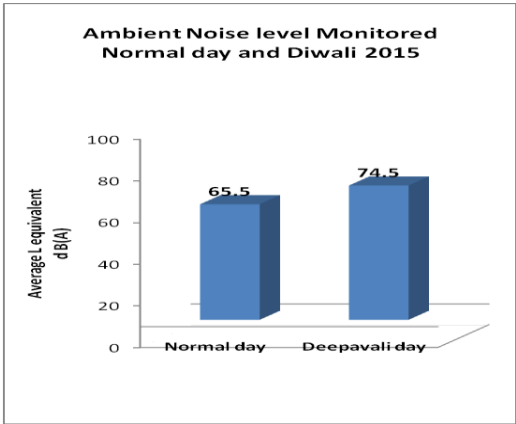


Ambient Air and Noise Pollution Levels – Deepavali 2015

Every year Puducherry Pollution Control Committee conducts air quality monitoring to ascertain the impact of crackers bursting during Deepavali festival. This year also, Puducherry Pollution Control Committee conducted Air and Noise monitoring during normal day on 02.11.2015 and on the occasion of Deepavali festival on 10.11.2015 to assess the environmental impact of bursting of crackers.

The Noise survey result reveals that there is an increase in ambient noise level on the day of Deepavali [74.5 dB (A)] in comparison to the normal day [65.5 dB(A)]. The main cause of increase in the ambient noise level during festivals is bursting of crackers, whereas in normal day the main contributors to the ambient noise level in that area is due to trade activity, transport system. However, the measured noise levels because of bursting of crackers were found to be within the Hon’ble Supreme Court directive on noise level of 125 dB(A). There is no much deviation in noise level when compared to Deepavali -2014 [76.1 dB (A)].



Ambient Air Quality Monitoring was also carried out to assess the air pollution levels due to bursting of crackers on the occasion of Deepavali festival. Monitoring report reveals that the 24 hourly average concentration of Particulate Matter was found higher on the day of Deepavali (72 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) due to bursting of crackers in comparison to Normal day(45 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). 24 Hourly concentration of Particulate Matter measured on Deepavali 2015 is within the prescribed standard limit of 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and also found lesser when compared to Deepavali 2014 (116 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.) However, the concentration of gases viz., SO_2 and NO_2 are within the prescribed standard limit (80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

