

Concept Note

Preventing Fire Hazards: Community Awareness for a Safer Diwali

Date:09.10.2025 Time: 3:00 PM to 4:35 PM

Diwali, the festival of lights, brings joy and togetherness, but it also carries high risk of fire accidents. Every year, incidents are reported from firecrackers, electric decorations, candles, diyas, and storage of inflammable materials in homes and shops. A single spark or short circuit can turn celebrations into tragedy.

Children and young adults are the most affected, often due to unsafe handling of fireworks, flammable clothing, and lack of supervision. Congested urban areas, temporary cracker shops, and makeshift electric wiring further increase the risks. In Gujarat, cities record several fire calls during Diwali week each year, highlighting the need for stronger awareness and safety practices.

To make celebrations safe, it is important to use only licensed firecrackers and avoid bulk storage at homes. Electrical decorations should not overload circuits and must be kept away from curtains or other flammable items. Diyas and candles should be placed on stable surfaces and never left unattended. People are advised to wear cotton clothes while bursting crackers and children must always be supervised. Keeping a bucket of water, sand, or a fire extinguisher ready at homes, shops, and public places can prevent small sparks from turning into disasters. Markets and cracker shops must also comply with fire safety rules to reduce large-scale risks.

Fire safety is everyone's responsibility. With alertness, care, and community participation, accidents can be avoided, ensuring Deepavali remains a festival of joy and light, not of fire and loss.