## **Noise Standards for Fire-crackers**

(The Noise standards for fire-crackers were notified by the Environment (Protection) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1999 vide G.S.R.682(E), dated the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 and inserted as serial no. 89 of Schedule I of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986. Subsequently these Rules were amended by the Environment (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 2006 vide G.S.R. 640(E), dated the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2006, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986)

- A. (i) The manufacture, sale or use of fire-crackers generating noise level exceeding 125 dB(AI) or 145 dB(C)<sub>pk</sub> at 4 meters distance from the point of bursting shall be prohibited.
  - (ii) For individual fire-cracker constituting the series (joined fire-crackers), the above mentioned limit be reduced by  $5 \log_{10}(N)$  dB, where N = number of crackers joined together.
- B. The broad requirements for measurement of noise from fire-crackers shall be-
  - (i) The measurements shall be made on a hard concrete surface of minimum 5 meter diameter or equivalent.
  - (ii) The measurements shall be made in free field conditions i.e., there shall not be any reflecting surface upto 15 meter distance from the point of bursting.
  - (iii) The measurement shall be made with an approved sound level meter.
- C. The Department of Explosives shall ensure implementation of these standards.
- D. The fire-crackers for the purpose of export shall be exempted from the sub-paragraphs A, B and C above, subject to the compliance of the following conditions, namely:-
  - (i) the manufacturer shall have an export order;
  - (ii) the fire-crackers shall conform to the level prescribed in the country to which it is exported;
  - (iii) they shall have a different packing colour code, and

(iv) there shall be a declaration on the box "not for sale in India" or "only for export in other countries."

Note: dB(AI): A-weighted impulse Sound Pressure Level in decibel  $dB(C)_{pk}$ : C-weighted Peak Sound Pressure Level in decibel."