

Report

Poster Making Competition

Say No to Crackers

(Under Eco- Club)

(18-10-24)

The **Institute of Vocational Studies** successfully organised a "Say No to Crackers" poster-making competition that effectively aimed to raise awareness about the serious dangers of firecrackers on our environment, health and wildlife.

Participants seized the opportunity to craft visually striking posters that powerfully illustrated the alarming impacts of pollution, declining air quality and the detrimental effects on children and pets associated with using fireworks during festivals.

Through vibrant illustrations and compelling messages, this initiative inspired individuals to embrace a more eco-friendly approach to celebrations while advocating for sustainable alternatives. It served as an excellent platform for students to showcase their creativity while championing a cleaner and safer environment.

The harmful effects of firecrackers are clear and concerning. Though commonly used to celebrate, they pose significant threats to our environment, health and society:

1. **Air Pollution:** The combustion of firecrackers releases toxic gases such as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter, which severely compromise air quality. This can lead to serious respiratory issues, particularly among children, the elderly, and individuals with existing health conditions like asthma.

2. **Noise Pollution:** The deafening noise produced by firecrackers can result in hearing damage, disturb wildlife, and elevate stress levels among people. Extended exposure to such loud sounds can lead to permanent hearing loss.

3. **Health Hazards:** Chemicals found in firecrackers, including barium, strontium, and lead, pose serious risks to human health. Inhaling these harmful fumes can trigger

respiratory problems, eye irritation, skin allergies, and in extreme cases, even lung cancer.

4. **Impact on Wildlife:** The loud booms and bright flashes from firecrackers create significant stress and disorientation for animals, which can be particularly harmful to pets, livestock, and wildlife in their natural surroundings.

5. **Fire Hazards:** Firecrackers are notorious for causing accidental fires, particularly in dry or densely populated areas, leading to property damage, injuries, and potential loss of life.

6. **Environmental Damage:** The waste left behind from firecrackers, including paper, plastic, and chemical residues, contributes to littering and land pollution. Some of these materials can take years to decompose, causing long-lasting harm to our ecosystem.

Promoting alternative, eco-friendly celebrations is not just beneficial but essential to mitigate these harmful effects. By doing so, we can create a healthier and more sustainable environment for everyone.

