

**Proceedings of the meeting taken by Sh. Joginder Singh, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Bathinda of the Board with the marriage palace association of District Sri Muktsar Sahib on 27.03.2015 regarding noise pollution in marriage palaces.**

The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Bathinda, welcomed the District President, marriage palace association, Sh. Parminder Singh and members of the marriage palace association, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib for coming up in the meeting. The following were present:-

1. Sh. Parminder Singh c/o M/s Chahal Palace, Tehsil & Distt. Muktsar
2. Sh. Om Prakash c/o M/s Milan Marriage Palace, Tehsil Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
3. Sh. Rishubh Kathuria c/o M/s Pritam Palace, Tehsil Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
4. Sh. Ashish Kumar c/o M/s Sea Shell Resorts, Tehsil Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
5. Representative from M/s Gagan Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
6. Sh. Tejbir Singh c/o M/s Ajmer Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
7. Sh. Amit Kumar c/o M/s G.K. Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
8. Sh. Sukhdev Singh c/o M/s Inder Mahal Palace, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
9. Representative from M/s Lashkara Marriage Palace, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
10. Representative from M/s Gardenia Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
11. Representative from M/s Narayangarh Gardens, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
12. Representative from M/s Green Sea Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
13. Representative from M/s Satyam Marriage Palace, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
14. Representative from M/s Punjab Resort Marriage Palace, Tehsil Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib
15. Representative from M/s Bansal Resorts, Tehsil & Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib

Thereafter, the Environmental Engineer informed that as per the Rule 3(1) of Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000, ambient air quality standards in respect of noise for different zones are as under:-

Category of Zone	Limits in dB(A) Leq	
	Day Time	Night Time
Industrial Area	75	70
Commercial Area	65	55
Residential Area	55	45
Silence Zone	50	40

- Note: - 1. Day time shall mean from 6.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.  
 2. Night time shall mean from 10.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m.

The Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Govt. of Punjab vide notification no. 3/100/2013-STE(4)-145 dated 26.02.2014 has issued notification of the

gu delines for regulation of Noise and sound pollution caused by loudspeakers, public address system etc. in compliance to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in application no. 39 (T<sub>HC</sub>) of 2013 titled as Gurbachan Singh vs. State of Punjab & Others, relevant part of which is reproduced as under:-

- No loudspeaker shall be allowed to be operated except after obtaining prior written permission from the authority concerned. Copies of the permission shall be sent to the authorities notified for regulation of guidelines.

- Distt. Magistrate, Sub Divisional Magistrate or Executive Magistrate or any other officer designated by the Distt. Magistrate / Commissioner Police shall grant permission for use of loud speakers / public address systems in public functions / Marriage Palaces, Religious places and Religious congregations / other places etc. in accordance with the provisions of the Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 as well as the Punjab Instruments (Control of Noises) Act, 1956.

- In addition to the restrictions imposed under Rule 5 and 5-A of 111. Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000, following restrictions shall also be imposed:

**a) Loudspeaker shall not be allowed to be operated during night time, i.e. after 10 PM and before 6 AM.**

b) Loud speakers should not be used or let out without sound limiter for the purpose of use in open air.

c) In the interest of large number of students, during examination time, no open air function where loudspeakers are used should be allowed for a period lasting between 3 days prior to examinations such as board exams., secondary examinations, senior secondary examinations, competitive exams like IIT, JEE, CPMT till the time that such examinations are over.

d) Management of marriage palaces / DJ parties/ owners of privately owned sound system or sound producing instruments etc. shall display the permissible timings and noise limits at a prominent place.

e) During the permission time of the use of loudspeaker, the prescribed ambient noise levels shall be maintained i.e. use of loudspeaker should be done in such a manner that the noise levels are not in excess of the parameters prescribed for the zone concerned.

f) During the time of any function, the barricading of streets should be restricted so as not to create any traffic jam.

- A District Magistrate or Police Commissioner or any other officer empowered to impose Section 144 Cr.P.C. may pass such order under his area of jurisdiction, prohibiting the use of loud speakers/public address systems in public functions/marriage palaces etc., in violation of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. In case of any violation of such order, the authorized officer should proceed in terms of Section 188 IPC against the person violating such order."

Also, as per the Supreme Court of India orders dated 18.07.2005, no one shall beat a drum or tom-tom or blow a trumpet or beat or sound any instrument or use any sound amplifier at night (between 10. 00 p.m. and 6.a.m.) except in public emergencies.

The District Administration, from time to time also issues directions in the above regard so as to prohibit the use of sound instruments/loud speakers or any other sound amplifier at night time (between 10. 00 p.m. and 6.a.m.).

The matter was discussed in the Board's meeting held at Patiala on 09.03.2015 and it was observed that a lot of complaints regarding noise pollution created by the marriage palaces

by the operation of the sound system at night time i.e. between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am are received from the public by the Board.

The members of the association maintained that it is true that there is nuisance created due to the high noise level from the instruments used by disc jockies (DJs)/sound operators during a function at the marriage palaces. They informed that these jockies/sound operators are generally engaged by the party who organizes the function at the marriage palace and it becomes difficult for them to stop them from playing these sound instruments after the permissible time and also from playing at a high pitch. The association informed that a separate meeting was also taken by the marriage palace association with the disc jockies (DJs)/sound operators of the area and raised the issue with them. However, the association requested for conducting a separate meeting with the disc jockies (DJs)/sound operators combined.

The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Bathinda advised the marriage palaces owners to adhere strictly to the norms and notifications so as to comply with the directions of the State Govt. and directions of Hon' ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi and Supreme Court of India as above. It was further decided as under:-

- Not to use the sound systems in the marriage palaces during night time i.e. between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am and maintaining ambient air noise standards as per Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 on other times.
- Also, a separate meeting by the Marriage Palace association with the disc jockies (DJs)/sound operators of the areas be taken. Proceedings of the same be intimated to the Office of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Bathinda.
- A list of the disc jockies (DJs)/sound operators operating in the area be also submitted to the office of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Bathinda.
- It was made clear that in case of any violation of above norms, relevant information may be sent to the District Magistrate or Police Commissioner or any other officer empowered to impose Section 144 Cr.P.C. who may pass such order, prohibiting the use of loud speakers/sound systems in marriage palaces in violation of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. In case of any violation of such order of the Competent Authority, the authorized officer may proceed in terms of Section 188 IPC against the marriage palace owner/disc jockies (DJs)/sound operator or any other person violating such order.

The Environmental Engineer also requested to the association for regularization of the marriage palaces/apply for consent to Establish/ Operate under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 so as to avoid any further action against the marriage palaces.

After detailed discussions, all the members of the association assured that compliance to the above orders would be made in spirit and letter.

Meeting as ended with thanks to the chair.

  
Environmental Engineer

