

Kolkata 24 December 2022

To

Smt. Mamata Banerjee

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal

Sub: Senior Citizens' Appeal for control of noise and air pollution in the ensuing Christmas and Year end celebrations

Respected Madam,

Allow us to intrude into your very busy schedule. We are a group of concerned senior citizens, who are approaching you, through Sabuj Mancha, with a problem of great urgency, which we anticipate in the coming days. We are referring to the possibility of a drastic increase in pollution because of the indiscriminate use of firecrackers, fireworks, amplifiers, music systems, loudspeakers etc during the Christmas and New Year celebrations.

In spite of distinct legal guidelines and orders, the rampant abuse of noise pollution norms has become a regular feature of most festivities. This is deeply distressing for all citizens and especially for senior citizens. Many senior citizens have health issues that are severely aggravated by loud noise and air pollution (from the use of uncontrolled sound systems and prohibited fireworks). In many cases, such senior citizens are unable to reach out to authorities owing to various reasons. Though, green fireworks and sound limiter fitted sound systems are mandatory according to the existing rules, these are openly flouted by a section of revelers.

We, therefore, appeal to you, to ensure that the competent authorities take all possible measures to curb this menace. This would of great support to senior citizens, like us, who otherwise are forced to endure, grave discomfort, both physical and mental, from a section of unruly revelers.

We place our trust in you to take remedial measures as may be necessary.

We take this opportunity to extend the best wishes for the season and for the coming New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Shiladitya Das
Chandan Ghosal
Sujit Bose
Avijit Bhattacharya
Prof. Sandip Mukhopadhyay
Sabyasachi Majumdar
Prof. Krishanu Chakrabarti
Dr Durga Prasad Chakraborty
Dr Saurendu Sekhar Biswas,
Dhirendra Kumar Barma

Subhendu Dasgupta
Pradip Dutta
Dr Dipankar Adhya
Buroshib Dasgupta
Pranab Kumar De
Rajat Sur
Brindaban Bhabak
Surojit Sen
Gautam Ghosh
Nirmal Kumar Mirani

Naba Dutta
Samar Bagchi
Sasanka Dev
Debasish Ray
Shyamalendu Biswas
Kankan Lahiri
Swati Gupta
Amitava Mitra
Partha Sahay