Supreme Court Urges Balance Between Religious Sentiments and Public Health on Firecrackers

The Supreme Court considered restrictions on firecrackers in the national capital and neighbouring regions, highlighting the need to balance religious sentiments with public health.

A Supreme Court judicial review addressing the regulation of firecrackers to balance public health, environmental concerns, and religious practices.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court** heard the firecracker regulation case on Monday, **October 12, 2026**, focusing on the national capital and neighbouring regions.
- **Justice Joymalya Bagchi** questioned during the hearing whether there is a core religious basis for bursting firecrackers.
- The **Chief Justice of India** cautioned against imposing restrictions that cannot be effectively enforced on the ground.
- The bench emphasized educating people to voluntarily reject harmful cracker varieties rather than relying solely on unenforceable bans.
- The court deliberations addressed the critical intersection of environmental pollution, **public health**, and cultural practices.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Article 21 of the Constitution guarantees the right to a clean and healthy environment as part of the right to life.

Article 48A under the Directive Principles of State Policy directs the State to protect and improve the environment.

The **Environment Protection Act** was enacted by Parliament in the year **1986**.

The **Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation** regulates the manufacture, possession, and sale of fireworks in India.

Sivakasi in **Tamil Nadu** accounts for a major share of India's total firecracker manufacturing output.

Article 25 of the Constitution guarantees freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion, subject to public order, morality, and health.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Supreme Court highlighted the need to balance religious sentiments and public health regarding firecracker restrictions.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for understanding judicial balancing of fundamental rights, environmental protection laws, and public health directives in India.

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