

**Department of Environment, Govt of West Bengal
and
West Bengal Pollution Control board**

GREEN PUJA AWARD 2011

Press Release, 18th November 2011

Special features of the award winning pujas – This is for the first time that the Dept of Environment, Govt of West Bengal and West Bengal Pollution Control Board(WBPCB) instituted such an award in order to invigorate environmental campaign during the biggest festival of the State. A total of 29 Puja Organizers enrolled for the contest. Teams of judges (consisting of eminent professors of IIT and Calcutta University, officials from the Fire Service and the WBPCB) visited the pandals on October 2 and 3 and made assessments based on the norms (*Use of sound-limiter in loudspeakers, use of non-toxic paints, solid waste disposal, display of environmental awareness materials etc.*) suggested by WBPCB in the Undertaking the Puja Committees had to sign while they applied to the Police Administration for permission. It is reported from different sections of the society that this award has helped a lot in the mission to arouse environmental awareness.

The First Prize goes to *Bhawanipur Swadhin Sangha*

The idol represents a combination of three forms of power i.e., Bramha, Bishnu and Maheswar. The theme was impressively environment friendly and display of the awareness posters was most abundant. Very clean, very good waste management facility, best compliance with the norms and guidelines of WBPCB.

The Second prize goes to *Raipur club, Ramgarh , Garia.*

The idol appeared to convey the universal message of environment and peace. The whole idol as well as the pandal was very conducive to propagate the message of protecting our blue planet. Very impressive compliance of the norms suggested by the WBPCB.

The Third Prize goes to *Hatibagan Nabin Palli Sarbojonin*

Practically no use of synthetic materials for the idols and the pandal. Messages are conveyed in the classical style. Very prominent in display in environmental messages. Very clean, environment friendly, very good compliance with the norms and guidelines suggested by the WBPCB.

[1st, 2nd & 3rd Trophies made by the Teachers of Government College of Art and Craft, Calcutta]

Special Prizes:[Cash award of Rs. 5000/- each]

(i) *Maniktala Chaltabagan Lohapatty Durga Puja Committee*

Compliance with suggested norms. Mostly recyclable materials used for making the idol and for decoration. Emphasis on environmental protection through energy conservation (LED, solar panels, wind turbine), very good house-keeping and safety measures.

(ii) *Maniktala Tikiapara Sarbojonin Durgotsav Committee*

The organizers made it possible to present excellent and conspicuous display of environmental messages through simplicity and a amazingly low budget pujas. It is established that they do what they say and what they mean. It has an additional dimension of amalgamation of social service and environmental awareness. Compliance with the suggested norms. Incidentally, this is the 107th year of this Puja.

The Department of Environment, Govt of West Bengal and the WBPCB congratulate the Puja Committees that enrolled in the contest and for their efforts and passion for propagating environmental awareness.