

Green Crackers

October 18, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Green Crackers Latest News

Recently, the Supreme Court has permitted only green crackers to be sold in Delhi-NCR region.

About Green Crackers

- Green crackers are **fireworks developed** by the government's **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI)**.
- Green crackers were developed after the Supreme Court banned conventional firecrackers **in 2017**.
- Three **types of green crackers** have been developed – **SWAS** (Safe Water Releasable), **STAR** (Safe Thermite Cracker), and **SAFAL** (Safe Minimal Aluminium),

Features of Green Crackers

- They are made by reducing the **size of the shells**, eliminating ash, using fewer raw materials, and adding dust-suppressing additives.

- **There are two main categories of green crackers:** improved crackers that modify existing formulations to cut emissions; and new formulation crackers that replace polluting ingredients altogether.
- Metals, which form part of particulate matter, are either minimized or eliminated to reduce toxicity.
- **Chemical composition of Green Crackers**
 - Green crackers, on the other hand, **exclude barium compounds**, and have drastically-reduced aluminium and sulphur content.
 - They **rely on cleaner oxidisers** and formulations that **limit the release of harmful particulates**.
 - Conventional firecrackers use chemicals such as **barium, sulphur, potassium nitrate, and aluminium**, which produce bright colours and loud noises. They also release heavy metals and toxic gases into the air.

Advantage of Green Crackers

- They **produce brightness and sound comparable** to conventional firecrackers (around 100 to 120 dB) and **reduce particulate matter** (PM), SO₂, and NO₂ emissions by at least 30 per cent.

Identification of green crackers

- Genuine green crackers can be identified through two mandatory features introduced by CSIR-NEERI which include the official Green Fireworks logo printed on the packaging, and
- a unique QR code that can be scanned using **the 'CSIR-NEERI Green QR Code' mobile app**.
- Scanning the code provides details about the manufacturer, formulation, and NEERI certification status of the product.

Source: IE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/green-crackers/>

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