

#### रत्तराः ज्ञेषः यर्चे वा वर्षिरः।

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# ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN WANGDUE PHODRANG DZONGKHAG



DAW/Env-16/2022-23/1642

September 14, 2022

#### NOTIFICATION

# Discouraging the import and disposal of religious statues/items in the environment during the Vishwakarma Puja

As per the notification issued by the National Environment Commission vide letter no. NECS/WMD/Mis/2022-2023/1662 dated September 13, 2022, the Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag Administration discourages the import and disposal of religious statues/items in the environment during the celebration of Vishwakarma Puja on September 17, 2022.

The ritual items/statues are indiscriminately disposed of in the water bodies (rivers and streams), which causes irreversible impacts on the environment and human health. Moreover, the disposal of waste into the environment is against the National Environment Protection Act 2007, the Waste Prevention and Management Act of Bhutan 2009, and the Water Act of Bhutan 2011.

Therefore, the Dzongkhag Administration notifies all the regional heads, PHPA-I&II, Gewogs, business communities, automobile workshop owners, and individuals who are involved in the celebration of Viswakarma Puja to refrain from disposing of religious items/statue in the water bodies and environment other than the designated dump site.

This notification is issued for strict compliance and the non-compliance will be dealt with as per the existing environmental rules.

The Dzongkhag Administration solicits your kind support and continued cooperation.

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