



Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa

**The Goa Ban on Immersion of  
Plaster of Paris Idols Bill, 2008**

(Bill No. 29 of 2008)

(By Shri Damodar Naik)  
MLA

AS  
(~~To be~~ introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa)

GOA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT  
ASSEMBLY COMPLEX, PORVORIM, GOA  
AUGUST, 2008

**THE GOA BAN ON IMMERSION OF PLASTER  
OF PARIS IDOLS BILL, 2008**

(Bill No. 29 of 2008)

A

BILL

*to ban the immersion of idols made of plaster of paris in water bodies in Goa.*

5 BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Goa in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

10 1. *Short Title and Commencement.*— This Act may be called the Goa Ban on Immersion of Plaster of Paris Idols Act, 2008.

15 2. *Ban on Immersion of Plaster of Paris Idols.*— No one shall immerse, throw, dissolve, deliberately or by inadvertence, any article including idols, made wholly or partly of plaster of paris, in any public water body, whether it is sea, river, nullah, pond, stream, spring, pool or by any such name.

20 3. *Special responsibility of the State Government.*— It shall be special responsibility of the State Government to keep vigil against contravention of this Act especially before, during and after religious functions when there will be more probability of this Act to be contravened.

25 4. *Complaints and penalty.*— (1) Complaints for violation of this Act shall be preferred before the Collector concerned.

(2) The Collector shall follow a summary procedure of inquiry and pass orders for penalty, if found guilty.

(3) While passing orders the Collector shall rely upon statements in corroboration made by nearby residents and passersby as well as photographs including photographs taken on mobile cameras, and every complaint shall be disposed of within 7 days of receipt of complaint. 5

(4) Every person who contravenes this Act shall be punished with a fine of Rs. 5000 and simple imprisonment for a period 15 days and if more than one person contravenes this Act in a group, each such person in that group shall be fined and imprisoned separately. 10 15

4. *Appeal.*— Appeal against the order of the Collector under this Act shall be made to the Secretary in-charge of the Department dealing with Environment protection, who shall dispose of the appeal within 7 days from the date of filing of the appeal. 20

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The pollution caused to water bodies in the State of Goa due to immersion of idols made of plaster of paris has become an uncontrolled menace endangering very quality of life. Suitable law needs to be in place to curb this menace as well as to punish the perpetrators of this environmental hazard.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve these objectives.

PORVORIM, GOA.  
6 AUGUST, 2008.

*Sd/-*  
DAMODAR NAIK