

Residents find innovative ways to keep air clean this festive season

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GURUGRAM: Many societies in the city on Tuesday evening decided to break with tradition and celebrated Dussehra without burning the Ravana's effigy to prevent air pollution. Laser shows, dance drama on the life of goddess Sita, and kids shooting arrows at Ravana's effigy were some ways in which the residents celebrated the day that symbolises the victory of good over evil.

Children at DLF Magnolias in Sector 42 were given bows and arrows and asked to shoot at Ravana's effigy. Purnima Das, a resident of the society, said, "This is for the first time we haven't burnt the effigy. Children were asked to aim at Ravana effigy with bows and arrows, and shoot at it."

The society laid emphasis on having good music and dance, and avoided bursting firecrackers. "Bursting of firecrackers is not allowed in our society for the past three years," added Das.

At Vatika India NXT in Sector 82, residents organised a laser show involving lord Ram and Ravana. AK Singh, vice-president, Enviro (management wing of Vatika Group), said, "With the burning of effigy comes pollution, and none of us wants to give our kids a life full of bad air. So, we had a laser show depicting what happened on Dussehra."

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depicted the life of Sita. Anupa Gupta, organiser of the event, said, "Our society is against burning of effigy that causes pollution. So, we called a dance troupe which showcased Sita's role in Ramlila." Brigadier Anand Sharma, a resident of Sector 31, said, "The dance drama of 45 minutes showed the life of Sita in Ramayana."

Residents of Wellington Estate, DLF Phase 5, took out a candle light march against plastic waste. Anuradha P Dhawan, a resident, said, "Our society orga-

nised a march, where residents shouted slogans against use of plastics. Also, we had a waste recycler who briefed us about why recycling is important."

There were several other societies where the effigy of Ravana was not burnt and residents spread the message of 'saying no to firecrackers'. Shona Charterjee, a resident of Silver Oaks Apartments, Sector 26, said, "We have not burnt the Ravana's effigy and told kids that bursting of crackers is not right as it causes air pollution."

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ANUPA GUPTA, organiser of the event at Raheja Atlantis in Sector 31



A few give up effigy burning, hold laser shows

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Photos: Vinay Gupta

Gurgaon: Residents in the city found eco-friendly ways to celebrate Vijayadashami. While some put up spectacular laser shows, many gave up effigy burning.

"Burning of effigies is synonymous to Dussehra all over the country. But it is also the time of the year when smog takes over Delhi-NCR, leading to several respiratory problems. We decided to give up effigy burning and organised a laser and LED light effigy creation and burning," said A K Singh, vice president of Enviro (facilities management) at Vatika India INXT, a township in Sector 82.

"It was quite an impressive animated laser show, with sound and lights effects. Also, no plastic was used during the Dussehra celebrations. All vendors either used paper bags or other plastic substitutes," said Chandani Singh, a resident.

Many residential societies in DLF-5 gave up effigy bur-



While residents in Gurgaon's Sector 82 conducted laser shows, in many other places such as Gaushala Ground effigies were burnt

ning. "Instead of three effigies of Ravana, Kumbhakaran and Meghnath, we put up big color-coded dustbins for three evils — plastic waste, electronic waste and paper waste. People brought segregated waste and

put them in the color-coded dustbins. We carried out a candle march and went around the condominium to spread awareness about waste segregation. We take pride in the fact that this is the sixth ye-

ar of celebrations when no effigy was burnt during Dussehra celebrations," said Anu Dhanwan, co-founder of the eco-club of Wellington Estate, a condominium in DLF-5. "All the condominiums of DLF-5 decided

to celebrate a green Dussehra and didn't burn effigies. We placed color-coded dustbins during Dussehra and took a pledge to dump waste in the respective dustbins," said Chandrima, a resident of DLF-5.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/residents-find-eco-friendly-ways-to-keep-air-clean-this-festive-season/story-jtBziYDWJR2J7Ysj7hcUI.html>

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Akanksha Gupta
09 October 2019



Photo: CitySpidey

Gurugram: Vatika India NXT celebrates green Dussehra

Keeping up with the festive quotient, a green Dussehra was celebrated at Vatika India NXT, a residential township in Sector 82, Gurugram. The event was organised by enviro, the facility management of Vatika India NXT.

A symbolic Ravan dahan was shown on LED screen instead of burning an effigy. A spectacular laser light and sound shows entertained the residents.

The evening brought together all the residents who were treated with various dance performances, delectable food, kids zones, shopping stalls etc. The residents lauded the effort of the management to celebrate the festival pollution free.



Garima Jain, a resident of the society said, "Festivals are meant to be celebrated with friends and family. Now it is great to see people becoming more conscious towards the environment and are willing to celebrate

festivities in an environment friendly manner.”

