



Press Release

The Cautions on Loy Kratong Festival

November 18, 2010

Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior, cautioned all concerned parties about hazards and danger to be prepared for during “Loy Kratong Festival” 2010 and advised all provinces as well as Bangkok Metropolitan to do the followings;

- (1) Insist local authorities to strictly issue or extend license of fireworks production, import, or trade; and to investigate fireworks warehouses, factories, or shops.
- (2) Insist officials in charge according to the related disaster prevention and mitigation regulation to investigate potential risk areas such as piers, ferry ports.
- (3) As the Local Director for disaster prevention and mitigation, all necessary resources and personnel should be ready for operations
- (4) Insist government agencies, local administrative offices and private sector, who is going to organize the event for Loy Kratong Festival, to set preventive measures for fireworks accident and make sure that all river bank areas where the Festival will take place have necessary life support equipment in place. For southern part of Thailand where wind and thunder storm potentially occur, extra caution on the stability of festival constructions should be made.
- (5) Insist officials in charge to follow safety standards and enforce road safety rules.
- (6) Mobilize a cadre of officials, civil defence volunteers, and police officers to monitor fire risk areas and other water-related risk areas; control traffic; secure safety of the hot spot areas such as piers, boat station, and river bank as well as safety of the transporting boats. In addition, well equipped fire fighting and rescue unit should be also ready for emergency and stationed at site.
- (7) Disseminate necessary information to fireworks shops about legal actions compliant to The Fire Arms, Bullets, Explosive Devices, Fireworks, and Artificial Gunfire Act B.E.2490. Public relations on venues, and activities for promotion of traditional Loy Kratong Festival should also be made.
- (8) In case of fire incident or accident that brings about mass casualty, follow the emergency response plan and inform DDPM immediately at telephone/fax number 0-2241-7450-5 or DDPM Hotline 1784.