



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NDU

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINE No. 7

MULTI- PURPOSE HALL , INCLUDING WEDDING HALL

1.0 Purpose of guideline

This environmental guideline for multi-purpose hall, including wedding hall has been prepared by the Ministry of Environment & NDU to ensure that all environmental issues are duly taken into consideration by stakeholders.

2.0 Nature of development

A multi-purpose hall serves to accommodate various activities, such as wedding ceremonies, receptions, social gatherings, religious activities, seminars, conferences, meetings, workshops.

The activities involved usually entail provision of adequate parking space as well as amenities such as kitchen, store, changing rooms, lobby, stage, toilet blocks and emergency staircase.

3.0 Potential impacts

The major environmental issues associated with a multi-purpose hall are noise and solid waste disposal. The different aspects, impacts and nuisances related to such activities are listed below:

Activity	Aspects	Impacts/ Nuisances
Construction phase		
Site preparation / construction of buildings (where applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generation of excavated soil , debris and construction wastes - Use of heavy machinery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dumping into barelands, water bodies and drains -Dust, noise and mud -Visual impacts
Operation phase		
Entertainment / noisy activities e.g dancing , singing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generation of noise - Operating at late – night hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nuisance and disturbance to the neighbourhood
Vehicular movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate parking facilities - Accessibility problem -Generation of noise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic implications -Nuisance to the

Ministry of Environment and NDU
Environmental Guideline No. 7

	-Generation of smoke	neighbourhood - Air pollution
- Washing of floor , equipment , utensils	-Wastewater generation	- Risks of pollution of watercourses
- Gathering of people	- Generation of solid wastes and domestic wastewater - Fire hazards	- Land and water pollution - Risks of contamination of water bodies and groundwater -Threat to human safety - Destruction of amenities
- Toilet , kitchen and catering facilities	- Poor housekeeping	- Pests/ rodents / flies - Odour - Visual impacts

4.0 Siting of activity

The multipurpose hall shall be away from residential areas.

5.0 Environmental Considerations / Conditions

The major environmental issues are **noise and solid waste disposal** and the following conditions shall be observed:

- (i) All electric motors such as stand-by generator and air- conditioning devices shall be housed in soundproof enclosures to keep noise level within permissible limits as per the Environment Protection (Environmental Standards for Noise) Regulations 1997. The noise exposure limits as per the above regulation are as follows:

Industrial noise		Neighbourhood noise	
7:00 – 21:00	60*dB(A) Leq	7:00 – 18:00	60 dB(A) Leq
21:00 – 7:00	55*dB(A) Leq	18:00 - 21:00	55 dB(A) Leq
		21:00 – 7:00	50 dB(A) Leq

* A tonal character adjustment of +5 dB(A) should be applied to the measured value where the noise has a definite continuous note such as a whine or hiss.

- (ii) Wastewaters shall be collected and disposed of.

Ministry of Environment and NDU
Environmental Guideline No. 7

- (iii) All solid wastes generated from the multi- purpose hall shall be collected and disposed of.
- (iv) No nuisance by way of noise dust, odour shall be caused to the public and surrounding environment during site preparation, infrastructural works and during operation of the activity.
- (v) The Department of Environment of the Ministry of Environment and NDU shall be informed in writing of the dates of commencement of works on site and operation of the activity for monitoring purposes.

6.0 Enforcement

Under Section 13 of the Environment Protection Act 2002, the enforcing agencies for the different environmental medium or pollutants are as follows:

S. No	Environmental media/ pollutant	Enforcing Agency
1	Noise, odour	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
2	Effluents	Ministry of Public Utilities
3	Solid wastes	Ministry of Local Government

The above-mentioned enforcing agencies shall monitor compliance with the conditions falling under their purview.

7.0 Offences

Any person who fails to comply with any regulations/standards referred to in this guideline shall commit an offence and shall:

- (i) on a first conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 50, 000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.
- (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 100,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 8 years.

For further information, please contact

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