

Press Release

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Govardhan Puja and Annakut Festival Celebrated Across India Including Delhi After Diwali Festivities, Traders Gear Up for Bhai Dooj, Chhath and Tulsi Vivah — Wedding **Season Brings Renewed Optimism**

Following the Diwali festivities, Govardhan Puja was celebrated with great fervor across the country, including Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Devotees offered 56 delicacies to Lord Krishna and performed rituals by creating replicas of Govardhan Hill using cow dung. In Delhi, Member of Parliament and National Secretary General of CAIT, Shri Praveen Khandelwal, also organized Govardhan Puja at his residence, attended by a large number of prominent citizens of Delhi.

On this occasion, *CAIT's Veda and Astrology Committee Convenor and renowned astrologer from Ujjain, Acharya Shri Durgesh Tare*, along with other learned priests, created idols of Lord Krishna and Govardhan Hill using cow dung and performed the rituals with Vedic chanting.

Govardhan Puja symbolizes protection from natural calamities and the spirit of environmental conservation. This year, it was celebrated with great enthusiasm across the country, *leading to a significant rise in sales of worship plates, earthen lamps, pure ghee, milk-curd, sandalwood, flowers and garlands, sweets, decorative pots, ritual clothing, and steel utensils*. The Annakut festival, expressing gratitude to Goddess Annapurna, was also observed joyfully nationwide.

Preparations for *Bhai Dooj*, to be celebrated on October 23, have once again brought vibrancy to the markets. *There has been a noticeable increase in the demand for sweets, dry fruits, tika materials, gift boxes, garments, watches, mobile accessories, and gifting items.*

Simultaneously, preparations for *Chhath Puja* are underway across the nation. The festival will be celebrated on *October 27-28*, and the sale of *fruits, sugarcane, coconuts, thekua (traditional sweets), bamboo baskets and trays, saris, brass and bronze utensils, earthen lamps, and other puja materials has already picked up strongly*.

The festive series will conclude with *Tulsi Vivah on November 2*, when the ceremonial marriage of Goddess Tulsi and Lord Shaligram will be performed according to traditional rituals. The demand for *tulsi plants, earthen lamps, ritual garments, flower garlands, ghee, rice, coconuts, pots, and traditional sarees and suits has seen a sharp increase ahead of the festival.*

Member of Parliament and National Secretary General of CAIT, Shri Praveen Khandelwal, stated: "Even after the record-breaking sales during Diwali, markets across the country continue to witness heavy footfall. This clearly reflects the growing enthusiasm of people toward Indian festivals and their increasing faith in domestic products under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Vocal for Local'."

He added that during Diwali and the subsequent *major festivals, sales of worship items, sweets, apparel, gift products, utensils, and electronic goods have recorded a 25-30% rise.*

Traders' focus has now shifted to the wedding season, which will begin after Dev Uthani Ekadashi on November 1 and continue till December 14. According to CAIT estimates, millions of weddings are expected to take place across India during this period, bringing Diwali-like vibrancy back to the markets.

Shri Khandelwal said, "After the bumper Diwali business, traders are now fully gearing up for the wedding season. *New sales records are expected in the gold and silver, jewelry, apparel, gifts, decoration, furniture, catering, hotel, beauty, and electronics sectors.*"

He further mentioned that traders anticipate the wedding season business could cross ₹5 lakh crore, giving a significant boost to the country's economy.

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