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## Centre of Excellence on Eco-Friendly Fireworks Launched in Nagpur

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Nagpur has become home to a new **Centre of Excellence on Eco-Friendly Fireworks**, a major initiative aimed at revitalizing India’s ₹6,000-crore fireworks industry while advancing sustainable manufacturing practices. The center will be hosted by **Laxminarayan Innovation Technological University (LITU)** in collaboration with Sivakasi’s fireworks industry and select international partners.

The project's primary goal is to modernize pyrotechnic production through innovative technologies that reduce environmental impact, with a special focus on **smokeless and low-emission firecrackers**. This move aligns with growing public demand and regulatory pressure for safer, more eco-conscious celebrations.

According to LITU officials, the center will serve as a hub for research, product development, and skill enhancement. It will also work closely with manufacturers to improve safety standards, adopt green chemistry practices, and develop fireworks that comply with environmental norms without compromising visual appeal or festive tradition.

The initiative is expected to benefit over **500,000 workers** across India's fireworks supply chain, most of whom are concentrated in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu, the heart of the country's pyrotechnics sector. By introducing cleaner technologies, the center aims to protect both livelihoods and public health.

Industry experts have welcomed the move, noting that India's fireworks exports could grow significantly if eco-friendly products meet global safety and environmental standards. International collaborations will help transfer advanced manufacturing techniques, reduce hazardous waste, and open new markets abroad.

Government representatives have described the center as a model for balancing tradition with sustainability. "We are committed to ensuring that our festivals remain vibrant while addressing environmental concerns. This center will lead the way in eco-innovation," a Ministry of Science and Technology official said. The **Centre of Excellence on Eco-Friendly Fireworks** is expected to begin pilot production trials later this year, with the first line of certified green firecrackers projected to reach the market before the next festive season.