

AIRPORT EMERGENCY SERVICE

FIRE SAFETY CIRCULAR

To All Airport Staff and Tenants

FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS WHEN OBSERVING TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS PRAYERS AND CEREMONIES AND USE OF NAKED LIGHTS IN CHANGI AIRPORT

Recently, the Airport Emergency Service (AES) attended to two fires; one fire involved a wooden altar and a burning oil lamp whilst another involved a burning oil lamp only. The probable cause of the first fire was either incense paper near to oil lamp's naked flame catching fire or the spilling of the oil lamp itself that later engulfed the whole wooden altar whilst the second fire points to the burning oil lamp as a potential ignition source for some outdoor furniture (See Annex A). To lower the risk of such fires, the following are some recommended fire safety requirement and tips (See also Annex A).

- i) Do not burn (or store) joss sticks, oil lamps, incense papers, candles and other offerings using a naked flame inside/outside the premises/building or at the airside. Do use joss sticks, lamps and candles that are electrical or battery operated and ensure that the electrical fire safety tips as per Fire Safety Circular 12/2013 are observed.
- ii) Avoid using wooden cabinets, combustible plastic containers or fragile glass containers to house the religious offerings as these are potential fire hazards. Do use metal or other non-combustible and non-fragile cabinets or containers to house the religious offerings.
- iii) Do place a suitable fire extinguisher near the religious offerings.
- iv) Open flame burning of joss sticks, oil lamps, incense papers, candles and other offerings is only allowed at the designated areas during the annual Seventh Month Festival period.
- v) Do not set up outdoor type prayer altars that are situated away from the building or in a common/public area without CAG's

approval. CAG reserves the right to remove unclaimed altars in public/common/outdoor areas without prior notice.

- vi) Apart from traditional religious prayers and ceremonies, the use of naked flame/lights in incense sticks, oil lamps or candles for aromatherapy or lighting purposes is strongly discouraged as the burning of these items pose as a potential ignition source and may cause fires.

2 AES wishes to highlight that whilst religious beliefs are respected, there is a need to uphold safety especially at Changi Airport as the airport's reputation will be at stake if a fire goes out of control due to open flame or live burning. AES will not hesitate to issue a stern warning and/or a service charge of SGD350.00 per hour or part thereof for any fire vehicle turnout due to burning smell incidents, false alarm activations or fires caused by negligence or ignorance of airport fire safety requirements. For further clarifications, you may contact the Airport Emergency Service Fire Safety Unit (AES FSU) at 65412535 or at fire.safety@changiairport.com.

NAZRI BAMADHAJ
for SUPERINTENDENT, FIRE SAFETY
AIRPORT EMERGENCY SERVICE

Annex A

FIRE INVOLVING A WOODEN ALTAR AND AN OIL LAMP WITH NAKED FLAME IN JUNE 2013



FIRE INVOLVING AN OIL LAMP WITH NAKED FLAME IN JUNE 2013



FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS WHEN OBSERVING TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS PRAYERS AND CEREMONIES AND USE OF NAKED LIGHTS IN CHANGI AIRPORT



Do not burn (or store) joss sticks, oil lamps, incense papers, candles and other offerings using a naked flame inside/outside the premises/building or at the airside.



Do use joss sticks, lamps and candles that are electrical or battery operated and ensure that the electrical fire safety tips as per Fire Safety Circular 12/2013 are observed.



Avoid using wooden cabinets, combustible plastic containers or fragile glass containers to house the religious offerings as these are potential fire hazards. Do use metal or other non-combustible and non-fragile cabinets or containers to house the religious offerings.



Do place a suitable fire extinguisher near the religious offerings.



Open flame burning of joss sticks, oil lamps, incense papers, candles and other offerings is only allowed at the designated areas during the annual Seventh Month Festival period.



Do not set up outdoor type prayer altars that are situated away from the building or in a common/public area without CAG's approval.



The use of naked flame/lights in incense sticks, oil lamps or candles for aromatherapy or lighting purposes is strongly discouraged as the burning of these items pose as a potential ignition source and may cause fires.