

Minutes of meeting to ensure actions to check dust mitigation measures in Delhi-NCR held on June 14, 2018 at CPCB, Delhi

An urgent review meeting to ensure actions to check dust mitigation measures was convened on June 14, 2018 at Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, in response to the current high episodic PM₁₀ levels. Meeting was chaired by Member Secretary, CPCB. The list of participants is annexed.

Member Secretary, CPCB welcomed the participants and emphasized on need for urgent proactive actions by concerned implementing agencies for maintaining air quality within acceptable limits during the ongoing emergency situation. He encouraged and appreciated efforts made by agencies and asked them to take stringent actions against violations.

Dr. Prashant Gargava, AD & Head, AQM division briefed the current status of air quality in view of ongoing dusty winds coming from Rajasthan. PM₁₀ levels already reached to severe + levels at 01 AM on 13th June and severe conditions were prevailing since last 35 hours. Inputs received from IMD indicated that these conditions are likely to continue for next 3 to 4 days. He informed that emergency Task Force meeting was convened on June 13, 2018 which recommended that GRAP actions as per severe + category may kick-in, if the high levels continue for 48 hours. It also recommended that measures to controlling dust from construction and demolition activities, road dust, stone crushers and hot mix plants. Task Force, further recommended that EPCA, DPCC & SPCBs to issue public advisory to avoid/ minimize prolonged exposures to outdoor weather conditions. As regional contribution to the severity is high, he emphasized that immediate actions at ground level must be taken by concerned public agencies to minimize local contribution.

Various implementing agencies like Municipal Corporations (east, south and north DMCs), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Public Works Department (PWD), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) etc. discussed the measures taken which

included water sprinkling on daily basis, mechanical sweeping, challans and regular monitoring of C & D activities.

After detailed deliberation, following recommendations were made for immediate action:

- Increased mechanized sweeping and water sprinkling and provide daily report to CPCB. The report primarily should define the number of machines deployed and the exact stretches covered by them.
- Set up team to ensure and verify the work done on daily basis.
- Stringently enforce rules for dust control in construction activities and close non-compliant sites.
- Devise a self-monitoring mechanism to assess and document the actions taken & effectiveness on a daily basis for more realistic results.
- Ground staff to be sensitized about the current alarming situation.
- Upload on website all the information regarding schedule, target and target accomplished of water sprinkling and mechanical sweeping.
- Daily report to be sent positively to CPCB.

Meeting ended with thanks to chair.

List of participants

1. Shri. A Sudhakar, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board.
2. Shri Pramod Kumar, Additional Municipal Commissioner, MCD Delhi.
3. Col. P. K. Dogra, Consultant, Delhi Cantonment Board
4. Shri A. K. Tiwari, RO, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Greater Noida)
5. Shri Arun Kumar, CE DEMS Delhi Municipal Corporation
6. Shri Vijendra Dhaiya, EE, North Delhi Municipal Corporation
7. Shri Ashok Kumar, AE, North Delhi Municipal Corporation
8. Shri Rajiv Jain, SE, South Delhi Municipal Corporation
9. Shri Rakesh Kumar, ZS, East Delhi Municipal Corporation
10. Mr. C.L Meena, EE(Civil) New Delhi Municipal Council
11. Shri Ramniwas Sharma, Sc. B, Haryana Pradesh State Pollution Control Board(Gurugram)
12. Shri Utsav Sharma, AEE, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Noida)
13. Shri J.P Maurya, AEE, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Noida)
14. Mr. M.L. Prasad, EE, Central Public Work Department (CPWD)
15. Mr Mudit Garg, DGM(T), National Highway Authority India (NHAI)
16. Shri Vaibhav, Site Engineer, National Highway Authority India (NHAI)
17. Shri KDN Singh, YP(T), National Highway Authority India (NHAI)
18. Shri Vikash Singhal, DGM(env.), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation(DMRC)
19. Shri Varun Singh, AM(env), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation(DMRC)
20. Shri R. K. Singh, CTP Gurugram, Transport Department.
21. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Head AQM, Central Pollution Control Board