

Minutes of Meeting Review Meeting with Public Agencies & SPCBs on Delhi NCR Air Quality

October 11, 2018

A review meeting with the concerned agencies and SPCBs to discuss field action plan for controlling air pollution activities in Delhi NCR during upcoming winter was held on October 11, 2018 at Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi. Meeting was chaired by Chairman, CPCB. The list of participants is annexed.

Chairman CPCB welcomed the participants and emphasized on need for proactive actions by concerned implementing agencies in maintaining air quality within acceptable limits.

A brief presentation was made on Delhi NCR Air Quality, following was apprised;

1. Air quality trends, ground level reporting by 41 teams, and Scoring method developed for assessing the effectiveness of actions.
2. Details of Hotspots in Delhi and NCR.
3. Noncompliance/Acknowledge on directions issued on 15 September, 2018 by CPCB has not been received from respective agencies.
4. Extensive campaign from October 15, 2018 - CPCB team along with concerned agencies and SPCBs.

Chairman CPCB while referring to the direction dated September 15, 2018 directed all construction agencies to act responsibly and make sure to comply with the direction. He expressed his concerns on distributions of implement for in-situ utilization of agricultural waste, the progress of which is not as per the expectations. Referring to Delhi Half Marathon to be held on October 21, 2018, he directed municipal bodies to check every route in their jurisdiction for any violation and take all necessary steps with deployment of all resources like mechanical sweepers and water sprinklers to control dust pollution and make it a success during the event period.

IT division demonstrated SAMEER App to officers handling the complaints through this App and media corner was also introduced to the participants. Queries and suggestions of officers regarding App and Media corner were welcomed to make it familiar to general public also. Some important suggestions like putting up advisories, action taken by other agencies such as formation of dust free zone by Noida Authority were shared. It was decided that information on good work being done by SPCBs/agencies to improve upon air quality will be shared on media corner. A system of allocating scores to each agency based their performance on resolutions of complaints was explained in detailed and their suggestions

were taken. Participants were informed that scores would be shared with media through the media corner. It was agreed that this was necessary to bring in accountability among agencies and to enhance their performance.

After detailed deliberation, Member Secretary CPCB, requested the implementing agencies to work in a collaborative manner for effective management on ground. Construction agencies, MCDs informed the measures taken which included water sprinkling on daily basis, challans and regular monitoring of C&D sites. Chairman CPCB, directed DPCC to resolve the issues of dumping waste at various sites with respective municipal bodies. Transport department informed that GRAP points are being implemented and assured that 5-7 official will be deputed for actions on Hotspots identified by CPCB.

It was re-emphasized that feedback from teams of CPCB conveys that field level action by agencies is not optimal and that there is a need to step up performance. Next few days in Delhi are likely to be difficult in terms of air quality. Therefore, all agencies have to be in state of high alert level and that they must mobilize additional resource to meet the challenge.

Actions to be ensured by all agencies based on above discussion are as follow: -

1. SPCBs and concerned agencies to respond and comply with CPCB directions dated September 15, 2018.
2. Land owning agencies in Delhi to be accountable for any open dumping/burning of waste on lands under their ownership or in possession and to be penalized for violation as per NGT orders.
3. SPCBs to ensure compliance of industrial standards in respect of Brick kilns, Power plants, Red Category industries and SO_x & NO_x standards for boilers, and closure of illegal units.
4. Any violation noticed to be dealt strictly as per law including closure Directions/ direct prosecution of defaulters.
5. SPCBs/agencies/ media to participate in extensive field visit schedule from October 15, 2018 to identify all air pollution activities to check PUC and Vapor recovery system in petrol pumps.
6. Every agency to share contact details of 4 nodal officers with respect to various activities for on spot ground actions by CPCB teams.

Meeting ended with thanks to chair.