

## **Minutes of Fifty First meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan held on October 30, 2019 at CPCB, Delhi**

Fifty First meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), was convened on October 30, 2019. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB. List of participants is annexed.

Member Secretary informed the members that air quality is in severe category since 5 pm onwards October 29, 2019, which is likely to continue until tomorrow. High number of incidences of stubble burning have been reported from States of Punjab and Haryana with contribution of approximately 25% to PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration on October 29, 2019. Dr. V. K. Soni, IMD informed that due to cyclone in the Arabian sea, there were clouds over Delhi. North Westerly winds bringing in smoke from biomass burning coupled with low surface winds result in rise in pollution levels. Winds will be slightly higher today and tomorrow and it is expected that from November 1, 2019, air pollution levels may come down to very poor category.

In view of the above, following recommendations are made:

1. Coal-based industries (exemption to power plants) in NCR (Faridabad, Gurugram, Ghaziabad, Noida, Greater Noida, Sonapat and Bahadurgarh) and industries not using PNG in Delhi to continue to remain closed till November 2, 2019.
2. Construction activities like earthwork, which have potential to generate dust, hot mix plants, stone crushers not to operate between 6 pm to 10 am till November 2, 2019 in Delhi and satellite towns namely Gurugram, Faridabad, Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, Sonapat and Bahadurgarh.
3. All implementing agencies to remain vigilant, intensify actions for controlling burning of waste, dust from C&D activities, road dust, and strictly enforce the law. Road dust must be controlled with multiple applications of water sprinkling or along with dust suppressants.
4. The states of Punjab and Haryana must take immediate stringent actions to curb stubble burning. Biomass burning in Delhi and other NCR towns must also be strictly checked.

Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

**List of Participants:**

1. Sh. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board
2. Sh. Arun Mishra, Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
3. Sh V. K. Shukla, Additional Director, Central Pollution Control Board
4. Sh. N.K. Gupta, Additional Director, Central Pollution Control Board
5. Sh. Sharandeep Singh, Scientist 'D', Central Pollution Control Board
6. Dr. Anil Kumar Singh, RO Noida, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
7. Sh. Utsav Sharma, RO Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
8. Sh. R.K. Ojha, Env. Engineer, Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority
9. Sh. Harish Chandra Joshi, ASO (Greater Noida), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
10. Dr. M.P. George, Scientist, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
11. Sh. Sohan Lal, Junior scientific officer, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, RO, Bhiwadi
12. Sh. Vijay Chaudhary, HSPCB
13. Dr. V. K. Soni, Scientist 'E', India Meteorological Department (video conferencing)