

**Minutes of seventh meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan
held on October 09, 2017 at CPCB, Delhi**

Seventh meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), was convened on October 09, 2017, at Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Shri. A. Sudhakar, Member Secretary, CPCB. List of participants is annexed.

Dr. Prashant Gargava, AD & Head, AQM Division welcomed the participants and informed that CPCB is reviewing air quality data and forecast provide by IMD. The alert was issued by IMD for period of October 06 – 12, due to air mass / winds coming to Delhi from Punjab & Haryana, haze is predicted from 11 & 12th October. Dr. Gargava also informed that the next two days forecast very poor air quality in Delhi. It was informed that on day of FIFA match (October 06, 2017) PM levels got quiet high, and there was prominent traffic congestion. The Task Force was updated, that with ongoing FIFA matches, Diwali festival nearby and weather change with temperature going down, Delhi is presently facing poor and expected to shift towards very poor category. He suggested that more stringent actions need to be implemented, in view of FIFA matches and Diwali. He added that EPCA was recommended by Task Force earlier to consider imposing very poor category actions from September 15, 2017 onwards. However, EPCA has decided to impose the same from October 15, 2017. It was suggested that considering the present poor air quality conditions, Task Force may again advise EPCA to impose very poor Graded action plan, measures with immediate effect. However, Dr. George suggested, since mandate of the Task Force is not to enforce the actions, the discussed recommendation of imposing very poor GRAP category actions to be communicated to EPCA may be decided, after further analysing air quality scenario for next 2-3 days.

Dr. Sidharth Singh, IMD informed that haze, earlier predicted in Delhi during October 11-12 is not expected anymore. Dr. M.P. George, DPCC informed that as suggested in the last Task Force meeting NHAI has been directed by DPCC to take corrective actions. He informed that SDM have been directed and two civil volunteers are provided with water sprinklers tankers to douse any fire burning incidence reported in their jurisdiction. Dr. Gargava requested DPCC to direct traffic police to check traffic congestion in coming days, especially at FIFA venues.

After detailed deliberations following was agreed upon:

1. Task Force will meet on October 12, 2017 (Thursday) at 4:00 p.m., wherein, previous week's air quality data and advance forecast, will be analysed/reviewed.
2. Advisory to be forwarded to EPCA on implementing very poor GRAP category, shall be finalized during the meeting.

Meeting ended with thanks to chair.

List of participants:

1. Shri. A Sudhakar, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board.
2. A.K.Tiwari, RO, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Greater Noida).
3. Utsav Sharma, AEE, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Greater Noida).
4. Dr. B.B Awasthi, Regional Officer, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Noida).
5. Dr. M.P Gorge, Scientist 'D', Delhi Pollution Control Committee.
6. J. P. Maurya, AEE, Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (Noida).
7. Dr. Jai Bhagwan Sharma, Regional Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board (Gurugram).
8. Dr. P. K. M. K Das, Regional Officer, Faridabad.
9. Ajay Sharma, Regional Officer, Ghaziabad.
10. D. Saha, Scientist 'E' Central Pollution Control Board.
11. K. C. Gupta, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board.
12. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Head AQM, Central Pollution Control Board.
13. Ms. Sakshi Batra, SSA, Central Pollution Control Board.
14. Parinita Baruah, Junior Research Fellow, Central Pollution Control Board.