

AQM/ ULB/2019-20/

SPEED POST

October 01, 2019

As per List

Sub.: Directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 for strict vigilance for ensuring zero tolerance to air polluting activities in upcoming winter months Oct 2019 – Feb 2020 - reg.

WHEREAS, under Section 17(1) (a) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of SPCBs is to plan comprehensive programs for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution and to secure the execution thereof;

WHEREAS, air pollution in Delhi NCR during critical winter months is a matter of serious concern, especially with regard to high levels of particulate matter exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards, 2009;

WHEREAS, in pursuant to meeting of High level Task Force held on December 18, 2018, 13 hotspots were identified in Delhi for micro level action planning;

WHEREAS, in pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated October 29, 2018 in W.P (civil) 13029/1985, accounts on Twitter and Facebook are being operated for providing citizens ease of lodging complaints and quick transmission to concerned agencies for redressal. Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated November 26, 2018 in W.P. (civil) 13029/1985 directed for immediate action for prosecution against agencies with inadequate public complaint redressal;

WHEREAS, CPCB vide letter dated August 13, 2019 advised Municipal Corporations and land owning agencies to take up special drive removing garbage dumps and C&D waste before onset of winter. Other priority actions to be taken regarding road dust resuspension, industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, etc. were communicated from time to time.;

WHEREAS, CPCB carried out a preliminary inspection of hotspots and 28 traffic corridors during August 22-31, 2019 to review ground level implementation of control measures and it was noted that dust from unpaved roads, unauthorized parking and traffic congestion were prominent air polluting activities. Further, a meeting to assess preparedness for upcoming winters was held on September 06, 2019 with concerned stakeholders and it was directed to ensure dedicated actions

with special attention to industrial areas & hotspots, weekly reporting to CPCB, effective enforcement of recommendations by Task Force and increased public engagement;

WHEREAS, it is evident from observations mentioned in paras above, that directions issued from time to time for maintaining air quality in Delhi NCR need to be effectively implemented with zero tolerance towards sources of air pollution;

WHEREAS, air quality in Delhi NCR becomes susceptible to deterioration during winter months under unfavorable meteorological conditions and if effective preventive actions are not taken the situation may worsen;

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers delegated under Section 18 (1) (b) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, it is directed to ensure firm actions with regard to following,


- a) Strict vigilance to ensure zero tolerance to any air polluting activity
- b) Rigorous inspection to be conducted in hotspot areas during winter months (October 2019-February 2020) and ensure all possible preventive, regulatory and punitive actions for maintaining air quality during these months
- c) Stringent action against illegal industrial units
- d) Strict penal actions including challan to be imposed on violators as per regulatory provisions & Hon'ble NGT orders
- e) Weekly action taken reports informing regulatory actions, prosecutions, penalties imposed, etc. to be submitted on every Monday to CPCB
- f) Swift redressal of complaints lodged on social media platforms to be ensured, preferably within 24 hours

The receipt of this direction shall be acknowledged immediately and action taken communicated within 07 days of receipt of same. SPCBs shall issue further directions to concerned authorities as may be necessary for implementation of these directions.

(S.P. Singh Parihar)
Chairman

Copy to:

- The Secretary : For kind information please
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan
Jorbagh Road, New Delhi - 110 003
- The Chief Secretary : For kind information please
Government of NCT of Delhi
Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, Delhi 110 002
- ✓ Head, IT Division : For uploading on media corner


(Prashant Gargava)
Member Secretary

List

1. The Chairman
Delhi Pollution Control Committee
4th Floor, ISBT Building
Kashmere Gate, Delhi – 110 006

2. The Chairman
U.P. State Pollution Control Board
3rd Floor, PICUP Bhawan
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar
Lucknow – 226 020

3. The Chairman
Haryana State Pollution Control Board
C-11, Sector – 6
Panchkula - 134109
Haryana

4. The Chairman
Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board
A-4, Jalane Dungri Institutional Area
Jaipur – 302 004