



SPEED POST

F. No. AQM/AP/2019-20/

To,

25-03-2021

Additional Chief Secretary, Environment
Govt. of Gujarat
Forests & Environment Department
Block-14, 8th floor, Sachivalaya
Gandhinagar, Gujarat- 382010

Sub.: Directions under Section 31A of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 regarding preparation of action plans-reg.

WHEREAS, under Section 16 (2) (b) (d) (g) and (j) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandates Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred as CPCB) to execute nation-wide programme, provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards for prevention, control or abatement of air pollution; collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to air pollution control and abatement of air pollution and perform such other functions as may be prescribed;

WHEREAS, air pollution particularly PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ has emerged as a major health concern in most of the cities & towns, with air quality reaching to alarming levels; and

WHEREAS, based on the data for the period 2015–2019, 124 cities failed to meet the prescribed standards are identified as non-attainment cities; and

WHEREAS, in pursuant to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order, all the States and Union Territories with non-attainment cities were required to constitute Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC), and AQMCs to prepare appropriate action plans aimed at bringing the standards of air quality within the prescribed norms; and

WHEREAS, as per order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, a three member committee shall examine the Action Plans and on the recommendations of the said Committee, the Chairman, CPCB shall approve the same; and

WHEREAS, city action plans for three non-attainment cities of Gujarat were already approved for implementation on 15-04-2019 and 27-01-2021; and

Contd....

WHEREAS, under XV- Financial commission (2020-21) funds were sanctioned to 42 million plus cities for air quality improvement; and

WHEREAS, out of 42 million plus cities 8 cities (Rajkot, Faridabad, Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Vasai-Virar, Jabalpur, Chennai and Meerut) which are not non-attainment were also requested to prepare city action plan; and

WHEREAS, the city action plan for Rajkot city of Gujarat was submitted to CPCB on 20-03-2021; and

WHEREAS, the three member committee examined the city plan of Rajkot on 22-03-2021 and recommendations of committee are placed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II; and

WHEREAS, in view of recommendations of the three member committee, Competent Authority has approved the city action plan for aforesaid city in state of Gujarat along with the recommendations enclosed at Annexure-I, for ground implementation with immediate effect.

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers under Section 31 A of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, you are directed to implement the city action plan, submit financial layout of each action within 30 days and submit progress report of the same to CPCB on quarterly basis.

Receipt of this direction shall be acknowledged immediately and action taken shall be communicated to CPCB within 07 days.



(Shiv Das Meena)
Chairman

- **State:** Gujarat
- **City:** Rajkot
- **Plan received on date:** 20-03-2021

Key Component	Observations	Remarks
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed	-
Source Identification	Industries, Vehicles, Road Dust, Construction Activities, Open Burning	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates
Action Points	Addressed all major sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify locations of proposed parking facility in the city • Provide action plan to check fuel adulteration in plan • Provide plan for creation of green buffers and paving along the traffic corridors
Long-term Strategy	Long term actions proposed	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to 5 year years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install all CAAQMS within 1 year • Timeline for SA study may be revised (between 1 to 1.5 year)
Executing Agencies	Identified	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Public complaints redressal mechanism not outlined	Complaint Redressal Mechanism needs to be developed
Budget Support	Budget estimates given	-
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See Remarks).	

General observations made by three member committee for further improvements in the plans:

1. Emission Inventory , Source Apportionment and Carrying Capacity Assessment: Vehicular Pollution, Industrial Emissions, Population Density, Construction Activities

The AQMCs should duly address the above issues so that the cities remain air quality compliant in future and some activities, if required, are restricted in future planning. It is expected the knowledge from EI, SA and carrying capacity assessment will upgrade the action plans.

2. Interim Emission Reduction Targets

The plans should include auditable and verifiable interim emission reduction targets. This will ensure continuous and timely implementation of actions.

3. Challenges in Implementation: Role of Central Agencies

Some actions proposed in the plans (e.g. supply of CNG or PNG) will require coordination and commitment from Central agencies. It is desirable that such actions are discussed with concerned agencies for effective implementation.

4. Consideration to Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)

The GRAP is an important contingency plan in NCR. The SPCBs may give due consideration to the GRAP and develop a suitable plan relevant to the emissions in the city and likelihood of their impact on air quality.

5. District Level Monitoring Committee

Besides AQMC, a monitoring committee headed by the Municipal Commissioner or District Magistrate comprising senior officers from concerned departments may be considered to review the progress and ensure smooth implementation of the plan.