



SPEED POST

AQM/ FireCrackers/2018-19/

December 10, 2018

To:

**The District Magistrate
District Magistrate Camp Office
G-33, Tulsi Marg
G Block, Pocket G
Sector 27
Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201301**

Sub.: Directions under Section 31A of The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981 regarding extensive ground actions and rigorous implementation of Graded Response Action Plan in Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - reg.

WHEREAS, Section 16 (2) (b), (f) and (j) of The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 mandates the Central Pollution Control Board (hereafter referred as CPCB) to execute nation- wide program for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution and organize a comprehensive program and perform such other functions as may be prescribed;

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

WHEREAS, emissions released from fire crackers burst during Diwali further increases particulate matter concentration in ambient air vis-à-vis contributes to rise in pollution levels in Delhi-NCR;

WHEREAS, Hon' ble Supreme Court vide order dated 23.10.2018 permitted production of fire crackers with reduced emissions (improved crackers and green crackers);

WHEREAS, Hon' ble Supreme Court vide order dated October 31, 2018 banned sale of fire crackers other than crackers with reduced emissions (improved crackers and green crackers) in Delhi and NCR;

WHEREAS, it has been reported that fire crackers other than those permitted by the Hon' ble Supreme Court were sold, and burst on Diwali in District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh;

WHEREAS, CPCB directed District Magistrate, Gautam Budh Nagar, on November 09, 2018 to submit report on action taken to prevent sale of unauthorized fire crackers in District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh along with reasons for non-compliance of the Hon' ble Supreme Court order;

WHEREAS, CPCB received action taken report of Gautam Budh Nagar dated November 20, 2018, wherein District Magistrate informed the steps taken to check bursting of firecrackers such as sensitization and education to public, school children, Resident Welfare Associations and NGOs on the health hazards and ill-effects of breathing polluted air, including air that is polluted due to fireworks; 135 location were identified to burst the cracker and to maintain stipulated time as per Hon' ble Supreme Court order and action has been taken against 68 people for violation of court orders;

WHEREAS, as per the action taken report submitted, 83 licenses were issued for sale of green firecrackers and affidavit was taken from license owner to comply with the direction of Hon' ble Supreme Court order however, action was taken against 70 license holders but no report for remaining 13 license holders was submitted;

WHEREAS, as reported by District Magistrate Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh firecrackers have been brought to Gautam Budh Nagar from other districts including Delhi;

WHEREAS, as per report received, the actions taken were unsatisfactory to curtail the higher air pollutant levels, and additional measures for control of air pollution is required as air quality is a major concern during winters in Delhi-NCR;


WHEREAS, during field visits made between September 15, 2018 to October 31, 2018, various air polluting incidences have been reported in Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh such as construction activities, open dumping/ burning of garbage and illegal industrial waste etc.;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above, and, in exercise of powers vested Section 31A of The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981, following direction is hereby issued to District Magistrate, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,

- a) To ensure that orders of Hon' ble Supreme Court, WP (C) 728 of 2015: Arjun Gopal and Ors. Vs Union of India and Ors. dated October 31, 2018 are complied with during Christmas and New Year.
- b) To step up effort and take extensive ground actions and implementation of Graded Response Action Plan to curtail air polluting activities in your jurisdiction.

The receipt of direction may be acknowledged within 07 days and action taken report may be submitted to CPCB by January 07, 2018.


(S.P. Singh Parihar)
Chairman


12/01/2018