



SPEED POST

AQM/ ULB/2018-19/

September 15, 2018

To
As per the list
(Agri. dept.)

Sub.: Direction under Section 5 of The Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 to agriculture department regarding enforcement of stubble burning for upcoming winter season - reg.

WHEREAS, Section 16 (2) (b) of The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 mandates the Central Pollution Control Board 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 towns is a matter of serious concerns, especially with regard to high levels of particulate matter exceeding National Ambient Air Quality Standards, 2009;

WHEREAS, in pursuant to Hon'ble NGT in the matter of O.A No. 21/2014 (Vardhman Kaushik Vs. UoI) vide its order dated November 04, 2015, burning of the stubble is banned in Delhi-NCR and Punjab. Further it also imposed fines to offenders.

WHEREAS, in pursuant Hon'ble NGT in the matter of O.A 118/2013 (Vikrant Kumar Tongad Vs. UoT) has issued various directions including implementation of the National Policy for Management of Crop Residue, 2014, Machines, Mechanism and Equipment's for crop residue management, fines on offenders, farmer awareness, develop real time monitoring mechanism for monitoring burning of agricultural residues, etc.;

WHEREAS, historical trends indicate further increased levels of stubble burning leads to episodic events in Delhi NCR during winter season between November 06, 2017 to November 12, 2017;

WHEREAS, a meeting was held under Chairmanship of Chairman, CPCB on August 30, 2018, to discuss status of preparedness for controlling air polluting sources during winters in Delhi NCR;

WHEREAS, concerned agencies were requested to prepare targeted action plans by 5th September 2018;


WHEREAS, stakeholders briefed that plans and status of implementation for prohibiting stubble burning in their jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, Chairman CPCB directed to increase the percentage of covered area through maximizing availability of implements by September 15, 2018 and develop a complete enforcement mechanism in uncovered areas.

Now therefore, in exercise of powers delegated to The Chairman, CPCB under Section 5 of The Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 and in view of anticipated Poor air quality in Delhi, you are directed to ensure actions with regard to following;

- a. Concerned agriculture departments to provide information regarding supply of implements distributed, expected area to be covered & likely to remain uncovered. Information to be provided to CPCB. Efforts should be made to maximize availability of implements by September 15, 2018. Enforcement mechanism to be strengthened in the uncovered areas.
- b. Any violation noticed may be strictly dealt as per law.

The SPCBs shall acknowledge the receipt of this direction immediately and shall communicate the action taken to CPCB within 07 days. SPCBs shall issue further directions to such authorities as may be necessary for implementation of these directions.


(A K Mehta)
Chairman
15.9.18

Copy to:

- The Chairman : For information please
Environment Pollution Control Authority
Core 6A, 12th floor, India habitat Centre
Lodhi road, New Delhi- 110003
- Head, IT division : For uploading on website please


(Prashant Gargava)
Member Secretary

m/h

List:

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