

## Draft Press Note

### **CPCB organizes 33<sup>rd</sup> Analytical Quality Control (AQC) Exercise to evaluate the performance of EPA approved Private and Government Environmental Laboratories**

The Instrumentation Laboratory of Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi has organized the **33<sup>rd</sup> Analytical Quality Control (AQC) exercise** for trace metal parameters for Environmental Laboratories of Central and State Pollution Control Boards, Pollution Control Committee's, and EPA Recognized Private Labs. The trace metals included in the 33<sup>rd</sup> AQC exercise are- Total Arsenic (As), Cadmium (Cd), Total Chromium (Cr), Copper (Cu), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Nickel (Ni), Lead (Pb) and Zinc (Zn) for the assessment of pollution in air and water. The main objective of the AQC program is to continuously monitor the accuracy and reliability of the analytical data generated by these laboratories, to help to improve the infrastructure of laboratories and the quality of data.

The AQC exercise will help evaluate the performance of participating laboratories in terms of analytical activities, the robustness of instruments used for sample analysis and the expertise of manpower engaged in the laboratory. It will also help to ensure the reliability of the analysed data, for an informed and conclusive decision for the prevention and control of pollution.

145 laboratories including all the Central and State Board laboratories, Pollution Control Committees and EPA approved laboratories are participating in the 33<sup>rd</sup> AQC program. The exercise is being conducted with in-house expertise and following the international norms with utmost care.

The laboratories would analyse AQC samples, and communicate the test results confidentially on or before the due date. The performance of each laboratory would be evaluated based on scores and the scorecards would be sent by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021.

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021