

# **CONFIDENTIAL**

## **Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the sub-committee for operationalization of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) October 18, 2021**

Second meeting of the sub-committee for operationalization of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was convened on October 18, 2021 via video conferencing. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and chairperson of the sub-committee for operationalization of GRAP. The list of participants is annexed (Annexure I).

MS, CPCB informed that the sub-committee had held a meeting earlier on October 12, 2021 wherein, it made certain recommendations. Meanwhile, Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) issued a revised order dated October 14, 2021 reconstituting the sub-committee for operationalization of GRAP and issuing necessary orders to the effect along with the inclusion of two members namely, Sh. V.K. Soni, Scientist 'F', IMD and Dr. T.K. Joshi, Health Expert, MAMC.

Sh. V.K. Soni, IMD was requested to apprise about the meteorological forecast in the upcoming days. He informed that Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh received rainfall on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. He also informed that North-Easterly winds with speed of 10-12 Km/hr will prevail till October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 thereafter, winds will become North-Westerly with speed of 8-10 Km/hr. In the period between October 21<sup>st</sup> - October 24<sup>th</sup>, air quality is likely to fluctuate between 'Moderate' to 'Poor' category.

MS, Rajasthan and Representative, UPPCB also expressed their views regarding taking pro-active measures, however, Director, CAQM and MS, Haryana suggested that only the actions under prevalent AQI category should be taken.

Sub-committee deliberated on the meteorological forecast, contribution of stubble burning, air quality forecast, and actions under GRAP and following decisions were made:

1. It was agreed that actions under 'Poor' to 'Moderate' category should be rigorously implemented with immediate effect in Delhi-NCR namely:
  - a) Stringently enforcing/stopping garbage burning in landfills and other places and imposing heavy fines on person responsible.

- b) Stringently enforcing all pollution control regulations in industries and thermal power plants
  - c) Ensuring that all brick kilns remain closed in Delhi-NCR as per the directions of Hon'ble NGT.
  - d) Ensuring periodic mechanized sweeping and/or water sprinkling on roads with heavy traffic and dust generation potential.
  - e) Strict vigilance and no tolerance for visible emissions – stop plying of visibly polluting vehicles by impounding or heavy fine.
  - f) Strict vigilance and enforcement of PUC norms.
  - g) Stringently enforcing rules for dust control in construction activities and close non-compliant sites.
  - h) Deploying traffic police for smooth traffic flow at identified vulnerable areas.
  - i) Strictly enforcing Supreme Court order on diversion of non-destined truck traffic and ensuring only trucks registered after 2005 are allowed entry into Delhi.
  - j) Strictly enforcing Supreme Courts' ban on firecrackers.
2. States should be in readiness for implementation of actions under 'Very Poor' category within short notice as air quality is likely to deteriorate from October 21<sup>st</sup> onwards.
  3. Citizens to take actions to prevent air pollution, such as:
    - a) Keeping PUC certificates up to date.
    - b) Keeping engines of cars/ bikes/ scooters properly tuned.
    - c) Maintaining proper air pressure in tires of cars/ bikes/ scooters
    - d) Following lane driving
    - e) Optimize use of private vehicles
    - f) Not disposing waste /garbage in the open spaces
    - g) Reporting air pollution activities through SAMEER App, social media platforms and other public grievance portals
  4. States to disseminate information about air pollution levels and for creating awareness among citizens regarding steps to minimize air pollution.

Meeting ended with thanks to chair.

**List of Participants:**

1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board.
2. Rajesh Kumar, Director, Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas
3. Dr. K.S. Jayachandran, Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
4. Member Secretary, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board
5. Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
6. Sh. T.K. Joshi, Health Expert, MAMC
7. Dr. V.K. Soni, Scientist 'F', Indian Meteorological Department
8. Sh. Vivek Roy, CEO, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
9. Sh. Nipun Gupta, A.E.E., Haryana State Pollution Control Board
10. Dr. Rajesh Garhia, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
11. RO, Greater Noida
12. RO, Alwar
13. Sh. P.K. Gupta, Scientist E, Central Pollution Control Board
14. Ms. Deuvshree Sharma, Central Pollution Control Board