



**SUB-COMMITTEE OF CAQM ON GRADED RESPONSE ACTION PLAN**

A-19014/45/CAQM-GRAP/2020-21

November 13, 2021

**ORDER**

**Sub.: Implementation of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in Delhi-NCR- Steps to be taken**

The air pollution levels in Delhi-NCR post-Diwali have been substantially high. It is due to the compounding impact of local sources, adverse meteorological conditions that restrict pollution dispersion, and regional contribution including stubble burning. A Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was notified by the Government of India pursuant to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order, dated December 02, 2016 in the matter of M. C. Mehta vs. Union of India. The GRAP provides specific set of actions depending on air pollution levels, which are to be implemented by identified agencies for minimizing the pollution, particularly during critical winter season.

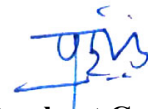
The Sub-Committee of Commission for Air Quality Management in Delhi-NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) for operationalizing GRAP has been regularly reviewing the air quality and meteorological information, and has issued directions vide Orders dated, October 18, 28 and November 03, 08, and 12 for implementation by concerned agencies. The agencies were also asked to send daily Action Taken Reports (ATR) to the CAQM and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

The Sub-Committee, in its meeting held on November 12, 2021 observed that PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels were beyond emergency threshold values of 500 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 300 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. As per GRAP, if the levels continue beyond threshold limit for 48 hours or more, 'Emergency Measures' must be implemented. Therefore, in the Order, dated November 12, 2021, the concerned States and Agencies were asked to be in complete readiness for implementing 'Emergency Measures', in addition to various other measures. The current situation was reviewed again today by the Sub-Committee. It was observed that PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations have come down below threshold values, however, it continues to remain in Severe AQI category.

In view of the above and as per decision of the Sub-Committee, following directions are issued for strict compliance:

1. States and concerned Agencies must be in complete readiness for implementing 'Emergency Measures' as listed under GRAP ([https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/final\\_graded\\_table.pdf](https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/final_graded_table.pdf)) in a short notice.
2. Following actions as per earlier Orders of the Sub-Committee, shall be strictly implemented till further order:
  - a) Increase frequency of mechanized cleaning of road and sprinkling of water on roads. Identify road stretches with high dust generation.
  - b) Ensure that all brick kilns remain closed in Delhi-NCR as per the directions of Hon'ble NGT.
  - c) Ensure closure of all Hot Mix plants and Stone Crushers in Delhi-NCR.
  - d) Maximize generation of power from existing natural gas based plants to reduce operation of coal based power plants in the NCR (Badarpur power plant already shut down)
  - e) Intensify public transport services (bus and metro) by augmenting contract buses and increasing frequency of service. Introduce differential rates to encourage off-peak travel.
  - f) Regular inspection for strict enforcement of dust control measures must be ensured at construction sites and close non-compliant sites.
  - g) Ensure uninterrupted power supply to discourage the use of Generator sets.
  - h) Stop use of diesel generator sets (except for emergency purposes)
  - i) Enhance parking fee by 3-4 times
  - j) Stop use of coal/firewood in hotels and open eateries
  - k) Alert in newspapers/ TV/ radio to advise people with respiratory and cardiac patients to avoid polluted areas and restrict outdoor movement.
  - l) Stringently enforce/stop garbage burning in landfills and other places and impose heavy fines on person responsible
  - m) Stringently enforce all pollution control regulations in industries and thermal power plants

- n) Strict vigilance and no tolerance for visible emissions – stop plying of visibly polluting vehicles by impounding or heavy fine.
  - o) Strict vigilance and enforcement of PUC norms.
  - p) Deploy traffic police for smooth traffic flow at identified vulnerable areas
  - q) Strictly enforce Hon'ble Supreme Court order on diversion of non-destined truck traffic and ensure only trucks registered after 2005 are allowed entry into Delhi.
  - r) Strictly enforce Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble NGT regarding firecrackers.
3. Government and private offices and other establishments are advised to reduce vehicle usage by at least 30% (by working from home, car-pooling, and optimizing their field activities, etc.)
  4. People are advised to limit outdoor activities and minimize their exposure.
  5. All responsible agencies must closely monitor, at appropriate levels, the actions taken and submit daily report to concerned SPCBs /PCC, which will review and further submit reports to CAQM and CPCB.



**(Prashant Gargava)**  
Chairperson of Sub-Committee  
and Member Secretary, CPCB