

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No.663 of 2023


**In Re: News Item published in Indian Express dated 07.10.2023 titled
"GRAP stage 1 cicks in as air quality dips to poor, condition likely
to prevail till Sunday"**

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New Delhi
Dated: 02.01.2024

Filed By


राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
DIRECTOR, CAQM
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली के वायु प्रदूषण नियंत्रण आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas
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THROUGH


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"GRAP stage 1 kicks in as air quality dips to poor, condition likely
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ACTION PLAN IN TERMS OF ORDER DATED 6.12.23

1. That in compliance of this Hon'ble Tribunals Order dated 29.11.2023 in Original Application No. 663 of 2023 titled as News item published in Indian Express dated 07.10.2023 titled "GRAP Stage 1 kicks in as air quality dips to poor, condition likely to prevail till Sunday", a detailed Action Plan was filed before this Tribunal on 05.12.2023.
2. That the Hon'ble Tribunal *vide* its Order dated 06.12.2023 observed that action plan dated 5.12.23 is lacking in respect of minor sectors under major sub heads given in para 6 with specific action plan, timeline, implementing agency and allocation of funds which require focus for control of pollution in Delhi and neighboring areas and directed the CAQM to file fresh action plan.
3. That the present Report is being filed in compliance of the Order dated 06.12.2023 of this Hon'ble Tribunal.


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4. It is humbly submitted that air pollution in Delhi-NCR is a multi-dimensional, multi-sectoral and multi stakeholder phenomenon. The Commission from time to time through its various Directions, Advisories, Orders and Policy guidelines etc. has accordingly identified measures for each sector and various agencies responsible for implementation and monitoring are listed in such directions / Orders issued by the Commission.
5. In furtherance to a detailed report filed on 05.12.2023, sector-wise action points, targeted timelines and the Nodal implementing agencies is tabulated as under:

1. Major Sector - Strengthening Air quality monitoring and source apportionment			
Sl. No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Relocation/installation of new Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) based on land-use, population density, urban to regional scale, and background levels etc.	Relocation by 30.06.2024 and installation of new CAAQMS's as per plan by 31.12.2024	CPCB/SPCBs
2.	Updating emissions inventory and source apportionment studies in entire NCR.	Delhi / nearby Districts (Gurugram, Faridabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad) by 30.06.2024 and for	CPCB/SPCBs/ DPCC


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		other NCR districts by 31.12.2024.	
2. Major Sector - Abating Industrial Pollution			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Formulate model guidelines for Common Boilers for Industrial Clusters.	By 30.06.2024	CPCB
2.	Formulate a plan for Common Boilers for Industrial Clusters based on CPCB guidelines.	By 31.12.2024	Industry Department of NCR States
3.	Commissioning of gas infrastructure and supply in NCR.	As per targets fixed by MoPNG for the remaining industrial areas. Latest by 31.12.2024 in entire NCR.	Industry Department of NCR States
4.	Framing Performance standards and Certification systems for Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS).	By 30.09.2024	CPCB
5.	Inspection of Industries for compliance of environmental regulatory regime like CTE, CTO, EC, emission norms, use of approved fuels.	On a continuous basis	SPCBs / DPCC
6.	Ensuring uninterrupted power supply in NCR to obviate use of DG Sets.	On a continuous basis	Power Department of NCR States and GNCT of Delhi.
3. Major Sector - Abating Air Pollution from Diesel Generator (DG) Sets			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency


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1.	Retro-fitment of emission control systems / dual fuel mode in DG sets in NCR as per Direction No.76 dated 29.09.2023.	Deadline of 01.01.2024 is already over.	SPCBs / DPCC
2.	Inspection to enforce compliance of Directions on retro-fitment of Emission Control Devices / dual fuel kits.	On a continuous basis	SPCBs / DPCC

4. Major Sector – Abatement of Air Pollution from Thermal Power Plants (TPP)

Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Comply with CPCB/MoEFCC emission standards	Targets as for respective TPPs. For all TPPs latest by 31.12.2024	CPCB and Ministry of Power
2.	Compliance checks for emissions in TPPs and uploading emission data in public domain by the CPCB.	Targets as prescribed for respective TPPs. By 31.12.2024 for all TPPs.	CPCB
3.	Comply with direction to co-fire 5-10% biomass in identified TPPs.	Ensure at least 5% co-firing by 31.03.2024.	MoP and 11 identified TPPs.

5. Major Sector – Abating Air Pollution from Vehicles

Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Automated RFID enabled cashless Toll/Cess collection at all 124 Border Entry Points of Delhi	Additional 5 fully automated points by 30.06.2024 and additional 5 by 31.12.2024.	MCD
2.	Consider and take appropriate decision on refuelling of vehicles only subject to a valid PUC certificate	Policy in this regard by 31.06.2024.	Transport Department of NCR States / GNCTD
3.	Mandatory half yearly audits of all PUC Centres.	100% half yearly audit of all PUC	Transport Department of

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		centres by 30.06.2024.	NCR States / GNCTD.
4.	Set up infrastructure for material recovery and disposal of end-of-life vehicles.	Develop at least 50% capacity of the planned infrastructure by 31.12.2024.	Transport Department of NCR States / GNCTD
5.	Strictly enforce Hon'ble Supreme Court order on diversion of non-destined traffic	On a continuous basis	Transport and Police Department of NCR States /GNCTD
6.	Strictly enforce Hon'ble NGT and Hon'ble Supreme Court Order on plying of over-aged diesel / petrol vehicles and as per extant statutes.	On a continuous basis	Transport and Police Department of NCR States /GNCTD
7.	Take strict action against visibly polluting, over loaded and vehicles without PUC	On a continuous basis	Transport and Police Department of NCR States /GNCTD
Sub-Sector - Clean fuels and Electric Mobility			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
8.	Augmentation of city public bus service through CNG / e-buses in Delhi	As per targets laid down by the Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court	Transport Department of GNCTD
9.	Augmentation of city public bus service through CNG / e-buses in NCR as per model yardsticks and service level benchmark of MoHUA based on population- for the Cities of Gurugram, Faridabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad	50% of the planned fleet augmentation by 31.12.2024.	Transport Department of NCR States
10.	Augmentation of city public bus service through CNG / e-buses in NCR as per model yardsticks and service level benchmark of	20% of the planned fleet augmentation by 31.12.2024.	Transport Department of NCR States


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	MoHUA based on population- Other NCR cities		
11.	Strict compliance of the targeted timelines in respect of migration of inter-city / inter-state bus services serving Delhi and other cities / towns in NCR in cleaner fuel mode	Graded timelines as per Direction No.78 dated 19.10.2023.	Transport Department of NCR States / GNCTD
12.	Phasing out existing Diesel auto rickshaws in NCR.	By 31.12.2024 - from the Districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Gautam Budh Nagar and Ghaziabad.	Transport Department of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh

Sub-Sector – Effective Road Traffic Management


Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Address congestion points and right of way encroachments	On a regular basis	Road owning agencies
2.	Ensure optimal utilization of multi-level parking and create adequate parking spaces	On a regular basis	Urban local bodies
3.	Prevent unauthorized and haphazard parking on roads /right of ways	On a regular basis	Police Department of NCR States /GNCTD

6. Major Sector – Abating air pollution arising out of Dust from C&D

Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Ensure registration of all projects of more than 500 sqm plot area in the web portal for remote monitoring	Continuous basis	SPCBs / DPCC
2.	Video fencing in all the remaining registered projects on Web portal	By 31.01.2024.	SPCBs/DPCC
3.	Installation of low-cost sensors in all the remaining projects registered on web portal	By 31.01.2024.	SPCBs/DPCC


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4.	Inspection to ensure compliance of C & D Rules, Guidelines and Directions.	On a continuous basis	SPCBs / DPCC
7. Major Sector – Abating air pollution through dust from roads and open areas			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Finalisation of the Scientific study on efficacy of use of dust suppressants on roads.	By 30.04.2024	NEERI/CRRI (Central Road Research Institute)
2.	Conduct of at least one technology agnostic pilot project for dust mitigation in open areas in association with reputed technical/ scientific/ academic institutes and technology partners.	By 30.06.2024.	SPCBs / DPCC
3.	Identification of long stretches of key trunk / major roads requiring major attention for dust mitigation and initiating due procurement / tendering process.	By 31.03.2024.	Road owning agencies (DCMCs)
4.	Carpeting / Black Topping / Major Repairs of such identified roads, including complete paving / greening of pathways.	By 31.12.2024.	Road owning agencies (Dust Control Management Cells)
5.	Regular repairs / pothole filling and dust abatement measures on other road stretches.	On a regular basis.	Road owning / maintaining agencies
6.	Assessment of additional mechanical sweeping and sprinkling machines (@ one machine for every 40 km identified roads to be cleaned / sprinkled per day) and initiating process for procurement/tender.	Assessment by 31.03.2024. Procurement process to be completed by 30.09.2024.	Urban Development Department of GNCTD and NCR States


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7.	Use of dust-suppressants in addition to water sprinkling on roads.	By 30.05.2024	Road construction and maintenance agencies
8.	Inspection of roads and ensure dust management systems are in place.	On a regular basis	Dust control and management cells of road owning / maintenance agencies

8. Major Sector – Abating air pollution from Open burning including MSW

Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Augmenting MSW processing facilities to cater to entire quantity of MSW generated	75% capacity by 2024 100% capacity by 2025	Urban Development Department of NCR States / GNCTD
2.	Liquidating legacy waste from SLF sites and dump grounds	75% capacity by 2024 100% capacity by 2025	Urban Development Department of NCR States / GNCTD
3.	Deployment of adequate teams and inspections to prevent and control open burning of MSW / misc. waste	On a continuous basis	SPCBs / DPCC
4.	Ensure round the clock monitoring by deployment of personnel and CCTVs for prevention and control of fire at sanitary landfill / dump sites	On a continuous basis	Urban Development Department of NCR States / GNCTD

9. Major Sector - Abatement of air pollution caused by stubble burning

Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
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1.	Update and refine action plan for the prevention and control of Paddy Stubble burning in 2024 by the respective states based on framework developed by the CAQM, Directions of Hon'ble NGT and Hon'ble Supreme Court	By 29.02.2024	State Government of Punjab, NCR State Governments and GNCTD
2.	Targeted <i>ex-situ</i> utilisation of paddy straw for industrial applications, thermal power plants, biomass power and production of bio-fuels and misc. applications etc.	Haryana: 2.25 million Tonnes during 2024. Punjab: 5.25 million Tonnes during 2024.	State Government of Punjab and Haryana
10. Major Sector – Abating air pollution arising out of bursting of crackers			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Strictly implement orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court on storage, sale and use / bursting of fire crackers	On a continuous basis	Environment and Police Department of NCR States / GNCTD
11. Major Sector - Abating Air Pollution through Greening/Plantation			
Sl No.	Action Points	Targeted Timeline	Nodal Implementing agency
1.	Finalisation of plans for Greening / Plantation in Delhi and NCR Districts for 2024	29.02.2024	Environment Department of NCR States / GNCTD
2.	Greening of Central Verges of \roads	100% by 30.06.2024.	Environment Department of NCR States / GNCTD
3.	Greening of identified sidewalks and open areas along roads and right of ways	75% by 30.06.2024. 100% by 31.12.2024	Environment Department of NCR States / GNCTD


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6. In as far as funds required for identified measures for abatement of air pollution in Delhi-NCR are concerned, it is humbly submitted that the Commission is provided funds by the Central Government to take care of basic Administrative & Establishment and other related expenditure. Specific funds allocations for air pollution abatement measures flow from various schemes / programs of the Central Government, its concerned bodies and State Governments and related institutions. Notable such funding streams are the XV Finance Commission Grants for the 'Million Plus' populated cities, grants to the non-conforming cities under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) of MoEF&CC/CPCB, funding to the Urban Local Bodies by the MoHUA and various other schemes of the respective State Governments in NCR. The fund-flow under all such schemes is made directly to the identified cities / areas in NCR and the fund allocations vis-à-vis utilization are not available with CAQM and can be best provided by the concerned State Governments in the NCR / GNCTD of Delhi.
7. It is submitted that the besides issuing Statutory Directions / Orders and Advisories from time to time, the Commission has held regular consultative and review meetings with the Ministries concerned in the Central Government, States, authorities and various other stakeholders for adjudging the effectiveness of such measures besides the statutory meetings of the Commission and its sub-committees.



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8. It is again respectfully submitted that the Action Plans / Plans formulated for various sectors need to be implemented in earnest by GNCTD, respective State Governments and the authorities concerned responsible for their implementation. The critical issue, therefore, now involved is focused, continuous and strict implementation of Directions / Orders / Action Plans put in place by the Commission for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution.

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