

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 kicks in as air quality dips to poor, condition likely to prevail till Sunday*

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NEW DELHI
DATED: 20.02.2024

FILED BY:


Anurag Agrawal
Director, CAQM
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas
भारत सरकार / Government of India
17वीं मंजिल, जवाहर व्यापार भवन (एस.टी.सी. बिल्डिंग), टॉलस्टॉय मार्ग,
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

THROUGH


RUCHI KOHLI
ADVOCATE FOR
COMMISSION FOR AIR
QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
AND ADJOINING AREAS

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MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. In compliance of the order dated 29.11.2023 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal 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", an Action Plan was filed on 05.12.2023 before this Hon'ble Tribunal detailing the policy based key sector wise action plan formulated in order to combat air pollution.
2. In compliance of the order dated 06.12.2023 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, major sectors/ factors which require

राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001


focus for control of pollution in Delhi and neighboring areas were further detailed out including notifying the agencies responsible for implementation of the plans submitted accordingly.

3. The present Report is being filed in compliance of the order dated 03.01.2024 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal whereby this Hon'ble Tribunal called upon the Commission to file a Report disclosing the powers exercised by it till now under different sub-sections of Section 12 of the Act.
4. The Commission, in respectful compliance of the order dated 03.01.2024 submits the following:
 - i. Air pollution in Delhi-NCR, it is reiterated, is a multi-dimensional, multi-sectoral and multi stakeholder phenomenon. The Commission, since its inception has strived to work in a participative, collaborative and collective mode to address and tackle the various contributory causes of Air pollution in the region. To this

राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

effect through its various Directions, Advisories, Orders and Policy guidelines etc. issued from time to time has identified measures for each sector and various agencies responsible for implementation and monitoring are listed in such directions / Orders issued by the Commission.

- ii. The Commission has also constituted three Statutory Sub-Committees on (i). Monitoring and Identification, (ii). Safeguarding and Enforcement and (iii). Research and Development towards prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution, besides constituting other Sub-Committees for other specific purposes from time to time, like the Sub-Committee of GRAP constituted to plan for advance action and issue necessary orders for invoking various provisions of the GRAP, based on the prevalent air quality and the AQI forecast to be provided by IMD from time to time. The Commission by itself and all such Sub-Committees have adequate representatives from the NCR States, NCT of Delhi and Ministries / Departments / Agencies of the Central Government besides Non-profit/NGOs working in this sphere.


 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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 17वीं मंजिल, जवाहर व्यापार भवन (एस.टी.सी. बिल्डिंग), टॉलस्टॉय मार्ग,
 17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
 नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

- iii. It is also submitted that besides issuing Statutory Directions / Orders and Advisories from time to time, the Commission has held regular consultative meetings and progress review meetings ensuring coordinated actions 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. The Commission so far has conducted 16 meetings of the full Commission, 87 meetings by its various sub-committees including the GRAP sub-Committee and 278 other subject specific and sectoral meetings / deliberations in this direction.
- iv. Towards a programme for abatement of air pollution in the region, the Commission has identified various contributors to air pollution, with core focus on the following major sectors:


राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

Industrial Pollution, Vehicular Pollution, Dust from Construction and Demolition Project activities, dust from roads and open areas, Biomass Burning, Municipal Solid Waste burning, Fires in Sanitary Landfills, household air pollution, air pollution from various other dispersed sources, and episodic events like Agricultural Stubble Burning and burning of fire crackers.

- v. In this respect, key measures were identified for each of the sectors and various directions / orders and advisories are issued from time to time. The Commission also held regular consultative / review meetings with the Ministries / Departments concerned in the Central Government, various Departments / Agencies in the NCR States / NCT of Delhi and other stakeholders, besides the statutory meetings of the Commission and its Sub-Committees.
- vi. The Commission also invited suggestions from general public as well as experts in the field through a public notice and constituted an Expert Group which examined the suggestions received, interacted with interveners and

experts as well as various stakeholders and State Government representatives. The Expert Group, besides taking account of the suggestions received, also reviewed the existing scientific literature, relevant policies, regulations, programmes and funding strategies of the State and Central Governments in various sectors, the current status of action and best practice / approaches etc. towards a draft comprehensive policy framework. The draft report of the Expert Group was considered by the Commission in its meeting held on 25.05.2022 and after detailed deliberations, The Commission formulated and directed for adoption of a **"Policy to curb Air Pollution in NCR"** in July 2022, which envisages phased, targeted and time-bound action plans for NCR districts/cities across all contributing sectors for abatement of air pollution in NCR. The policy document has been shared with various stakeholders including Central Government Ministries/ Departments, NCR State Governments, GNCTD and Government of Punjab for targeted actions stated therein. The Action Plan for 2024 submitted before the Hon'ble


राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

NGT earlier by the Commission is primarily derived from this comprehensive policy.

- vii. With regard to laying down parameters for quality of air and laying down parameters for emissions or discharge of environmental pollutants, it is submitted that the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as notified by the MoEFCC apply uniformly across the country. The current AQI levels in Delhi-NCR and also in large number of non-attainment cities in the country are far from the prescribed limits / standards and thus the overall air quality benchmark standards have been adopted as such.
- viii. However, considering the need for concerted efforts and stringent parameters in specific sectors / applications, particularly the industrial sector, following stricter standards and directives have been specifically prescribed by the CAQM:

- A. A unified list of approved (clean) fuels issued by the Commission for entire NCR. Ban imposed on use of coal, diesel oil, furnace oil and other such polluting fuels for industrial implications.


 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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- B. Stricter standards for biomass fuels permitted for industrial applications, only beyond Delhi, in the NCR.
 - C. Stricter standards for low Sulphur fuels and metallurgical coke, permitted only beyond Delhi for specific industrial applications.
 - D. Stricter standards for DG sets of above 800 kW capacity.
- ix. With regard to the restriction of areas in which industries operations or processes that have implications on air quality in the region is concerned, running of industrial operations on cleaner fuels has been one of the areas of priority for the Commission since its inception. While within the NCT of Delhi, industries had majorly shifted to PNG, use of highly polluting fuels fossil fuels like coal, furnace oil, light diesel oil and the types dominated the industrial spectrum in the NCR beyond Delhi. To this end, the Commission convened several meetings with the concerned stakeholders (NCR States, GNCT of Delhi, CPCB, SPCBs of NCR States and DPCC) for a road map to shift of industries to PNG/Cleaner

fuels. A standard list of approved clean fuels was formulated by the Commission and statutory directions were issued for its implementation in the NCR, in a graded and phased manner, targeting transition of all industries in the NCR to the approved fuels by 31st December, 2022. Besides clean gaseous fuels like PNG/ CNG/ LPG etc., biomass fuels with stricter emission norms were permitted by the Commission for industrial applications in the NCR, beyond the jurisdiction of NCT of Delhi towards an affordable alternative and to minimize the uncontrolled burning of biomass / agricultural residue / straw etc. in fields and open areas. Pursuant to this Direction, and a concerted drive for shifting more and more industries to approved fuels, the current status is as tabulated under:

	HAR (NCR)	UP (NCR)	RAJ (NCR)	Delhi	Total NCR
Total No. of fuel-based industries	3,141	2,273	522	1,823	7,759
No. of Industries on approved fuels	2,954	2,188	484	1,823	7,449
Balance for shifting to approved fuels.	187	85	38	-	310


 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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(Self-closed or through directions)					
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- x. The Commission has been widely disseminating all its Directions / Advisories / Guidelines / Orders etc. to all authorities / organizations / agencies concerned through postal correspondence as well as electronic means, besides uploading important information on the website of the Commission. Suitable Press Releases / Updates on important issues are also provided for mass communication and knowledge of public at large. The Commission also disseminates important information through various social media platforms. The releases of the Commission have been widely covered by the media in the past.
- xi. The Commission takes due cognizance of various applications, complaints, concerns of general public received in the Commission through various modes of communication viz. letters, emails, representations, through social media and apps etc. and endeavors to



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 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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 नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

address all such issues. The Commission has an institutionalized system for calling of periodic reports, data and air quality indicators etc. from various stakeholders, which is reviewed from time to time.

- xii. Towards research and development initiatives related to control and abatement of air pollution, the Commission also engaged with eminent scientific / technical / research-based institutions and has undertaken projects / activities towards investigations into and research on air pollution related aspects. To this effect, the Commission invited R&D proposals and pilot projects for field demonstration and evaluation of various technology interventions from scientists / researchers / NGOs / CBOs / consortia/ individuals, to be coordinated and proposed by an academic/research/ scientific institution of repute. Based on detailed appraisal, the following 07 projects sanctioned by the Commission are presently underway / nearing completion:



 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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S. No.	Title of the Project	Principal Investigator/ Institute
1.	Decision Support System for Air Quality Management in Delhi and NCR	IITM, Pune
2.	Use of AI/ ML tool for vehicle counting by uploading the CCTV footage on Cloud Platform.	Air Pollution Control Division, NEERI, Nagpur
3.	Addressing Vehicular Traffic Induced Road Dust re-suspension with S&T based Action Plans for Air Quality Improvement in Delhi NCR	CSIR-NEERI, and CRRRI
4.	An Autonomous Drone Swarm Framework for Real Time Air Quality Monitoring and Pollutant Quantification in NCR hotspots.	Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala, Punjab
5.	Trial of Ambient Air Purification System at Anand Vihar, ISBT, Delhi	SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur
6.	Under-actuated Filter-less Air Cleaner Retrofit for road vehicles	Department of Mech. Eng., IIT Delhi


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 Director
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7.	Evaluation of Retro-fitment of 2 wheelers & 3 Wheeler Auto-rickshaws with Electric Drive as an option for improvement in air quality in NCR	ARAI, Pune
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xiii. The Commission is also empowered for inspection of premises, plant, equipment, machinery, manufacturing, materials and issue of directions for prevention and control of air pollution in the region. The Commission constituted an Enforcement Task Force (ETF) to monitor and supervise the implementation of the Statutory directions issued by it from time to time and related environmental statutes. To assist the ETF, the Commission also constituted **40** Flying Squads/ Inspections Teams to carry out *incognito* checks for identifying serious violations/ statutory Directions of the Commission and recommend appropriate action thereon, based on the seriousness of non-compliances. The ETF, through its regular meetings, considers the recommendations of the Flying Squads/ Inspection Teams and recommend appropriate directions on each of the inspection reports, including reviewing the status of various


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 निदेशक / Director
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Closure Directions and Resumption Orders issued by the Commission.

- xiv. Up to 31.01.2024, a total of about **16,824** sites had been inspected by the Flying Squads. Of these, **563** Industrial premises, **297** C&D sites and **41** misc. entities were found to be grossly violating / non-compliant with respect to various statutory directions, guidelines and orders, contributing adversely to the air quality scenario in Delhi-NCR. Accordingly, Directions for closure were issued in respect of total **901** such units including disconnection of electricity to such premises. However, **740** such units were later permitted to resume operations by the Commission following due corrective and preventive measures by such units to address the gross violations and with a commitment to henceforth comply with all statutory directions / guidelines of the Commission and other related statutes to abate air pollution. Besides, **77** cases have been further transferred to the State Pollution Control Boards concerned / DPCC for further appropriate actions. 84 closure directions issues by the Commission are still in force and the process

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निदेशक / Director
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of resumption would be undertaken in respect of these as and when compliances are ensured and reported.

xv. Related to directions and guidelines for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in the region, the Commission from time to time, issued Statutory Directions under the provisions of Section – 12 of the Act to regulate, control and prohibit activities that impact the quality of air in the NCR and adjoining areas. Additionally, Advisories have been issued to convey the seriousness of different air pollution related issues and provide guidance for effective actions to mitigate the same, besides orders to streamline the field level compliance of the envisaged air pollution control measures.

xvi. Comprehensive directions and guidelines issued across various air polluting sectors and various targeted agencies / stakeholders are as detailed as under:


Direction No.	Dated	Direction
1 to 5	23.12.2020	Directions for Monitoring and Control/Prevention of Air Pollution

राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
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नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

		from Constructions & Demolition (C&D) activities in NCR
6 to 10	10.06.2021	Directions providing a Framework, to develop a State Specific detailed Action Plan and to take appropriate steps to tackle the problem of Stubble Burning in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi
11 to 18	11.06.2021	Directions to Haryana, Rajasthan, UP, Delhi, NDMC, North DMC, EDMC, SDMC for Monitoring of Dust Control Measures at Construction & Demolition Sites in NCR: Development of a "Web Portal" for remote monitoring of project sites in NCR
19 to 28	11.06.2021 and 15.06.2021	Directions to NHAI, DDA, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and to NDMC, North DMC, EDMC, SDMC for Setting up Dust Control and Management Cell by Road Owning/ Maintaining/Construction Agencies
29 to 31	12.08.2021	Directions to Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh for Shifting of Industries in NCR to PNG / Cleaner Fuels
32 to 36	16.08.2021	Directions to Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi for implementation of a Standard Protocol developed by ISRO to estimate and record Crop Residue Burning Events using Satellite Data
37 to 41	16.09.2021	Directions to Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi for "Effective Implementation and regular Review of their Action Plan to Prevent and Control Paddy Stubble Burning"

राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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 नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

42	17.09.2021	Direction to NTPC and all other Thermal Power Plants located within 300 Kms. radius of Delhi for “Ex-Situ Paddy Straw Management” by co-firing in Thermal Power Plants
43	09.11.2021	Direction to SDMC for “Full Automation of RFID infrastructure at 10 identified Delhi border entry points”
44	16.11.2021	Directions to NCR State Governments, Government of Punjab and GNCTD for effective control of Air Pollution in wake of prevailing adverse air quality scenario in Delhi-NCR
45	25.11.2021	Directions to NCR State Governments and GNCTD for running of Schools, Colleges and educational institutions in physical / online mode
46	02.12.2021	Directions on Steps for Effective Control of Air Pollution in wake of prevailing air quality scenario in Delhi-NCR
47	07.12.2021	Directions on Shifting of Industries to PNG where gas infrastructure and supply is already available
48	15.12.2021	Exempting milk & dairy units and medical units for lifesaving equipment & medicines w.r.t Direction No-46
49	15.12.2021	rescheduling of operations of various industries and relaxation to Thermal Power Plants w.r.t Direction No-16
50	17.11.2021	Review of restrictions imposed on School, Colleges and Educational Institutions vide Direction No-46


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51	17.12.2021	Construction & Demolition Activities in NCR
52	20.12.2021	Restrictions on Entry of Trucks and Construction & Demolition Activities in NCR by review of Directions No-49 and 51
53	04.02.2022	Review of Direction No-49 dated 15.12.2021 - Permitting Biomass based fuels for industrial application in NCR , beyond the NCT of Delhi
54 to 57	08.02.2022	Regulations for use of Power Generating Sets
58 to 61	22.02.2022	Uninterrupted power supply in NCR to minimize use of DG Sets
62	17.03.2022	Standards for emissions in industrial processes in NCR using bio-mass fuels
63	18.05.2022	Use of Biomass fuels for new industries in NCR beyond the jurisdiction of GNCTD
64	02.06.2022	Permissible fuels for industrial applications in NCR
65	23.06.2022	Standard list of approved fuels for various applications across NCR with Addendum (03.04.2023)
66	05.08.2022	Sub-Committee for implementing Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in NCR
67	12.09.2022	Implementation & Review of the updated/revised action plan for prevention & Control of Stubble Burning in 2022
68	14.09.2022	Regulation for use of DG sets of capacity more than 800 KW

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 निदेशक / Director
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69	02.11.2022	Dust Control Measures in C&D projects - Use of Anti Smog Guns
70	30.11.2022	Abating Air Pollution From Public Transport Sector regulations on Diesel Operated Autorickshaws
71	09.02.2023	Regulations for use of DG sets for periods other than ban/restrictions under the GRAP in NCR
72	17.03.2023	Co-firing of Biomass Pellets in Coal Based Captive Thermal Power Plants in NCR
73	02.06.2023	Regulations for use of DG sets in NCR
74	25.07.2023	Implementation and review of the updated revised plan of action for prevention and control of Paddy Stubble Burning in 2023
75	27.07.2023	Implementation of Graded Response Action Plan for NCR including NCT of Delhi, Revised in July, 2023
76	29.09.2023	Review of regulation for use of DG sets in NCR
77	06.10.2023	Revised Schedule of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for NCR
78	19.10.2023	Migration of public transport services especially buses in NCR to cleaner modes
79	13.02.2024	Prevention and mitigation of Air Pollution from Construction & Demolition activities in NCR – Issue of completion certificates / occupancy certificates to housing projects


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 निदेशक / Director
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Advisory No.	Dated	Advisory
1	03.02.2021	Advisory to Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi for mandating procurement of E-Vehicles & Zero Emission Vehicles
2	12.02.2021	Advisory to Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi for Dust Pollution Abatement measures from Roads and Open Areas along the right of way etc.
3	22.02.2021	Advisory to NHAI and DDA for Dust Pollution Abatement measures from Roads and Open Areas along the right of way etc.
4	22.02.2021	Advisory to Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi for setting up of a "Dust Control and Management Cell" by various road owning/ road constructions agencies for Abatement of Dust Pollution
5 to 7	28.07.2021	Advisory to Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh for exploring various options for Ex-situ Stubble Management and developing a robust supply chain logistics model and deriving commercial value out of paddy straw
8	06.04.2023	Advisory to NDMC, DDA, MCD, Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Noida Authority to Control and Prevention of Air Pollution from Construction & Demolition activities in the NCR
9	28.06.2023	Regulations for use of DG sets in NCR


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 निदेशक / Director
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10	19.07.2023	Cleaner Public Transport Services (buses) in NCR
11	30.08.2023	Advisory to TPPs and State Government of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab for Co-firing of Bio-mass (focusing on paddy straw-based pellets) in Thermal Power Plants
12	14.02.2024	Advisory on mitigation of dust in construction and demolition projects
13	14.02.2024	Advisory on dust mitigation from roads, pathways, open areas along right of ways

5. Exercising various powers conferred upon it under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, the Commission, through issue of a Comprehensive Policy, action plans and Statutory Directions / Advisories / Orders from time to time, has been working in a collaborative and consultative mode with all stakeholders to abate and control air pollution in the region across all contributing factors / sectors as detailed under:

I. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF STUBBLE BURNING / FARM FIRES


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निदेशक / Director
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- (i) High incidences of paddy stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana, year on year, have been a matter of serious concern and have been contributing adversely to the air quality scenario in the NCR particularly during the winter months which coincide with paddy harvesting. Accordingly, prevention and control of paddy stubble burning has been a high priority sector for the Commission.
- (ii) The Commission developed a framework for prevention and control of paddy stubble burning and effective management techniques for paddy stubble and Statutory Directions were thereafter issued to the State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to prepare detailed and monitorable state specific action plans.
- (iii) Based on field experience and learnings during execution of the plans of Action in 2021 and 2022, the Commission held various meetings with the Officials of the Rajasthan,


राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab as early as in February, 2023 including meetings with Chief Secretaries and DCs / DMs of Districts in these State so as to discuss further preventive and mitigative actions that could be taken to control stubble burning and update / review the Action Plan for 2023.

- (iv) The Commission closely monitored the fire counts owing to paddy stubble burning, based on the standard ISRO protocol, on a daily basis and took up with the State Governments concerned for appropriate action. Arising out the implementation and updation of the action plans during 2021, 2022 and 2023, the status of paddy residue burning events (for the period 15th September to 30th November) were reported as under:


State	Cumulative Fire Counts for the period of 15 th September to 30 th November			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Punjab	83,002	71,304	49,922	36,663
Haryana	4,202	6,987	3,661	2,303


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 निदेशक / Director
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Uttar Pradesh (NCR)	407	252	198	212
Total (including fire counts of Delhi and area of NCR in the Rajasthan)	87,632	78,550 Reduction of 10.36% over 2020	53,792 Reduction of 32% over 2021	39,186 Reduction of 27% over 2022

- (v) **EFFORTS FOR IN-SITU/EX-SITU MANAGEMENT** – To support the efforts of the Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi to address air pollution caused due to stubble burning, total funds to the tune of Rs.3,333.17 crore have been so far released by the Central Government under the CRM Scheme. Details of availability of Crop Residue Management (CRM) Machines is as under:

Availability of CRM machinery					
PUNJAB		HARYANA		UP NCR	
2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
90,422	1,17,672	72,777	80,071	7,482	7,986
Additional CRM machinery under procurement					


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 निदेशक / Director
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PUNJAB	HARYANA	UP NCR
23,000	7,572	595

(vi) Considering efforts by stakeholders in-situ/ex-situ utilization, paddy stubble Management in 2023 (in Million Tonnes) was as follows:

	Punjab	Haryana	UP NCR
Total Paddy Straw Generation	19.5	7.4	0.73
Through In-situ management measures (including Bio-decomposer application)	11.9	3.19	0.20
Through Ex-Situ Management measures	4.67	1.95	0.054
As Fodder	1.1	2.36	0.48
Total	17.6	7.37	0.73


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निदेशक / Director
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- (vii) With persistent field level efforts and targeted policy initiatives in the short/ medium/ long term, it is expected that instances of paddy stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana & NCR areas of UP will see gradual but marked improvement, year on year, with a consequent improvement in the air quality of Delhi-NCR during the paddy harvesting season.

II. ABATEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION

Besides the efforts which have been elaborated upon in para 4 (ix) of this report, following measures have also been initiated:

- (i) **REGULAR INSPECTION OF INDUSTRIES BY PCBs/DPCC** – Besides monitoring by the Commission, the State PCBs in NCR and DPCC have also been directed to conduct regular inspections of industrial units in their respective. Details of the inspections conducted, non-conformances / violations observed and penal measures including Environmental Compensation (EC)



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 निदेशक / Director
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charged against such units, during the year 2023 is as under:

Status of inspection of industrial units by State PCBs / DPCC				
Area	Delhi	Haryana	Uttar Pradesh	Rajasthan
Number of industries inspected during the period.	10,350	4,532	2,382	1,979
Number of Industries issued with closure directions for gross violations	07	140	35	38


(ii) **PNG INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPLY IN NCR –**

Towards PNG infrastructure and supply, the Commission pursued the matter with all stakeholders in this context i.e., the MoPNG, all City Gas Distribution Agencies in NCR and industrial associations etc. towards expeditious availability of infrastructure and supply of PNG in all industrial areas in NCR. Up till now, out of total 240 industrial areas in the NCR, 214 industrial areas have been provided PNG infrastructure and connectivity and the work is in progress with respect to the balance 26 industrial areas (5 in Uttar Pradesh, 13 in Haryana and 8 in Rajasthan).


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 निदेशक / Director
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III. ABATEMENT OF DUST POLLUTION FROM CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION ACTIVITIES

- (i) Towards abatement of dust pollution from Construction and Demolition activities, the directed for monitoring of C&D activities through a dedicated Web-portal including Video fencing and installation of low-cost Air quality sensors in respect of projects with plot area more than 500 sq mtr. and self-audit / certification by such project proponents, installation of Anti-smog guns in construction sites, dust screens at all construction sites, use of dust-suppressants and water mist, transportation of C&D materials in covered vehicles etc. including compliance of various rules and guidelines related to effective dust mitigation measures at C&D sites.
- (ii) Besides monitoring by the Commission, the State PCBs in NCR and DPCC have also been directed to conduct regular physical inspections of different construction and demolition projects in their respective. Details of the inspections conducted, non-conformances / violations observed and penal measures including Environmental Compensation


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 निदेशक / Director
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(EC) charged against such projects, during the year 2023 is as under:

S. No.	Status of inspection of C&D sites	Delhi	Har.	Uttar Pradesh	Rajasthan
1	No. of C&D sites physically inspected	62,168	5,850	1,815	1,302
2	Total no. of sites against which EC was levied for non-conformities.	4,802	587	339	188
3	No. of sites ordered for closure / stoppage of work.	810	530	62	58

IV. MANAGEMENT OF DUST FROM ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAYS

- (i) To mitigate the effect of dust from roads, sidewalks and open areas, the Commission issued Directions to the NCR states, GNCTD and agencies like NHAI, DDA and municipal corporations / councils in NCR for setting-up of "Dust Control and Management Cells" tasked with monitoring and



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 निदेशक / Director
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implementation of various dust control measures in all such road projects/activities and management of dust from roads and open areas.

- (ii) Sixty (62) Dust Control & Management Cells have been set up in the NCR, of which 12 are in NCT of Delhi, 18 in Uttar Pradesh, 18 in Haryana and 14 in Rajasthan. Regular review meetings of these DCMCs were held by the Commission to evaluate the progress and efforts made in this direction towards road sweeping, water sprinkling, scientific disposal of dust, pot-filling / repair to roads including black topping and shoulder levelling besides greening of central verges and greening / paving of pathways / road sides.

V. ABATING AIR POLLUTION CAUSED BY VEHICULAR SECTOR


- (i) Towards an effective long-term strategy of controlling vehicular emissions, transition to e-mobility has been identified as an important tool by the Commission and to build requisite infrastructure to support e-mobility i.e., battery charging stations, battery swapping points and for


 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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disposal of large volume of batteries which is likely to be generated in the ensuing years. In this regard, Nos. of electric vehicles currently registered in NCR, as reported by the State Govts. / GNCT of Delhi are as under:

Delhi – 2,62,066	Haryana – 81,528
UP – 91,724	Rajasthan – 15,487

- (ii) As per the available data total 3,100 battery charging stations and 4,793 charging points are already in place in the territory of Delhi and 476 charging stations are available in other areas in NCR.
- (iii) Towards compliance of emission standards Drives on a continual basis have been asked for in the NCR for ascertaining the compliance of PUC norms. To this effect, details of challans for PUC violation, visibly polluting / over loaded vehicles etc. issued so far during 2023 in the NCR are as under:


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 निदेशक / Director
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Delhi – 2,77,076	Haryana – 1,28,290
UP – 1,20,271	Rajasthan – 8,365

- (iv) Towards controlling vehicular pollution caused by older vehicles and to strictly ensure that Petrol/Diesel vehicles more than 15/10 years old do not ply in NCR. Numbers of overaged vehicles impounded in the NCR by concerned agencies during 2023, are as under:

Delhi – 22,397	Haryana – 646
UP – 3,901	Rajasthan – 231

- (v) Delhi also needs to expedite procurement of Low Floor E-buses. As of now, total size of the bus fleet for public transport system in Delhi is 7,389 which includes 1,300 E-buses. By 2025, total number of buses are expected to be 10,925, with about more than 50% E-buses.


VI. CREATING GREEN BELTS IN DELHI / NCR TO ABATE AIR POLLUTION


राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
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 17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
 नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

The Commission held a series of consultations and review meetings to draw the roadmap and finalized Greening/ Plantation Action Plan for the year 2023-24. After taking into account inputs provided by the NCR State Governments/ GNCTD, the target of plantation (including trees, shrubs, bamboo, etc.) for the year 2023-24 was finalized and the progress made till 31.01.2024 is as under:

States	Target for 2023-24	Plantation till 31.01.2024
Delhi	95,04,390	76,29,347
Haryana (NCR Districts)	98,93,797	87,34,536
Rajasthan (NCR Districts)	25,89,892	17,32,410
Uttar Pradesh (NCR Districts)	1,64,63,497	1,67,95,609
Total	3,84,51,576	3,48,91,902

6. Owing to concerted efforts put in by various stakeholders towards abatement of air pollution in the NCR, measures initiated as per the comprehensive policy to abate air pollution in NCR, improved monitoring and enforcement of


 राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
 निदेशक / Director
 राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
 Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas
 भारत सरकार / Government of India
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various policy actions and persistent field level efforts and targeted policy initiatives for quantified results in the short/ medium/ long term, it is expected that air quality scenario over Delhi will see further improvement, year on year.

NEW DELHI

DATED: 20.02.2024

FILED BY:



Director, CAQM
राम कुमार अग्रवाल / Ram Kumar Agrawal
निदेशक / Director
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17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
नई दिल्ली-110001 / New Delhi-110001

THROUGH



RUCHI KOHLI

ADVOCATE FOR
COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
OA NO. 663 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

**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"**

VAKALATNAMA

I/We, Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, New Delhi, the **Respondent** in the abovesaid matter do hereby appoint and retain **MS. RUCHI KOHLI, Advocate** to act and appear for me/us in the above OA and on my/our behalf to conduct and prosecute (or defend) the same and all proceedings that may be taken in respect of any application connected with the same or any decree or order passed therein including proceedings in taxation and applications for review, to file and obtain/ return of documents and to deposit and receive any money on my/our behalf in the said OA and in applications for Review and to represent me/us and to take all necessary steps on my/our behalf in the above matter. I/We agree to all acts done by the aforesaid Advocate in pursuance to this authority.

Dated this the _____ day of January, 2024

Accepted, Identified & Certified

Put Signature(s) below:

Ruchi
Ms. RUCHI KOHLI, Advocate

No. 69, Lawyer's Chambers,

Supreme Court of India,

New Delhi-110001

Mobile: +91-9810208807

Layal
Applicant(s)/Appellant(s)

Respondent(s)/Advocate(s) **(MS. RUCHI KOHLI)**

निदेशक/Director

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में
वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन हेतु आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management in
NCR & Adjoining Areas
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi-110016

MEMO OF APPEARANCE

To,

The Registrar

National Green Tribunal

Principal Bench, New Delhi

Sir,

Kindly enter my appearance in the above mentioned Original Application /Appeal /Misc. Application /Review made on behalf of the above named Petitioner(s)/appellants(s)/Respondent(s).



New Delhi

Dated **20.02.2024**.

Yours faithfully

Ruchi

(MS. RUCHI KOHLI)

Advocate for the Applicant(s)

Respondent(s) / Appellant (s)