

**COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT
IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS**
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan, (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001

F.No. E-120017/GRAP/2021/CAQM-Vol. VII- Part (3) Dated: 10.09.2026

1648-DT

To,

The Chief Secretary,

Government of NCT of Delhi / Haryana / Rajasthan / Uttar Pradesh

Subject: Rescheduling of physical sports competitions scheduled in November - December – reg.

Ref: Commission's Letter No. 12019/01/2024-MERD-1644 dated 19.11.2025

The Hon'ble Supreme Court, while hearing the matter related to air pollution in Delhi-NCR in WP(C) No. 13029 of 1985 titled as MC Mehta Vs. Union of India & Ors., expressed concern regarding the impact of poor and severe air quality on children participating in physical sports competitions held by schools and the Hon'ble Court vide its order dated 19.11.2025 asked the Commission to issue appropriate directions to schools in Delhi-NCR to postpone sports and games competitions scheduled for the months of November and December in view of the potential adverse health effects, especially on children, arising from participation in physical sports competitions held during the periods of adverse air quality in the months of November and December.

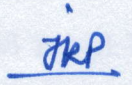
2. Accordingly, after due consultations with stakeholders concerned including the representatives of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, NCR State Governments/GNCTD, Sports Authority of India, NCR SPCBs and DPCC, the Commission vide its letter dated 19.11.2025 as mentioned under reference (copy enclosed) asked the NCR State Governments and the Government of NCT of Delhi to take immediate and appropriate action to ensure that such physical sports

competitions scheduled in the months of November and December may be postponed.

3. The Commission deems it necessary to reiterate its observations made vide letter dated 19.11.2025 referred above for the current year 2026 as well. NCR State Governments and the Government of NCT of Delhi are, therefore, advised to ensure that no physical sport activities/ competitions are scheduled during November - December keeping in view the Air Quality trends prevailing in the area where such events are scheduled to be organised.

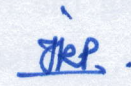
4. Competitions, if any, already scheduled may be rescheduled and it may be ensured that students who are unable to participate due to the rescheduling are not unduly disadvantaged. The Governments should explore ways to reschedule such events or provide alternative opportunities for students to engage in similar activities at appropriate time, without compromising their health or academic progress.

Encl: As above


(Tarun Kumar Pithode)
Member Secretary
Email: mscaqm-moefcc@gov.in

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Chairperson and Members of the Commission
2. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education
3. The DG, Sports Authority of India
4. The President, School Games Federation of India
5. The Secretary in charge, Education Department, NCR States / GNCTD
6. The Member Secretaries, NCR SPCBs / DPCC


(Tarun Kumar Pithode)
Member Secretary

F.No F. No. 12019/01/2024-MERD-1644
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17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan,
(STC Building), Tolstoy Marg,
New Delhi-110001

Dated: 19/11/2025

To,

The Chief Secretary,
Government of NCT of Delhi / Haryana / Rajasthan / Uttar Pradesh

**Subject: Postponement of physical sport competitions scheduled in
November-December – reg.**

Sir,

The Hon'ble Supreme Court, while hearing the matter related to air pollution in Delhi-NCR in WP(C) No. 13029 of 1985 titled as MC Mehta Vs. Union of India & Ors., has expressed concern regarding the impact of poor and severe air quality on children participating in physical sport competitions held by schools. It was brought to the Court's attention that such events are being conducted during periods of hazardous air quality, potentially compromising the health of students involved.

2. After considering this matter, the Hon'ble Supreme Court asked the Commission to issue appropriate directions to schools in Delhi-NCR to postpone sports and game competitions scheduled for the months of November and December. This observation was made in view of the potential adverse health effects, especially on children, arising from participation in physical sport competitions held during the periods of adverse air quality in the months of November and December.

3. To discuss and address the issue, in view of the observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, an urgent consultative meeting with stakeholders

concerned was held by the Commission on 19.11.2025. In the meeting, representatives of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, NCR State Governments / GNCTD, Sports Authority of India, NCR SPCBs and DPCC participated.

4. Taking note of the observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and discussions held in the meeting, the Commission deems it necessary for the NCR State Governments and the Government of NCT of Delhi to take immediate and appropriate action to ensure that such physical sport competitions scheduled in the months of November and December may be postponed keeping in view the Air Quality trends prevailing in the area where such events are scheduled to be organised. It is important that, in making this decision, the respective Governments also consider the need to ensure that students who are unable to participate due to the postponement are not unduly disadvantaged. The Governments should explore ways to reschedule such events or provide alternative opportunities for students to engage in similar activities at a later time, without compromising their health or academic progress.


(Dr. S. D. Attri) 19/11/2025
Member (Technical)

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Chairperson and Members of the Commission
2. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
3. The Secretary in charge, Education Department, NCR States / GNCTD
4. The DG, Sports Authority of India
5. The President, School Games Federation of India
6. The Member Secretaries, NCR SPCBs / DPCC


(Dr. S. D. Attri) 19/11/2025
Member (Technical)