

F. No. 110011/07/2021/CAQM-VP / 98
Commission for Air Quality Management
in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan,
(STC Building), Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi – 110001

Dated: October 08, 2026

NOTICE

Sub: Compliance of the direction(s) / order(s) issued by the Commission regarding prevention and control of air pollution under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021

1. **WHEREAS**, the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Area Act, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the Act), has constituted the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (hereinafter referred to as the Commission);
2. **WHEREAS**, under section 12(1) of the Act, the Commission has powers to take all such measures, issue directions as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the air in the National Capital Region (NCR) and Adjoining Areas;
3. **WHEREAS**, Section 12(2)(xi) of the Act empowers the Commission to issue directions in writing to any person, officer, or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;
4. **WHEREAS**, vehicular emissions constitute a significant contributor to PM_{2.5} and NO_x levels in NCR, accounting for approximately 23% of PM_{2.5} load during winter months and about 18% during summer months, thereby necessitating effective enforcement of vehicular emission norms and compliance mechanisms;

5. **WHEREAS**, sub-rule (7) of Rule 115 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 mandates that every motor vehicle, after expiry of a period of one year from the date of its first registration, shall carry a valid Pollution Under Control Certificate (PUCC), which shall be produced on demand by the officers referred to in the sub-rule (1) of Rule 116;
6. **WHEREAS**, based on review of PUCC compliance status, the Commission noticed that a substantial number of vehicles continue to ply without valid PUCC, thereby undermining statutory emission control requirements and contributing to avoidable vehicular pollution;
7. **WHEREAS**, the Commission, in its revised Graded Response Action Plan has directed for strict vigilance and enforcement of PUC norms for vehicles with no tolerance for visible emissions and to stop visibly polluting vehicles by impounding and/ or levying maximum penalty;
8. **WHEREAS**, intensified enforcement is required against vehicles plying without valid PUCC and there is need for adoption of suitable technological interventions for identification / detection of vehicles without valid PUCC plying in Delhi-NCR;
9. **WHEREAS**, technological solutions such as Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system integrated with VAHAN and PUCC database enable real-time identification of vehicles without valid PUCC and facilitate efficient and transparent enforcement of emission compliance requirements;
10. **WHEREAS**, the Commission, having regard to the significant contribution of vehicular emissions to air pollution in NCR, vide its Advisory No. 16 dated 11.11.2024, advised GNCTD/ NCR States to consider adopting innovative technological interventions like Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras at fuelling stations and traffic surveillance camera systems with Integrated Command and Control Centres for traffic management and enforcement;

11. **WHEREAS**, upon consideration of the prevailing air quality scenario in Delhi-NCR, significant contribution of vehicular emissions to the overall pollution load, persistent instances of vehicles plying without valid PUC, statutory requirement of PUC compliance under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and feasibility of technology-enabled enforcement mechanisms, the Commission, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, issued Direction No. 101 dated 15.05.2026 to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, amongst others, whereby, inter alia, the following was directed to ensure effective enforcement against vehicles plying without a valid PUC:

- (i) **With effect from 01.10.2026**, no fuel shall be dispensed at the fuel stations located within the NCR to vehicles not having a valid PUC, as identified through ANPR system or other technology-enabled systems or otherwise:

Provided that fuelling may be permitted in exceptional situations like medical emergencies, law and order duties, disaster response operations or such other circumstances as may be specified by the GNCTD/ NCR State Governments;

- (ii) The concerned authorities in NCT of Delhi/ NCR States shall ensure installation, integration and operationalization of suitable technology-enabled enforcement systems like ANPR camera system integrated with VAHAN and PUC database, at all fuel stations within their respective jurisdiction **on or before 30.09.2026**.

12. **WHEREAS**, the Transport Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been designated as the Nodal Department for ensuring strict compliance with the aforesaid Direction in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh and, accordingly, is responsible for coordinating and ensuring the installation, integration and operationalization of the requisite ANPR-based technology-

enabled enforcement system at the fuel stations falling within the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh within the stipulated timeline;

13. **WHEREAS**, a total of 987 fuel stations in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh were identified for installation of ANPR camera systems integrated with the VAHAN and PUCC databases, which were required to be installed, integrated and operationalized on or before 30.09.2026;

14. **WHEREAS**, the Commission has been regularly monitoring implementation of the aforesaid Direction, including through reviews undertaken in the meetings of the statutory Sub-Committee on Safeguarding and Enforcement held on 12.06.2026 and 29.09.2026 and in the meeting with the Transport Commissioners held on 22.07.2026. Further, vide letter dated 31.08.2026, the Addl. Chief Secretary, Transport Department, Uttar Pradesh was asked to submit a detailed report by 03.09.2026, regarding the action taken towards installation of ANPR camera systems duly integrated with the VAHAN and PUCC databases at all fuel stations in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh within the timeline stipulated in the Direction. As no response thereto was received, the Commission, vide letter dated 17.09.2026, again called upon the Department of Transport to submit the requisite report by 23.09.2026. No such report has been received by the Commission till date;

15. **WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the aforesaid Direction and the follow-ups undertaken by the Commission, the status reported on the PAVAN Portal by the State of Uttar Pradesh reveals that, as on 30.09.2026, no installation or deployment activity in respect of the ANPR camera systems had commenced at the 987 identified fuel stations in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh, despite the requirement under Direction No. 101 dated 15.05.2026 to complete the installation, integration and operationalization of the requisite systems on or before 30.09.2026;

16. **WHEREAS**, in the meeting of the statutory Sub-committee on Safeguarding and Enforcement held on 29.09.2026, it was noted that no

progress has been made yet in respect of installation of ANPR Cameras system by the Transport Department of Uttar Pradesh. The inaction/ inordinate delay on the part of the State was viewed seriously by the statutory Sub-Committee, which decided that action in accordance with law be considered for the reported non-compliance;

17. **WHEREAS**, Section 14(1) of the Act stipulates that any non-compliance or contravention of any provisions of the Act, Rules made thereunder or any order or direction issued by the Commission, shall be an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to five years or with fine which may extend up to one crore rupees or with both;

18. **WHEREAS**, Section 14(2) of the Act provides that the offence under the Act shall be non-cognizable and triable by the Jurisdictional Judicial Magistrate of the First Class, who shall not take cognizance of the offence except upon a complaint made by the Commission or any officer authorised by the Commission in this behalf;

19. **WHEREAS**, Section 14(5) of the Act stipulates that if any offence has been committed by any Department of the Government, the Head of the Department shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly, subject to the proviso thereto;

20. **WHEREAS**, Section 14(6) of the Act further provides that, notwithstanding anything contained in Section 14(5), where an offence under the Act has been committed by a Department of the Government and it is proved that such offence was committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of, any officer other than the Head of the Department, such officer shall also be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly;

21. **WHEREAS**, from the material presently available before the Commission, including the status reported on the PAVAN Portal, the records of the review meetings referred to hereinabove and the communications addressed to the Transport Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, it *prima facie* appears that the installation, integration and operationalization of ANPR based technology enabled enforcement systems at the 987 identified fuel stations in the NCR districts of Uttar Pradesh was not completed by 30.09.2026, as mandated under Direction No. 101 dated 15.05.2026;

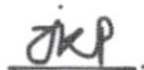
22. **WHEREAS**, despite the aforesaid statutory Direction, periodic reviews and communications requiring submission of the status of implementation, including the communications dated 31.08.2026 and 17.09.2026, no compliance report or other material demonstrating compliance with the aforesaid Direction has been received by the Commission till date. The material presently available, therefore, discloses a *prima facie* case of non-compliance/ contravention of Direction No. 101 dated 15.05.2026. No conclusion as to the liability of the Department, the Head of the Department or any other officer is, however, being drawn at this stage, and an opportunity is rather being afforded to place the relevant facts, records and explanation before the Commission;

23. In view of the foregoing facts and the material available on record, the Commission has directed that **Secretary-in-Charge of the Transport Department and the Transport Commissioner, Government of Uttar Pradesh shall appear before the Commission on 15.10.2026 at 11.00 AM at Sameer Conference Hall, 17th Floor, CAQM, New Delhi** to explain the circumstances leading to the delay/ non-compliance and the steps taken by the Transport Department towards ensuring compliance with the said Direction.

24. **You are also directed to submit** a comprehensive and updated status report, duly supported by relevant records, indicating, *inter alia*, the progress made so far towards compliance with Direction No. 101 dated 15.05.2026; the

reasons for delay in installation, integration and operationalization of the ANPR based technology enabled enforcement system; and a detailed, time bound action plan, with definitive timelines, for complete installation, integration and operationalization of the requisite system to enforce the aforesaid Direction.

25. **TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that failure to submit the requisite explanation/ status report and to appear before the Commission on the scheduled date and time, without sufficient cause, shall be viewed seriously. In such an event, the Commission shall be at liberty to proceed in the matter based on the material available on record and take an appropriate decision, in accordance with law, without affording any further opportunity of hearing in the matter.



(Tarun Kumar Pithode)
Member Secretary

To:

1. Addl. Chief Secretary, Transport Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh
2. Transport Commissioner, Government of Uttar Pradesh

Copy to:

1. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
2. Additional Chief Secretary (Environment), Govt. of Uttar Pradesh