

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

17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhagwan (STC Building)
Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-11001

F. No. A-110018/01/2021-CAQM - 1563 DT

Dated: 20.02.2026

**Subject: Mitigation of dust in construction and demolition projects -
Management of demolition waste reg.**

1. WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, 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 etc., 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, the Commission has been highlighting that pollution from vehicles and transport sector, agricultural stubble burning, dust from construction and demolition activities, dust from road and open areas, pollution from industries and Diesel Generator (DG) sets, municipal



solid / plastic waste burning, biomass burning, fires in sanitary landfills and other episodic events including miscellaneous dispersed sources and unfavorable meteorological conditions in NCR particularly during the winter season are the major contributing factors for deterioration of air quality in the region;

4. WHEREAS, dust from construction and demolition activities, amongst others, is a major and consistent source of air pollution in the region and large quantities of dust generated from these activities significantly enhance the PM_{2.5} / PM₁₀ levels in the ambient air, thereby raising health concerns;
5. WHEREAS, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 6 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified "Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016", *inter alia*, stipulating the duties of various agencies concerned. Further, the Central Pollution Control Board had also issued "Guidelines on Dust Mitigation Measures in Handling Construction Material and C&D Wastes, 2017" for construction and demolition activities;
6. WHEREAS, for further strengthening the compliance of dust control measures and to ensure effective monitoring, considering a large number of ongoing C&D activities at any point in time, the Commission vide Directions 11-18 dated 11.06.2021 called for mandatory

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registration of all C&D projects with plot area equal to or more than 500 sq. meters on the respective Web-portal of the State Govt./ GNCT of Delhi for remote monitoring, including the following:

- a. Video fencing for all the registered projects,
- b. Self-audit and certification mechanism by the agencies on a fortnightly basis.
- c. Monitoring of air quality through low-cost air quality monitoring sensors installed at the project sites.

Other directions and policy guidelines in the context of abatement of dust pollution from construction and demolition activities encompass a range of dust control and mitigation measures as under:

- a. Installation of wind barriers / breakers along the project boundary;
- b. Provision of dust screens, particularly covering up the area under construction at the project sites;
- c. Regular use of water sprinklers, water mist and dust suppressants;
- d. Proper covering of construction materials as well as debris;
- e. Transportation of construction materials and debris / C&D waste only through covered vehicles;

7. WHEREAS, to effectively combat dust emissions, the Commission vide Direction No. 69 dated 02.11.2022 mandated deployment of anti-smog guns (ASG), in proportion to the area of the construction.

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8. WHEREAS, periodic reviews, inspections conducted by the SPCBs in NCR / DPCC as also the sample inspections conducted by the flying squads of the Commission generally indicate unsatisfactory levels of compliance and ineffective implementation of various statutory directions / rules / orders / guidelines by the project proponents at their project sites, including the concerns of heavy dust pollution owing to the transportation of construction materials / demolition debris in open / semi-open trucks;
9. WHEREAS, Section 12(2)(xi) under the Act specifically empowers the Commission to issue directions to any person, officer or an authority who shall be bound to comply with such directions;
10. WHEREAS, the directions issued by the Commission are binding in nature and such person, officer or authority are bound to comply with such directions issued by the Commission;
11. WHEREAS, Section 14 of the Act also 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 a punishable offence;
12. WHEREAS, Section 14 (2) of the Act stipulates that such an offence shall be non-cognizable and triable by the Jurisdictional Judicial

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Magistrate of the First Class, who shall not take cognizance of the offence except upon a complaint made by the Commission or any other officer authorised by the Commission in this behalf;

13. WHEREAS, violations of the Statutory Directions and Orders of the Commission are observed and reported by the implementing / supervising agencies as also through public complaints and representations etc. and the Commission, taking a serious note of such instances has considered it is necessary to initiate appropriate stringent action against the violators and also against the officials for non-compliance of the orders or directions issued by the Commission, from time to time;
14. WHEREAS, with regard to effective management of construction and demolition waste, Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016 provide for collection, segregation, recycling, treatment & disposal of solid waste in an environmentally sound manner and also provide for roles and accountability of waste generators and various stakeholders, give thrust to segregation, recovery, reuse, recycle at source and address in detail the management of construction and demolition waste;
15. WHEREAS, Environment (Construction and Demolition) Waste Management Rules, 2025 notified on 02.04.2025 in supersession of the existing Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016, to be effective from 01.04.2026, provide for specific measures for waste

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management, waste utilization and to deal with its non-compliance, and to align with circular economy and resource efficiency approaches by introducing extended producer responsibility, environmental compensation and centralised interface based on monitoring and compliance assessment;

16. WHEREAS, large scale construction and demolition activities are ongoing in major cities in Delhi-NCR, which have a remarkably high contribution to the overall PM10 & PM2.5 load. The concerned Municipal Bodies / Authorities of these cities need to be better equipped to supervise and monitor the abatement of dust pollution from such construction and demolition projects / activities. It is incumbent upon the project proponents to manage the demolition waste in a responsible manner before they take up the construction activities. It is also incumbent upon the Municipal Bodies / Authorities to provide for mechanism to facilitate scientific management of the demolition waste;
17. NOW, THEREFORE, towards ensuring strict implementation of directions, advisories, orders issued by the Commission from time to time, Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules issued by the Government of India and various dust mitigation measures stipulated from time to time by other authorities concerned viz. the CPCB, SPCBs / DPCC and other agencies under the NCR State Governments / GNCTD, and for developing a mechanism for management of C&D waste in major cities in Delhi-NCR having Municipal Corporations (including New Delhi Municipal Council)

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