

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

- CAQM has been rigorously reviewing the measures being undertaken towards abatement of air pollution in the region and also closely monitoring the air quality parameters.
- Delhi's air quality deteriorated on 05.10.2022 to 'poor' category; preventive actions required to be taken by all concerned under the stage -I of the GRAP were invoked on 05.10.2022 in an effort to prevent the AQI dipping further.
- The air quality in Delhi is likely to remain in "poor" category in the coming few days and hence GRAP actions under Stage-I needs to be intensified by all the implementing/ monitoring agencies concerned across NCR.
- In the overall environmental interest, citizens are also urged to collaborate and cooperate with the agencies concerned in effective implementation of the GRAP and follow the Citizen Charter under the GRAP, towards overall amelioration of air quality in the region
- Agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP and State Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) in NCR and DPCC to ensure strict implementation of actions under GRAP.
- The GRAP document can be easily accessed from the Commission's website, i.e., www.caqm.nic.in

NEW DELHI:

Continuing its rigorous efforts to improve and abate the air quality of the National Capital Region (NCR), the Sub-Committee of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) is reviewing measures undertaken towards abatement of air pollution and also closely monitoring air quality parameters in NCR as per the forecasts for meteorological conditions and air quality "poor" category index made available by IMD/IITM. On 05.10.2022, Delhi's air

quality deteriorated to “poor” category though improved subsequently. As the air quality has reached “poor” category again, actions under Stage I of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) need to be intensified by all concerned. In view of the air quality index of NCR, the Commission has reiterated to all implementing agencies of the Central and State Governments of NCR to strictly implement actions under Stage I of the GRAP and also urging citizens to cooperate in adherence to the Citizen Charter of the respective stages and assist in effective implementation of the GRAP measures to improve the overall Air Quality in the region.

As per the revised GRAP, a 24-point action plan as per Stage 1 of GRAP is already in place in the entire NCR w.e.f. 05.10.2022. This 24-point action plan includes steps such as closure of C&D activities of projects with plot size equal to or more than 500 sqm which have not registered on the 'web portal' of the respective NCR State Government; proper implementation of guidelines on dust mitigation measures and sound environmental management of Construction and Demolition (C&D) wastes; regular lifting of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), C&D waste, and Hazardous wastes from dedicated dump sites; periodic mechanized sweeping and/ or water sprinkling on road; use of anti-smog guns at C&D sites; prohibition on open burning of biomass and municipal solid waste; strict vigilance and enforcement of PUC norms; stringent prohibitions to not use DG sets as a regular source of power supply; use of only approved fuels in industrial areas; etc be strictly implemented/ ensured by different agencies, State Pollution Control Boards in NCR and DPCC.

The Sub-Committee constituted for invoking actions under the GRAP in its meeting held on 05.10.2022 decided to invoke all actions as envisaged under Stage I of the GRAP - 'Poor' Air Quality (DELHI AQI ranging between 201-300). The Order for invoking actions under Stage I of the GRAP -'Poor' Air Quality (DELHI AQI ranging between 201-300) was accordingly issued on 05.10.2022 and is still in force.

Further, various agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP and State Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR and DPCC have been communicated to ensure strict implementation of actions of Stage under GRAP. The detailed revised schedule of GRAP is available on the Commission's website and can be accessed via www.caqm.nic.in

The Commission, from time to time, has been issuing Advisories and Directions containing policy initiatives and actions directed towards improvement of air quality in the region. CAQM has so far issued **68 Directions and 7 Advisories** to State Governments and other agencies in NCR.
