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

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- 1. The Chief Secretaries, Government of Uttar Pradesh/Haryana/ Rajasthan/ GNCT of Delhi.
- 2. The ACS / Pr. Secretary, Transport Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh/Haryana/ Rajasthan/ GNCT of Delhi.

Subject: Procurement of clean vehicles by Governments, Public Sector Undertakings and Public Institutions in NCR – reg.

It needs no emphasis that contribution from the transport sector to the overall air pollution load in the entire NCR is significantly and consistently high during all times of the year. As part of the air pollution control efforts concerning this sector, it is imperative for a prioritized transition to cleaner mobility.

2. The concerns regarding vehicular pollution in Delhi-NCR have also been repeatedly expressed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India in review meetings held from time to time, in the meetings of the Committee of Secretaries, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary and in the meetings of the High-Level Task Force for management of air pollution in Delhi and NCR, besides by the Hon'ble NGT and the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

3. Amongst various measures to curb vehicular pollution, transition to cleaner mobility, preferably towards zero emission vehicles like the Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV) and other such technologies that may develop in future, assumes significant importance and needs to be accorded priority. 4. The comprehensive policy devised by the Commission to curb air pollution in the National Capital Region also lays due importance on transition to cleaner fuels and electric mobility and, inter-alia, outlines the following action points:

(i) Amend / notify EV policies in all NCR States stating targets, mandates, incentives, funding strategies for proliferation of EV and charging infrastructure etc.

(ii) Set targets for EV penetration, including that for vehicles with the Governments and institutions etc.

5. Besides the efforts in the direction of zero emission vehicle technologies, amongst all fossil fuels, natural gas viz. CNG /LNG has emerged as a cleaner vehicular fuel option as compared to the polluting fossil fuels like diesel and petrol, despite transition to BS-VI standards. To this effect, vast CNG infrastructure has also been set up across the country. Furthermore, the National Policy on Bio-Fuels aims to promote the use of bio-fuels to reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels and envisages promotion and production of bio-ethanol for suitable fuel blending options under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Program. Accordingly, Flex-Fuel Vehicles envisaging various levels of ethanol blending with petrol are now emerging. Augmentation in production of Bio-CNG / CBG across the country is also a targeted policy initiative integral to the National Policy on Bio-fuels as well as for ex-situ utilization of agriculture residue including paddy straw, to prevent its open burning.

6. Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (SHEV) offer substantial improvements in fuel efficiency and emission reduction as compared to conventional diesel/petrol vehicles. The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) has also actively supported the adoption of strong hybrid vehicles through the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India (FAME India) Scheme.

7. While the concerns of vehicular emissions are universal, considering the ultra-high density of vehicular traffic particularly in Delhi-NCR, there is a need to develop an accelerated roadmap for cleaner mobility, focusing on transition from polluting vehicles, dependent purely on fossil fuels like diesel and petrol.

8. In the above light, the Commission desires that the Governments, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and Public Institutions in Delhi-NCR may take a lead in this context and initiate policy measures / actions for transition to the cleaner mode vehicles viz. BEV / CNG / CBG / Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (SHEV)/ Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFV) with higher ethanol blending (E85/E100) / Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) and mandate future purchase and hiring/ leasing of only such cleaner mode vehicles.

(Arvind Nautiyal) Member Secretary

Copy for information and appropriate action, to:

- 1. Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for considering suitable guidelines for Central Government offices, CPSUs and Public Institutions in Delhi-NCR.
- 2. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- 3. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- 4. Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries
- Member Secretaries, State Pollution Control Boards Uttar Pradesh/Haryana/Rajasthan.
- 6. Member Secretary, DPCC, Delhi.

Member Secretary