

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

CAQM Issues Statutory Direction to strengthen Dust Mitigation in C&D Projects and streamline management of demolition waste in Delhi-NCR

NEW DELHI:

With a view to curb dust pollution from Construction and Demolition (C&D) activities across the National Capital Region (NCR), the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has issued Statutory Direction No. 97 regarding mitigation of dust in C&D projects and management of demolition waste in the region.

The Commission has observed that dust from C&D activities remains a consistent contributor to elevated Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) levels in the ambient air quality of NCR. Despite existing Statutory Directions and guidelines issued from time to time, periodic inspections by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) and flying squads of the Commission indicate gaps in compliance of the dust mitigation norms, particularly in handling and transportation of C&D materials and demolition debris.

The Statutory Direction No. 97 takes note the newly notified Environment (Construction and Demolition) Waste Management Rules, 2025 (effective from 01.04.2026), which emphasize environmental waste management, circular economy principles, extended producer responsibility and strengthened compliance mechanisms.

Further, large scale C&D activities are ongoing in major cities in Delhi-NCR, which have a remarkably high contribution to the overall PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5} 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 C&D 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

Now, further, in order to develop a robust mechanism for effective management of demolition waste in major cities in Delhi-NCR having Municipal Corporations (including New Delhi Municipal Council) and/or Development Authorities, the Commission has directed as under:

- Municipal Corporations / Development Authorities in Delhi-NCR shall ensure establishment of collection points, intermediate waste storage facilities and processing facilities in accordance with the provisions of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2025 in such a manner that there is at least one collection point within a grid of 5 km x 5 km area under their jurisdiction;
- The Building Plan approving authorities in the concerned cities shall take a declaration of estimated quantity of demolition waste to be generated before granting the approval of building plan, in all the cases of projects with plot area equal to or more than 200 sq. meters, where demolition is required to be carried out prior to construction or re-construction;
- Municipal Corporations / Development Authorities shall ensure that in all the cases of projects with plot area equal to or more than 200 sq. meters, where demolition is required to be carried out, the project proponent, prior to taking up construction or re-construction, shall deposit the demolition waste at any designated collection point or storage / processing facility and obtain the receipt for the same;
- All agencies responsible for issuing Completion Certificate (CC) / Occupation Certificate (OC) in the concerned cities shall verify the receipt of deposition of demolition waste submitted by the project proponent, prior to issuance of CC / OC;
- Municipal Corporations / Development Authorities shall ensure transportation and disposal of the construction & demolition waste within their jurisdiction in an environmentally sound manner in accordance with the extant Rules;
- These Directions shall come into force w.e.f. 1st April, 2026.

Further, NCR State Governments/ GNCTD have also been directed to ensure establishment of an integrated 'Web Portal'; geo-tagging of waste collection points and storage/ processing facilities; and GPS tracking of transportation of C&D waste, to facilitate smooth implementation of these Directions of the Commission.
