

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

**Operation Clean Air - CAQM conducts inspection drive across key zones in Delhi;
multiple violations related to road dust and C&D waste identified**

NEW DELHI:

As part of its continued monitoring, review, and on-ground enforcement of air pollution mitigation actions in Delhi-NCR, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) conducted an inspection drive under 'Operation Clean Air' on 22.04.2026. The drive focused on assessing visible road dust levels contributing to air pollution and the effectiveness of road cleaning and sweeping operations.

The inspection was carried out by five (05) flying squad teams constituted by the Commission. The teams undertook extensive field assessments across three zones of Delhi i.e. Civil Lines, Karol Bagh, and West Delhi falling under the jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

Based on the consolidated findings of the inspection teams, a total of 34 violations of visible road dust were observed on different road stretches including Mahakavi Goswami Tulsidas Marg; Keshopur Road; Najafgarh Road; Vedic Marg; Satguru Ram Singh Marg; Ring Road Punjabi Bagh; Baba Ramdev Marg; Malkaganj Road; Ramlal Kapoor Marg; Shanti Swaroop Tyagi Marg; Azadpur Road; Bhalswa Dairy Road and Faiz Road. These primarily pertain to high levels of visible road dust and accumulation of C&D waste at multiple locations across the inspected zones. The presence of such conditions indicates gaps in routine road sweeping, dust mitigation measures, and timely removal of waste, all of which are critical for abating localized sources of air pollution.

The Commission has directed the concerned authorities, particularly MCD, to strengthen on-ground implementation of dust control measures and ensuring regular mechanized sweeping of roads, effective water sprinkling, prompt removal of C&D waste and strict enforcement against unauthorized dumping.

CAQM has emphasized that road dust and improperly managed C&D waste are significant contributors to particulate pollution, especially in urban environments. The Commission has advised the concerned agencies to adopt a proactive and sustained approach,

including fixing accountability for lapses, enhancing monitoring mechanisms and ensuring strict compliance with prescribed guidelines and Statutory Directions.

The Commission reiterated that such inspection and enforcement drives under 'Operation Clean Air' will continue to be undertaken regularly across Delhi-NCR to identify and mitigate localized air pollution sources. The Commission is working in close coordination with all concerned agencies to ensure strict compliance with Statutory Directions, effective implementation of GRAP measures and abatement of air pollution in the region.
