

Direction No. 93

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

17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building)  
Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001

F. No. A-110018/01/2021-CAQM 1355 DT

Dated: 03.06.2025

**Subject: Directions under Section 12 of Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 – Migration of all buses entering into Delhi including those operating under All India Tourist Permit and other service regimes to cleaner modes –Reg.**

WHEREAS, 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 is vested with 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 and Adjoining Areas;

3. WHEREAS, Section 12 (2) (ix) of the Act empowers the Commission to issue directions in writing to any person, officer, or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;

*2025*

4. WHEREAS, Section 12(2)(v) of the Act also empowers the Commission to impose restrictions and regulate operations or processes that have implications on air quality in the region;

5. WHEREAS, significantly high contribution from the transport sector to the overall air pollution load in the entire NCR, consistently throughout the year and more adversely during the winter season, needs no emphasis and efficient and cleaner public transport services particularly the intra-city and inter-city bus services plying to Delhi and other cities / towns in NCR would help to abate air pollution from this sector;

6. WHEREAS, towards the above stated objectives, a series of meetings were held in the Commission with the NCR States (Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan) for developing detailed action plans for shifting to cleaner inter-city bus services to Delhi-NCR, targeting the bus services to be only through EVs / CNG/ BS-VI diesel buses, in a short period of time.

7. WHEREAS, in wake of the concerns of highly polluting inter-city bus services to Delhi from across the States / regions in the country, the Government of NCT of Delhi vide D.O. letter No. 10AS/STA/TPT2022/208 dated 19.01.2023 also requested all the States / UTs in the country to work towards migration of only cleaner bus services to Delhi, through CNG / EV/BS-VI Diesel modes;

8. WHEREAS, a series of meetings were also held in the Commission with the States / UTs neighbouring the NCR viz. Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and the UT of J&K for similar transition to clean inter-city bus services from these States / UT to Delhi-NCR;

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9. WHEREAS, it emerged during all such deliberations that transition to only CNG / EV inter-city bus services plying to Delhi-NCR from across these States would take much longer time, it thus becomes necessary to prioritise replacing older BS-III / IV inter-city Diesel buses plying to Delhi-NCR with BS-VI Diesel compliant buses;

10. WHEREAS, in due consultation with the above noted States / UTs and broadly in line with their respective new procurement plans for cleaner buses, detailed directions and targeted timelines for transition of all such bus services to Delhi-NCR from any city / town in these States were issued in terms of Direction No. 78 dated 19.10.2023 (for inter-city buses from the NCR States) and Direction No. 81 dated 14.06.2024 (for inter-city bus services from the States / UT neighbouring the NCR);

11. WHEREAS, statutory Direction No. 78 dated 19.10.2023, as applicable to the NCR States stipulated graded and targeted timelines for a complete transition of all inter-city bus services from any city/ town in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to Delhi / other areas in NCR, to cleaner modes viz. EV/ CNG/ BS-VI Diesel by 30.06.2024;

12. WHEREAS, the statutory Direction No. 81 dated 14.06.2024 likewise, stipulated graded and targeted timelines for a complete transition of inter-city buses plying from the States of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and UT of Jammu & Kashmir to Delhi-NCR, to cleaner modes viz. EV/ CNG/ BS-VI Diesel by 31.03.2025;

13. WHEREAS, the progress on these fronts has been periodically reviewed by the Commission from time to time and the timelines for the transition have already passed;

*20/10/24*

14. WHEREAS, towards abatement of air pollution from the vehicular sector, considering the high pollution load from commercial vehicles and the associated ill-effects of emission owing to such vehicles entering to Delhi, the Commission, vide Direction No. 88 dated 23.04.2025 has stipulated a strict ban on entry of all commercial vehicles viz. LGVs, MGVs and HGVs, other than BS-VI, CNG, LNG and EVs, into Delhi w.e.f. 01.11.2025, except such vehicles that are registered in Delhi.

15. WHEREAS, besides the bus services as covered under Direction 78 and 81 referred to above, buses from NCR States and also from other States / UTs in the country, including the buses on All India Tourist Permit (AITP), Contract Carriage Permit, Institution / School Bus Permit etc., also travel to Delhi and in the overall interest of abatement of vehicular air pollution from this sub-sector, even such buses need to be converted to clean fuel modes viz. CNG/ EV/ BS-VI Diesel;

16. WHEREAS, it is estimated that about 500 AITP buses come into Delhi from various parts of the country on a daily basis during the peak tourist season. Apart from this, other buses not covered under Direction Nos. 78 and 81, operating on Contract Carriage Permit, Institutional / Bus Permit etc. are also entering into Delhi. Some of these buses, being lower than BS-VI standards, are a matter of concern from the point of view of air pollution;

17. WHEREAS, it has been 5 years since BS-VI standards have come into effect on a pan India basis; the natural gas infrastructure has seen a boost in the last few years and EV proliferation has also picked up, indicating a reasonable level of availability of such cleaner buses and hence all buses entering into Delhi need to adhere to cleaner modes in a definite timeframe;

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18. NOW, THEREFORE, in the overall interest of abatement of air pollution from the transport sector in Delhi, besides compliance to Direction Nos. 78 and 81 issued in this context, the Commission hereby further directs that no buses, other than CNG/EV/BS-VI Diesel, including those operating under All India Tourist Permit and other service regimes, shall be permitted to enter into Delhi w.e.f. 01.11.2026. These restrictions shall, however, not be applicable to such buses which are registered in Delhi.

19. Transport Department/ Traffic Police Department of GNCTD shall ensure strict compliance of the restrictions imposed as above through an appropriate mechanism like ANPR system, RFID etc. at border entry points. All the State Governments / UT Administrations are also accordingly advised to widely disseminate these Directions amongst all stakeholders to ensure that only the permitted buses are destined for Delhi, beyond 31.10.2026.

20. Restrictions imposed vide Direction Nos. 78 and 81 shall, however, continue to be binding for the inter-city public transport bus services to Delhi-NCR.



(Arvind Nautiyal)

Member- Secretary

Email: [arvind.nautiyal@gov.in](mailto:arvind.nautiyal@gov.in)

To

1. The Chief Secretary, GNCTD
2. The Chief Secretaries, all other State Governments/ UT Administrations
3. ACS / Pr. Secretary / Secretary (Transport), all State Governments / all UT Administrations
4. ACS (Transport), GNCTD
5. Commissioner of Police, Delhi

Copy also to:

1. The Chairperson, CAQM
2. All Members, CAQM