



No.120017/27/GRAP/2021/CAQM 1180 DT

24th December, 2024

ORDER

Sub.: Revocation of actions under Stage IV ('Severe+' Air Quality) of GRAP and intensifying actions under Stage-I, II & III of revised Graded Response Action Plan (December, 2024)

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and adjoining areas, earlier issued GRAP vide Direction No. 83 dated 17.09.2024. The Commission, as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court directions dated 25.11.2024 and 05.12.2024, comprehensively revised the schedule of GRAP and submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court on date 12.12.2024. Revised schedule of GRAP was issued by the Commission vide its order dated 13.12.2024 for implementation with immediate effect by all concerned (available on CAQM website i.e., caqm.nic.in).

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its directions in WP(C) No. 13029 of 1985 in the matter of M.C. Mehta Vs. Union of India & Ors. dated 05.12.2024, *inter alia*, directed the Commission as under:

"...we must record here that if the Commission finds that the AQI goes above 350, as a precautionary measure, Stage-III measures will have to be immediately implemented. If the AQI crosses 400 on a given day, Stage-IV measures will have to be reintroduced..."

3. This was further reiterated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 12.12.2024 and 19.12.2024 in the above said matter.

4. In pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Sub-Committee on GRAP vide its dated 16.12.2024 invoked GRAP Stage-III when the AQI of Delhi breached the 350 mark during the day. AQI of Delhi, however, further worsened and was recorded as 401 at 10 pm on 16.12.2024, breaching the 400 mark. Accordingly, the Sub-Committee decided to invoke Stage-IV of the GRAP vide order dated 16.12.2024 with immediate effect.

5. As of now, Stage I, II, III and Stage IV of the revised schedule of GRAP are in force vide orders dated 14.10.2024, 21.10.2024, 16.12.2024 and 16.12.2024 respectively.

6. Noting the general improvement in the AQI levels of Delhi since night of 23.12.2024, the Sub-Committee on GRAP in its meeting held on 24.12.2024 further reviewed the air quality scenario in the region as well as the IMD/IITM forecasts and observed as under:

AQI of Delhi is continuously improving since morning and has been recorded as 369 ("Very Poor") on 24.12.2024 at 4:00 PM, which is about 31 AQI points below the limits as decided and directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for invoking Stage-IV (Delhi AQI 400). The AQI further dropped to 364 at 5:00 PM.

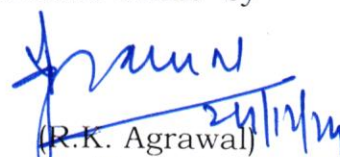
As per the Air Quality & Weather forecast provided by IMD/IITM, there is a likelihood of AQI to remain in "Very poor" (300-400 AQI of Delhi) category in the coming days owing to the favourable meteorological conditions and wind speed.

7. The Sub-Committee, accordingly, hereby decides to revoke with immediate effect, its orders dated 16.12.2024, for invoking actions under Stage-IV ('Severe+' Air Quality) of revised Schedule of GRAP (December, 2024).

8. Actions under Stage-I, II & III of the revised GRAP shall, however, remain invoked and be implemented, monitored and reviewed by all the agencies concerned in the entire NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further. All implementing agencies shall keep strict vigil and especially intensify measures under Stage-I, II & III of the revised GRAP.

9. While GRAP Stage-IV is being revoked, keeping in view the winter season when weather conditions may not be always favorable and in order to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further, citizens are requested to strictly adhere to the citizen charter under GRAP-III.

10. The Sub-Committee, shall be keeping a close watch on the air quality scenario and review the situation from time to time for further appropriate decision depending upon the Air Quality in Delhi and forecast made by IMD/IITM.



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