

# Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

\*\*\*\*\*

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

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

## PRESS RELEASE

- The CAQM Sub-Committee for invoking actions under GRAP holds a review meeting in view of significant improvement in the air quality of Delhi-NCR
- Today at 4PM Delhi's overall AQI clocked at 294 as per the CPCB Bulletin; The forecast by IMD/ IITM do not indicate any steep degradation in the overall air quality of Delhi-NCR in the next few days
- As per the dynamic model and weather/ meteorological forecast, wind conditions are favourable and the overall air quality over Delhi is likely to improve and stay in 'Poor' category in the coming days
- Overall AQI of Delhi has been progressively improving from the levels of 346 ('Very Poor') recorded on 11.11.2022 to 294 ('Poor') clocked today, which is about 100 AQI points below the threshold for invoking the GRAP Stage-III actions
- Keeping in view improvement in the AQI of Delhi-NCR, the GRAP Sub-Committee accordingly decides to revoke Stage-III of the GRAP in entire NCR with immediate effect
- C&D project sites and industrial units which have been issued specific closure orders on account of violations/ non-compliances of various statutory directions, rules, guidelines etc. under no circumstances shall resume their operations without any specific order to this effect from the CAQM
- All actions as envisaged under Stage-I along with Stage-II, to continue and intensified in right earnest by all the agencies concerned in the NCR
- The GRAP Sub-Committee shall be keeping a close watch on the air quality scenario considering the likelihood of low wind speeds after a few days, will review the situation on 18.11.2022 for further appropriate decision depending upon the air quality in Delhi and forecast made by IMD/IITM
- CAQM advises citizens to cooperate and follow the Citizen Charter under the GRAP

- Agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP and Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR and DPCC also advised to ensure strict implementation of actions upto GRAP Stage-III
- The detailed GRAP document can be easily accessed from the Commission's website, i.e., [caqm.nic.in](http://caqm.nic.in)

NEW DELHI:

In view of improvement in the overall air quality of the Delhi-NCR seen in the past few days with the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) of Delhi clocking at 294 today as per the 4PM AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Sub-Committee for invoking actions under Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) held a meeting today to review the situation and take the appropriate call on the actions under Stage-III of GRAP which was in place in the entire National Capital Region w.e.f. 29.10.2022. While comprehensively reviewing the overall air quality parameters of Delhi-NCR, the Commission noted that due to forecast by IMD/ IITM not indicating any steep degradation in the overall air quality of Delhi-NCR in the next few days with AQI likely to stay in the 'Poor' category, it is advisable to relax the restrictions and further roll back Stage-III of the GRAP with immediate effect in the entire NCR. The GRAP Sub-Committee of the Commission will review the situation on 18.11.2022 for further appropriate decision depending upon the air quality in Delhi and forecast made by IMD/IITM.

The GRAP Sub-Committee in its earlier meetings had invoked actions under Stage-I, Stage-II, Stage-III and Stage-IV of the GRAP in the entire NCR on 05.10.2022, 19.10.2022, 29.10.2022 and 03.11.2022 respectively. Further, Sub-Committee in its review meeting held on 06.11.2022, revoked the actions under Stage-IV ('Severe+' Air Quality) of GRAP after considering the improvement in air quality of Delhi and AQI forecast of subsequent days. The Sub-Committee in its today's meeting further reviewed the air quality scenario in the region as well as the IMD/IITM forecasts for meteorological conditions and air quality index of Delhi and observed as under:

- Overall AQI of Delhi has been progressively improving from the levels of 346 ('Very Poor' Air Quality) recorded on 11.11.2022 to **294** ('Poor' Air Quality) clocked on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022, which is about 100 AQI points below the threshold for invoking the GRAP Stage-III actions (Delhi AQI 400-450) and preventive/ mitigative/ restrictive actions under all Stages up to Stage-III are underway, there is a likelihood of sustaining the improvement in AQI. The forecast by IMD/ IITM also do not indicate any steep degradation

Further, actions under Stage-I to Stage-II of the GRAP shall however remain invoked and be implemented, monitored and reviewed by all agencies concerned in the entire

NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further to the 'Severe' category. All implementing agencies shall keep strict vigil and especially intensify measures under Stage I & II of GRAP which include the following:

- Mechanical/vacuum-based sweeping of roads to be carried out on a daily basis.
- Ensure water sprinkling along with use of dust suppressants regularly on roads to arrest road dust especially at hotspots, heavy traffic corridors, vulnerable areas (before peak hours) and proper disposal of dust collected in designated sites/landfills.
- Regular inspection and strict enforcement of dust control measures at Construction & Demolition (C&D) sites and enforcement of direction on use of Ani-Smog guns.
- Do not allow coal / firewood including in Tandoors in Hotels, Restaurants and open eateries.
- Ensure hotels, restaurants and open eateries use only electricity/ clean fuel gas-based appliances
- Enhance Parking fees to discourage private transport
- Regulated use of DG Sets except for the emergent and essential services.

C&D project sites and industrial units which have been issued specific closure orders on account of violations/ non-compliances of various statutory directions, rules, guidelines etc. under no circumstances shall resume their operations without any specific order to this effect from the Commission.

The sub-Committee, shall be keeping a close watch on the air quality scenario and considering the likelihood of low wind speeds after a few days, will review the situation on **18.11.2022** for further appropriate decision depending upon the air quality in Delhi and forecast made by IMD/IITM.

Further, the Commission has once again appealed to the citizens of NCR to cooperate in implementing GRAP and follow the steps mentioned in the Citizen Charter under the GRAP. Citizens are advised to:

- Use public transport and minimize use of personal vehicles.
- Regularly replace air filters at recommended intervals in your automobiles.
- Avoid dust generating construction activities

Various agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP and Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR and DPCC have also been advised to ensure strict implementation of actions of Stage-I and Stage-II under GRAP in the NCR.

The revised schedule of GRAP is available on the Commission's website and can be accessed via [caqm.nic.in](http://caqm.nic.in)

\*\*\*\*\*