

**COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT
IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building)
Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001**

F. No. A -110018/01/2021-CAQM/~~8531-8693~~ Dated: 5th August, 2022

Subject: Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for NCR including NCT of Delhi.

WHEREAS, high level of air pollution in Delhi and other parts of National Capital Region has been a matter of serious concern and particularly with reference to episodic rises in the levels of air pollution, implementation of a Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in January 2017, based on the recommendations of the CPCB;

WHEREAS, keeping in view the developments over the years, actions initiated towards abatement of air pollution in NCR and measures listed in the GRAP to address the adverse air quality generally prevailing in the region during winter, it was considered necessary to comprehensively review the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) and invoke the identified actions/ measures in advance, based on a predictive AQI forecast;

WHEREAS, an Expert Group constituted by the Commission, pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 24th November, 2021 in W. P. (C) No. 1135 of 2020 in the matter of 'Aditya Dubey (Minor) and Anr. Vs. Union of India & Ors.' recommended the use of a dynamic air quality forecast system namely Air Quality Early Warning System (AQEWS), which is capable of forecasting the daily AQI for Delhi in advance and is also capable of predictive information on predominant parameters like wind speed, wind direction, temperature and relative humidity, mixing layer height, ventilation index and air mass flow etc. for the period of forecast;

WHEREAS, the Expert Group also recommended thresholds / benchmarks and adverse air quality categories to be based on the Air Quality Index rather than on the PM_{2.5} and/or PM₁₀ concentration values;

WHEREAS, the Commission in its meeting held on 04.01.2022, deliberated at length the contours for a comprehensive revision of the GRAP, which comes into force generally during the months of October to January owing to adverse air quality noted during the period;

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WHEREAS, the revised schedule of the GRAP amending the one formulated earlier in 2017 was also submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in W. P. (C) No. 1135 of 2020 'Aditya Dubey (Minor) and Anr. Vs. Union of India & Ors.';

WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 16.12.2021 in the above noted matter had further directed the CAQM to invite suggestions from general public as well as experts with a view to find a permanent solution to the air pollution menace occurring every year in Delhi and NCR;

WHEREAS, the Expert Group, constituted by the Commission in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order, has also taken note of and has concurred with the review of the actions under the GRAP;

WHEREAS, the matter regarding review of the GRAP was considered and approved by the Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission in exercise of the powers conferred upon it under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, directs the following: -

- (i) Strict implementation of the revised Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), as annexed, in the NCR by all concerned;
- (ii) The revised GRAP, annexed to this Direction, shall come into force with effect from 01.10.2022.


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