राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और निकटवर्ती क्षेत्र
वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management ir
National Capital Region and
Adjoining Areas

सत्यमेव जयते

CAQM

No.120017/27/GRAP/2021/CAQM-1941(A) Dated: 30 October, 2026

ORDER

Sub: Implementation of precautionary measures for prevention and control of air pollution in Delhi-NCR during 05th to 20th November, 2026.

High levels of air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR), particularly episodic increases during periods of adverse meteorological conditions, have been a matter of serious concern. Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 (CAQM, Act 2021) empowers the Commission to take such measures and issue such directions as it considers necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of air in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas.

2. The Commission has issued the revised schedule of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) dated 29.09.2026. GRAP provides for a graded framework of preventive, restrictive and other measures for implementation at different levels of air quality, with a view to preventing further deterioration of air quality, particularly during periods of adverse meteorological conditions.

3. An examination of historical daily Air Quality Index (AQI) data for November 2018–2025 indicates a recurring pattern of elevated air pollution in Delhi-NCR, particularly during early to mid-November, with AQI levels reaching the 'Severe' and 'Severe+' categories on certain days. During this period, local emission sources, seasonal agricultural residue & biomass burning and other episodic events related emissions further contribute to the pollution load, while adverse meteorological conditions, including low wind speeds, a shallow atmospheric boundary layer and reduced vertical mixing, further limit pollutant dispersion. This recurring pattern underscores the need for timely preventive interventions to minimize emissions before and during the onset of peak pollution episodes.

4. The Commission is of the view that, having regard to the recurring seasonal pattern of deterioration in air quality in Delhi-NCR, and the need to ensure timely and effective implementation of pollution abatement measures, it is necessary to undertake anticipatory interventions during the period preceding and coinciding with the historically observed peak pollution episodes. The objective of the proposed intervention is to reduce the emission load at source and minimise the accumulation of pollutants.

GRAP.

5. The proposed measures are preventive in nature, limited to a specified period and geographical area, and have been formulated keeping in view the seasonal vulnerability of the region to air pollution. The exemptions provided for essential public infrastructure, national security and other critical services are intended to ensure that essential and unavoidable activities are not disrupted.

6. Therefore, the Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 12 of the CAQM Act, 2021, hereby directs that the following measures shall be implemented by all concerned Departments /agencies of the NCR State Governments and GNCTD during the period from 05th to 20th November, 2026, for prevention and control of air pollution in Delhi-NCR:

i. Restrict dust generating demolition and outdoor construction activities in the entire NCR except for projects related to Railways, Metro Services, Airports, Inter State Bus Terminals, Hospitals, Water Supply & Sanitation, National security/ defence related activities and projects of national importance. This restriction shall also apply to linear public projects such as highways, roads, flyovers, overbridges, power transmission, pipelines, tele-communication etc.

ii. State Government and private offices to operate with upto 50% of the staff strength attending physically and remaining staff to work from home in the territorial jurisdiction of the NCT of Delhi and in the districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Sonipat, Ghaziabad and Gautam Buddha Nagar except for such industrial establishments and essential services, where this arrangement is not feasible.

TKP.

(Tarun Kumar Pithode)
Member Secretary

To:

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, 101, Lok Bhawan, U. P. Civil Secretariat, Vidhan Sabha Marg, Lucknow – 226 001.
2. The Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Government Secretariat, Jaipur, Rajasthan – 302 005.
3. The Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, 4th Floor, Civil Secretariat, Sector – 1, Chandigarh.
4. The Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi, 3rd Floor, Delhi Secretariat, I. P. Estate, New Delhi – 110 002.

Copy to:

1. Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Uttar Pradesh.
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, Room No. 335, 3rd Floor, Haryana New Secretariat, Sector 17, Chandigarh.

3. Secretary-in-Charge, Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi, Room No. 801, 8th Floor, B Wing, Delhi Secretariat, Delhi - 110002.
4. Secretary-in-Charge, Department of Environment, Room No. 4224, 2nd Floor, Main Building, Government of Rajasthan Secretariat, Jaipur.
5. Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, TC-12V, Vibhuti Khand, Gomati Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh – 226010.
6. Member Secretary, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board, 4, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jhalana Doongari, Jaipur, Rajasthan – 302004.
7. Member Secretary, Haryana Pollution Control Board, C-11, Sector 6, Panchkula, Haryana – 134109.
8. Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, 6th Floor, C Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I P Estate, Delhi – 110002.

Copy also to:

1. The Chairperson CAQM
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, New Delhi
3. All Members of the Commission

TKP

(Tarun Kumar Pithode)
Member Secretary