

**Minutes of Forty Eighth meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan held on  
October 11, 2019 at CPCB, Delhi**

Forty eighth meeting of Task Force on Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), was convened on October 11, 2019A. The meeting was chaired by Dr Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB. List of participants is annexed.

The meeting was called to review the status, considering that Poor category AQI was observed on 10<sup>th</sup> October for the first time after several days of better air quality. IMD was requested for specific inputs on meteorology forecast. Stubble burning incidences reported from Punjab and Haryana, its likely impact on Delhi NCR air quality were also discussed. Dr. V. K. Soni, IMD explained that due to monsoon withdrawal, winds are calm leading to low dispersion of pollutants and also wind direction is changed to West and North West. He stated that about 10-20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is attributed to stubble burning in overall air quality levels of Delhi. While air quality is likely to remain in Poor category for next 2-3 days, due to prevailing weather pattern major change/deterioration in air quality is not likely to happen in near future.

Member Secretary, DPCC informed that night patrolling has been initiated from 1<sup>st</sup> October in co-ordination with concerned agencies and DG sets will be banned from 15<sup>th</sup> October. Representatives of HSPCB, UPPCB and RSPCB informed about actions being taken in their respective areas especially on dust mitigation measures, MSW management and Management of C&D waste. Constant vigil has been initiated, and social media complaints are monitored regularly.

Member Secretary, CPCB while summarizing the discussion, mentioned that since meteorological conditions are no more favorable for dispersion and pollution levels are likely to increase, all the implementing agencies will have to be more alert on ground and step up efforts for timely actions to control polluting activities.

Following recommendations are made:

1. Agencies to step up their actions as per GRAP. SPCBs are advised to be vigilant and closely monitor air quality and actions by implementing agencies.
2. The locations exhibiting comparatively higher AQI may be attended to for quick investigation of likely local causes and remedial measures.
3. People are also alerted that with critical winter season, air pollution levels are expected to go up, and therefore, they are advised to take steps for minimizing pollution, avoid dumping and burning of waste, maintain vehicles, minimize use of personal vehicles whenever possible, ensure proper lane driving, be vigilant and report polluting activities through ‘Sameer App’ and social media platforms to help implementing agencies take timely corrective measures.

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board.
2. Sh. Arun Mishra, MS, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
3. Dr. M.P. George, Scientist, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
4. Dr. V. K. Soni, Scientist 'E', India Meteorological Department (video conferencing)
5. Sh V. K. Shukla, Additional Director, Central Pollution Control Board
6. Sh A.K. Singh, RO (Gautambudh Nagar), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
7. Sh. Utsav Sharma, RO (Ghaziabad), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board
8. Sh. S. C. Arora, DGM (Greater Noida Authority), Uttar Pradesh
9. Sh. R. K. Ojha, (Greater Noida Authority), Uttar Pradesh
10. Sh. Sachin Narwal, RO, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
11. Sh. O.P. Gupta, RO, Alwar, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board
12. Sh. H.C. Joshi, ASO, (Greater Noida), Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board