

**DIRECTION NO. 98**

**COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN NATIONAL CAPITAL  
REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS**

**17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building)  
Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi - 110001**

F. No. A-110018/01/2021-CAQM/11364

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

**Subject: Directions under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021- Stipulation for Particulate Matter Emissions from Industries across Delhi-NCR.**

1. WHEREAS, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the Act), has constituted the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (hereinafter referred to as the Commission);
2. WHEREAS, under section 12(1) of the Act, the Commission has the powers to take all such measures, issue Directions, etc., as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the air in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas;
3. WHEREAS, Section 12(2)(iv) empowers the Commission to lay down parameters for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources, whatsoever, that have implications on air quality in the region;
4. WHEREAS, Section 12(2)(xi) of the Act, empowers the Commission to issue directions in writing to any person, officer, or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;

5. WHEREAS, industrial stack emissions are a significant contributor to Particulate Matter (PM) concentrations in the National Capital Region (NCR) and also contribute to secondary particulate formation, thereby adversely impacting ambient air quality and public health;
6. WHEREAS, since its inception, the Commission has taken a series of measures including switching over of industries on cleaner fuels, prescribing stringent emission standards, and also prescribing standard list of cleaner fuels, inter alia, through Directions Nos. 53, 62, 63, 64 and 65 to curb industrial emissions;
7. WHEREAS, the Commission vide Direction No. 53 dated 04.02.2022, directed that the industries located in the NCR, beyond the jurisdiction of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD), shall under all circumstances completely switch over to Piped Natural Gas (PNG) or biomass fuels, latest by 30.09.2022, failing which such industries shall be closed down and not permitted to schedule their operations thereafter. Further, the industries in the jurisdiction of GNCTD were directed to necessarily run only on PNG and electricity;
8. WHEREAS, the Commission vide Direction No. 62 dated 17.03.2022 stipulated the maximum permissible emission standard for PM emissions for the biomass fuelled boilers of 80 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> for industries located in NCR beyond the jurisdiction of GNCTD, directing that such industries shall aim for an emission level of 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> through suitable technology upgrades and installation of requisite air pollution control devices such as bag filters, cyclonic filters, wet scrubbers, Electro Static Precipitators (ESPs) etc., to be decided by the individual units based on their onsite technical requirements;

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9. WHEREAS, the Commission vide Direction No. 63 dated 18.05.2022 permitted the use of biomass fuels as an alternative option in addition to PNG or other cleaner fuels even in new/under commissioning industries in the NCR, beyond the jurisdiction of the NCT of Delhi, subject to strict compliance of the conditions as stipulated under Directions No. 53 and 62 issued by the Commission;
10. WHEREAS, keeping in view the technical, technological and process requirements, the Commission vide Direction No. 64 dated 02.06.2022 permitted use of metallurgical coke in standalone cupola based furnaces and family of low Sulphur heavy stock fuels in furnaces/kilns for metal heating/melting/smelting/refining purposes, only for regions in the NCR beyond the jurisdiction of GNCTD, subject to the stricter emission norms and standards stipulated therein, which include PM emissions of 80 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> with an aim for achieving a level of 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>;
11. WHEREAS, the Commission vide its Direction No. 65 dated 23.06.2022, read with addendum dated 03.04.2023 stipulated Standard list of approved fuels for various applications across Delhi-NCR;
12. WHEREAS, various studies indicate that pollution from industries is one of the prominent contributors to overall adverse air quality in the NCR and the Commission is of the view that there is a need to stipulate more stringent emission norms for the industries operating in the NCR keeping in view the availability of appropriate air pollution control devises/measures towards effective abatement of air pollution from this sector;
13. WHEREAS, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) with the concurrence of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), had formulated an action plan regarding targeted

interventions to reduce PM2.5 levels in Delhi-NCR. As per the action plan, a study was to be carried out on prescribing revised emission standards in a graded manner, requirement of Air Pollution Control Device (APCDs)/Fume Extraction System (FES), cost implication etc. in Textile, Food Processing and Metal sectors;

14. WHEREAS, the CPCB awarded a study titled "Prescribing emission standards, requirement of APCDs/Fume Extraction System (FES), and associated cost implication, for textile, food processing and metal industries in Delhi-NCR" to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur on August 7, 2025. IIT, Kanpur submitted the report to CPCB in November 2025;
15. WHEREAS, the CPCB constituted a Technical Committee on 13.11.2025 to evaluate the findings of the report of IIT, Kanpur and to conclude the recommendations of the study. The Technical Committee evaluated the findings of the study of IIT, Kanpur and made certain recommendations;
16. WHEREAS, the CPCB vide its letter dated 30.01.2026 submitted a proposal to CAQM regarding revision of PM emission standard for industries in Delhi-NCR along with timelines to achieve the compliances;
17. WHEREAS, the CPCB has stated that the aforementioned Technical Committee has made the following recommendations:
  - PM emission standard may be stipulated as 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> for 17 category industries, Red category (medium and large) air polluting industries and food & food processing and textile industries having boilers/thermic fluid heaters and industries having metal furnaces in Delhi-NCR.

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- Installation of new APCDs/Upgradation of existing APCDs is required to achieve the stringent PM emission norm of 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>. APCD should be installed/upgraded only through National Productivity Council (NPC) empanelled vendors. IIT, Kanpur report recommends that to control PM emissions from boilers and metal furnaces and achieve emission norm of 80 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> or lower, fabric filters / bag houses are more suitable. However, in case of cupola furnaces, pit furnaces and oil-fired heating furnaces, wet scrubbers are suitable. Further, to capture fugitive emissions, Fume Extraction System is required for all furnaces, except heating furnaces.
  - The PM emissions from gas based boilers/thermic fluid heaters and gas based heating furnaces are expected to be well below 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
  - The above recommended PM emission standard will not be applicable to those existing units who have already been prescribed PM emission standard of ≤ 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> in the CTO such as Thermal Power Plants (TPPs), Waste to Energy Plants (WTE Plants), etc.
18. WHEREAS, the CPCB has proposed the following timelines for installation/upgradation of APCDs in the targeted industries to ensure compliance with the revised standards:
- (a) Medium and large industries shall achieve compliance by 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2026;
  - (b) All remaining industries shall achieve compliance by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2026.
19. WHEREAS, the permissible emission standard of 80 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> for particulate matter emissions has been stipulated by the Commission vide Direction No. 62 dated 17.03.2022 for biomass fuelled boilers and vide Direction No. 64 dated 02.06.2022 for standalone cupola based foundries using metallurgical coke, and for metal smelting / melting / refining / heating furnaces and kilns using Low Sulphur Fuels namely, Low Sulphur Heavy Stock (LSHS), Very Low Sulphur & Ultra-Low Sulphur Fuel Oil. It

was also mentioned in the aforementioned Directions that such industries shall aim to achieve the PM emission level of 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>;

20. WHEREAS, the Commission, considering the recommendations of the CPCB, based on the study of IIT, Kanpur and also the Technical Committee constituted by it, is of the view that the particulate matter emission standard of 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> is technically achievable and environmentally necessary. This revised standard will reduce the emissions from industries significantly and will contribute to abatement of air pollution from industrial emissions leading to benefits for the people in the immediate vicinity of industrial sources and also improvement in the overall air quality of the region;

21. NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it under Section 12 of the Act, hereby directs as under:

(i) The maximum permissible limit of particulate matter (PM) emissions from 17 Categories of highly polluting industries identified by CPCB, Red Category (Medium and Large) air polluting industries; Food & Food Processing and Textile industries having boilers/thermic fluid heaters and Metal industries having furnaces, operating in Delhi-NCR, shall be 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>;

Provided that this standard shall not apply to those industrial units which have been prescribed PM emission standard of less than 50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> under any applicable consent, direction or statutory provision.

(ii) The revised PM emission standard shall be applicable to the industries mentioned in clause 21(i) as follows:

- (a) Large and Medium industries with effect from 01.08.2026;
- (b) Remaining industries with effect from 01.10.2026.

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22. This direction shall have overriding effect on PM emission standards as provided in Direction No. 62 dated 17.03.2022 and Direction No. 64 dated 02.06.2022, in respect of the industries and timelines mentioned under clause 21.
23. The respective NCR State Governments and GNCTD and the Pollution Control Boards in the States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee shall widely disseminate and publicise this direction across all industrial sectors/units in their respective territories and ensure implementation of this direction, particularly the targeted timelines for compliance with the revised PM emission standard.



**(Tarun Kumar Pithode)**  
**Member Secretary**

**To:**

1. ACS/Pr. Secretary/Secretary, Dept. of Environment, GNCTD
2. ACS/Pr. Secretary/Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Government of Haryana
3. ACS/Pr. Secretary/Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Government of Uttar Pradesh
4. ACS/Pr. Secretary/Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Government of Rajasthan
5. Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
6. Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
7. Member Secretary, UP State Pollution Control Board
8. Member Secretary, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board

**Copy to:**

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,  
New Delhi
2. Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi, New Delhi
3. Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, Haryana
4. Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh
5. Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Rajasthan
6. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi
7. Chairman, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
8. Chairman, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
9. Chairman, UP State Pollution Control Board
10. Chairman, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board



**(Tarun Kumar Pithode)**