

**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-11018/01/2021-CAQM *12113/RPG.*

Dated: 19th August, 2026

Subject: Directions under Section 12 of Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 – Prevention and Control of Air Pollution from Stone Crushing Units in the National Capital Region.

1. WHEREAS, the 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") for better co-ordination, research, identification and resolution of problems surrounding the air quality index and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;
2. WHEREAS, under Section 12(1) of the Act, the Commission is empowered 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 (NCR) and Adjoining Areas;
3. WHEREAS, Section 12(2)(xi) of the Act empowers the Commission to issue directions in writing to any person, officer or authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;
4. WHEREAS, protection and improvement of ambient air quality is integral to protection of public health and the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution

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of India, and the precautionary principle requires preventive and effective measures to control emissions contributing to air pollution;

5. WHEREAS, the National Capital Region continues to experience adverse air quality conditions, with PM₁₀ being the predominant pollutant determining the Air Quality Index (AQI) in the region during the summer months and PM_{2.5} during the winter months;
6. WHEREAS, the study titled '*Source Apportionment of PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀ of Delhi NCR for Identification of Major Sources*' dated August 2018, prepared by the 'Automotive Research Association of India' and 'The Energy and Resources Institute' found that stone crushing units contributed 2% of PM_{2.5} concentration and 3% of PM₁₀ concentration in Delhi during the winter of 2016;
7. WHEREAS, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, in its report titled '*Development of Emission Inventory for Eighteen Villages of Mahendragarh District in Haryana*' submitted to Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) in January 2023 concluded that during unfavourable meteorological conditions stone crushers alone may be responsible for exceedance of standards in six of 18 villages in Mahendragarh District, Haryana;
8. WHEREAS, the CPCB has issued the '*Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*' in July 2023, stating that stone crushing releases substantial amounts of fugitive dust, which not only pollutes the environment, but also poses a health hazard to the workers and the surrounding population. The guidelines provide for the measures to be taken to control fugitive dust from various sources of emission in operation of stone crushing units viz. unloading of raw material, primary crushing / jaw crusher, secondary crushing, screening, tertiary crushing, conveyor belts, discharge points, and product storage;
9. WHEREAS, the aforesaid guidelines also stipulate other measures for control of fugitive emissions, *inter alia*, including wind breaking wall, provision of metaled/ concrete roads, arrangement of water sprinkling system/ fogger/ anti-

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smog gun, plantation around the periphery, covering of vehicles used for transportation, and regular wetting of roads;

10. WHEREAS, to assess compliance of dust mitigation measures field visits of the stone crushers in the States of Rajasthan and Haryana were conducted in the months of June and July 2026, during which inadequate compliances were observed primarily with respect to development of green belts, erection of wind breakers, management of stockpiles, maintenance of roads, and covering of transport vehicles;
11. WHEREAS, stone crushing units are regulated under the 'Consent to Operate' (CTO) framework administered by the respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). In the NCR, stone crushers are located only in the States of Haryana and Rajasthan. Accordingly, CTOs issued by respective SPCBs had been examined, wherein it was found that the CTOs granted by the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board have duly incorporated the CPCB's '*Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*', however, the CTOs granted by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board do not sufficiently incorporate the aforementioned guidelines;
12. WHEREAS, the Commission is of the view that incorporation of uniform dust mitigation measures in the Consent to Operate conditions issued by the respective State Pollution Control Boards is necessary to ensure consistency in regulatory standards, effective implementation of pollution control measures and uniform enforcement across all stone crushing units operating within the National Capital Region;
13. WHEREAS, in terms of the dust generating potential stone crushing units are quite similar to Construction and Demolition (C&D) activities, resulting in comparable fugitive particulate matter emissions and requiring appropriate dust suppression measures and monitoring to safeguard ambient air quality;

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14. WHEREAS, in view of the adverse impact of dust emanating from C&D sites and to facilitate their remote monitoring, the Commission, vide its Direction Nos. 11–15 dated 11.06.2021, *inter alia*, mandated development of an online mechanism through a web portal be put in place by DPCC/ SPCBs for monitoring of compliances of dust mitigation measures by the project proponents, registration of construction and demolition projects with plot area equal to or greater than 500 sqm on the respective web portals of the State Governments/ GNCT of Delhi, video fencing with remote connectivity of the project be incorporated in the web portal, and installation of reliable low cost PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ sensors at the project site and linking to a cloud storage platform with a live dashboard in the web portal;
15. WHEREAS, the Commission is of the view that periodic physical inspections alone are not adequate to effectively monitor compliance with dust mitigation measures at stone crushing units, as such inspections provide only a snapshot of the prevailing conditions and cannot ensure continuous adherence to prescribed environmental safeguards. The Commission further observes that deployment of technology-based remote monitoring mechanisms, including registration on dedicated web portals, integration of video surveillance with remote connectivity and installation of reliable low-cost PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ sensors linked to monitoring platforms, would facilitate continuous oversight, timely detection of non-compliance, enhanced regulatory transparency and effective enforcement of pollution control measures. Such systems have already been adopted for monitoring dust mitigation measures at C&D projects in the NCR and are considered necessary and proportionate for stone crushing units, having regard to the comparable nature of fugitive dust emissions generated by such activities;
16. WHEREAS, the Commission, vide its Order dated 24.06.2026, constituted an Expert Group for development of a policy for prevention and control of pollution from stone crushing units operating in the National Capital Region. The Expert Group, after examining the existing regulatory framework, the CPCB's *Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*, 2023, findings of the field visits, existing conditions incorporated in the CTOs granted by the respective

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SPCBs and the necessity, technological feasibility and efficacy of various dust mitigation and compliance monitoring measures recommended, *inter alia*, the following measures for effective prevention and control of fugitive dust emissions from stone crushing units:

- a. The SPCBs of Haryana and Rajasthan should adopt the dust suppression systems as stipulated in the CPCB's '*Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*', 2023 while granting the 'Consent to Operate' to stone crushing units in their jurisdictions so that adequate and uniform dust suppression measures are implemented across all stone crushing units in the NCR;
- b. For the development of system for remote monitoring the SPCBs in the States of Haryana and Rajasthan may be directed to ensure the following:
 - I. Extension of the existing web portal put in place by SPCBs for monitoring compliances of dust mitigation measures by the project proponents of C&D activities to stone crushers as well,
 - II. Registration of all stone crushers in the NCR region in the respective web portals of the SPCBs,
 - III. Video fencing with remote connectivity of the stone crushers be incorporated in the web portal is provided by all stone crushers, and
 - IV. Installation of reliable low-cost PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ sensors at the project site and linking to a cloud storage platform with a live dashboard in the web portal is done by all stone crushers;
- c. The SPCBs of Haryana and Rajasthan should ensure that adequate wheel-washing facilities are available at all stone crushing units for vehicles carrying any material to and from their premises.

17. WHEREAS, the stakeholders including the stone crushing units located in the States of Rajasthan and Haryana were consulted, wherein the stone crushing units also expressed the need for various dust control measures including remote monitoring;

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18. WHEREAS, the Commission after considering the findings of the source apportionment study, the report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, the recommendations of the Expert Group, the observations made during field visits, consultation with the stakeholders, and examination of the CTO conditions issued by the respective SPCBs, is satisfied that effective prevention and control of fugitive emissions from stone crushing units requires incorporation of the dust mitigation measures prescribed in the CPCB's "*Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*" 2023, into the CTO regime and establishment of an appropriate technology-enabled system for continuous monitoring of compliance;
19. WHEREAS, the Commission is further satisfied that the technological measures proposed for remote monitoring, including integration with web-based monitoring platforms, installation of video surveillance with remote connectivity and deployment of reliable low-cost PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ sensors, are technically feasible, operationally practical and proportionate to the objective of ensuring continuous compliance monitoring and effective enforcement of dust mitigation measures at stone crushing units;
20. NOW, THEREFORE, with a view to prevent and control fugitive emissions from stone crushing units operating in the NCR, the Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 12 of the Act, hereby directs as follows:
- a. The DPCC/ SPCBs shall ensure that the dust mitigation measures stipulated in the CPCB's *Environmental Guidelines for Stone Crushing Units*, 2023, are incorporated as conditions in the Consent to Operate (CTO) of all stone crushing units within their respective jurisdictions. For this purpose, DPCC/ SPCBs shall modify all existing CTOs, wherever such conditions have not already been incorporated and shall also incorporate the said conditions while granting or renewing any CTO after these Directions come into force;

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- b. DPCC/ SPCBs shall establish and operationalise a technology-enabled system for continuous remote monitoring of compliance by stone crushing units and, for the said purpose, shall ensure that:
- i. the existing web portal established by DPCC/ SPCBs for monitoring compliance with dust mitigation measures by Construction and Demolition (C&D) projects is extended to monitor all stone crushing units;
 - ii. every stone crushing unit operating within the National Capital Region is registered on the respective web portal;
 - iii. every stone crushing unit installs, operates and maintains video surveillance with remote connectivity integrated with the aforesaid web portal to facilitate continuous monitoring of compliance; and
 - iv. every stone crushing unit installs, operates and maintains reliable low-cost PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ sensors at the project site, integrated with a cloud-based platform and linked to a live dashboard on the aforesaid web portal.
- c. Every stone crushing unit shall provide and maintain adequate wheel-washing facilities for vehicles entering or leaving the premises.
- d. These Directions shall come into force with effect from 01.11.2026. DPCC/ SPCBs and all stone crushing units operating in NCR shall take all necessary preparatory and consequential measures in advance to ensure that these Directions are implemented in letter and spirit and complied with in all respects from the date of their coming into force.
21. The Government of NCT of Delhi/ NCR State Governments and the DPCC/ SPCBs shall ensure strict enforcement of these Directions within their respective jurisdictions through periodic inspections, continuous monitoring and such other regulatory and administrative measures as may be deemed necessary. They shall also give wide publicity to these Directions for ensuring effective implementation within their respective jurisdictions.

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22. Non-compliance with these Directions shall attract action in accordance with the provisions of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021.



(Tarun Kumar Pithode)

Member Secretary

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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
3. Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana
4. Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh
5. Chief Secretary, Government of 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

Copy also to:

The Chairperson and Members of the Commission



(Tarun Kumar Pithode)

Member Secretary