



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



No. A110018/01/2021/CAQM-602

dated 9th Nov., 2022

**ORDER**

**Sub: Construction and Demolition activities in NCR and adjoining areas- Stopping of polishing, varnishing and painting activities under Stage-III of GRAP**

Directions under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, regarding Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for NCR including NCT of Delhi was issued vide direction Nos. 66 dated 05.08.2022.

References have been received in the Commission regarding the permissibility of activities like polishing, varnishing and painting etc. under C&D activities as per clause-4 (i) to (iii) of Stage III - 'Severe' Air quality - of the GRAP, as these activities create Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) etc. which on coming in contact with air adds to the air pollution.

Clause 4 (iii) of GRAP under Stage-III (Ban on C & D Activities) specifies that "for all construction projects in NCR, non-polluting / non-dust generating activities such as plumbing works, interior decoration, electrical works and carpentry related works shall be permitted to be continued."

As such, polishing, varnishing and painting activities are not specifically permitted under the exceptions. Moreover, VOCs are having a high vapor pressure, relatively unstable at room temperature and if not contained they will float into the air in their gaseous state. VOCs are characterized as a big source of both indoor and outdoor air pollution. Frequent exposure to VOCs is associated with adverse health effects such as respiratory irritation etc. and can cause harm to human health.

When the air quality index reaches in "severe"/"severe +" category, the polishing, varnishing and painting activities may further increase the toxicity of the air and cause

harm to human health. Therefore, these activities cannot be treated as non-polluting category of C&D activities under the clause 4 (iii) of Stage-III of GRAP and need to be stopped at construction and demolition projects sites, whenever GRAP Stage-III orders are invoked/ or in operation.

All Enforcement Agencies of NCR are requested to give wide publicity to this Order and ensure compliance of the Commission's directions/ orders accordingly.

**(Arvind Nautiyal)**  
**Member-Secretary**  
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To,

1. Member Secretary, CPCB
2. Member Secretary, DPCC
3. Member Secretary, HSPCB
4. Member Secretary, RSPCB
5. Member Secretary, UPPCB

Copy to –

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana
2. The Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan
3. The Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh
4. The Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi

  
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