

Union Environment Minister chairs Review Meeting on Action Plans of Rajasthan and Punjab to tackle Air Pollution in Delhi-NCR

Shri Bhupender Yadav directs Priority Measures on Public Transport, Management of Municipal Solid Waste and Crop Residue to Improve NCR Air Quality

Sector-wise Targeted Action Plans with Fixed Accountability to ensure Visible Results Next Season

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 06 JAN 2026 5:47PM by PIB Delhi

The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, today chaired a high-level meeting to undertake a detailed review of Action Plans of the State Governments of Rajasthan and Punjab for tackling air pollution in Delhi-NCR. This was the fifth meeting in the series of such reviews, conducted on prescribed parameters and formats as directed by the Minister in the earlier review meeting held on 03.12.2025.



Expressing concern over Delhi-NCR air quality throughout the year, the Minister informed that from January 2026, review of action plans would be held every month at the Ministerial level. The Minister directed that sector-wise targeted action plans be prepared, with clear responsibility for execution fixed on

concerned departments. As the action plans are being prepared eight months in advance, it was expressed that efficient execution would lead to visible positive results in the next season. The Minister assured that all implementational roadblocks would be addressed through regular inter-State coordination meetings at the highest level.

Reviewing Rajasthan's detailed action plan, Shri Yadav highlighted that public transport gaps need to be addressed in Alwar, Bhiwadi, Neemrana and Bharatpur. Electric buses are to be procured on priority, with a timeline-wise proposal to be submitted. Charging infrastructure is to be augmented in a mission mode in urban areas as well as along highways and expressways. The issue of unplanned truck parking in Bhiwadi and Neemrana along the National Highway was flagged as a major concern requiring immediate action, including identification of parking lots and preparation of a parking plan to avoid congestion.

The Minister desired that city-specific road redevelopment plans are to be submitted for Alwar, Bhiwadi, Neemrana and Bharatpur. Traffic congestion points are to be identified and short-term and long-term traffic decongestion plans prepared. A comprehensive scheme for liquidation of legacy waste is to be developed, and Mechanical Road Sweeping Machines (MRSMs) are to be deployed immediately, wherever gaps have been identified. It was informed that 600 locations have been identified in Alwar, Bhiwadi for tree plantation as part of the roadside Greening efforts with community involvement.

Shri Yadav directed that closure notices are to be issued immediately to non-compliant industrial units that have not yet installed Online Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems (OCEMS). Further, IEC activities need to focus on sector-specific stakeholder participation, eg. With industrial units for emission control, with Resident Welfare Associations in segregation and processing for handling municipal solid waste etc. Greening activities are to be undertaken in mission mode, using local species of bushes, the Minister desired.



Going through Punjab's presentation, Shri Yadav emphasised that all Crop Residue Management (CRM) machines must be ensured to be in working condition and used efficiently. To ensure this, he desired that SOPs may be prepared for certification of machines in good working condition. The Minister requested the Ministry of Agriculture to brainstorm innovative mechanisms, in consultation with stakeholders and the scientific community, for effective management of crop residue and to counter stubble burning. The need for introspection on the effectiveness of existing measures was underlined. Pelletisation plants are to

be encouraged, and crop residue is to be utilised in thermal power plants and brick kilns. Installation of Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants was emphasised as the most environment-friendly solution for crop residue management. Drone-based surveillance was also encouraged to deter crop residue burning.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary (Environment, Forest and Climate Change); Secretary (Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare); Chairman, Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM); senior officers from the Union Ministries of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Housing and Urban Development, and Heavy Industries; and representatives of the State Governments of Rajasthan and Punjab. Senior officers from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) were also present.

VM

(रिलीज़ आईडी: 2211812) आगंतुक पटल : 603

इस विज्ञप्ति को इन भाषाओं में पढ़ें: Urdu , हिन्दी , Punjabi