



Pollution Control Board, Assam

Department of Environment and Forest
(Govt. of Assam)

Emergency Response Action Plan for Guwahati, Nalbari, Nagaon, Silchar & Sivasagar

In pursuance to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 20.11.2019 in O.A no. 681/2018, PCBA has prepared an Emergency Response Action Plan for implementation under different Air Quality Index (AQI) categories namely, Moderate & Poor, Very Poor, and Severe as per National Air Quality Index, regarding air quality in Non-Attainment cities (NACs) of Assam.

When Air Quality Index crosses Satisfactory level (Index value >100), the ERS shall be implemented in the five non-attainment cities of Assam.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change has notified the need for implementation of Graded Response Action Plan through Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority vides S.O. 118 (E) dated January 12, 2017.

Severe + or Emergency	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
When PM_{2.5} levels cross 300 µg/m³ or PM₁₀ levels cross 500 µg/m³ and persist for 48 hours or more or AQI more than 500	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop entry of truck traffic into Cities/towns (except essential commodities) 	Traffic Police, Urban Local Bodies of all the five NACs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop construction activities - major construction activities (like construction of Roads, Multi storied buildings etc.) in the city that contributes to air pollution 	PWD-R, Assam, Urban Local Bodies of NACs and District Administration, Pollution Control Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop entry of heavy diesel vehicles during emergency 	Commissioner of Transport department and District Transport Officers of the five NACs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force to take decision on any additional steps including shutting of schools. 	District Administration of all the five NACs
Severe	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
When ambient PM_{2.5} concentration is more than 250 µg/m³ and PM₁₀ is 430µg/m³ or AQI 401 to 500	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shut operations of brick kilns • Hot Mix plants • Stone Crushers • Restrict the operation related to production in Refinery and Coke industries. 	Pollution Control Board Assam, Superintendent of Police and Deputy Commissioner of respective NACs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensify/promote public transport services. 	Commissioner of Transport Department and District Transport Offices of respective NACs.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase frequency of mechanized cleaning of road and sprinkling of water on roads (at least twice in a day) • Identify road stretches with high dust generation. 	All road owning agencies including Municipal Corporations of Guwahati and Municipal Board of other NACs, Public Works Departments and National Highway Authority of India, Institute of Repute (IoRs)
Very Poor	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
When ambient PM_{2.5} concentration is between 121-250 µg/m³ and PM₁₀ concentration is 351-430 µg/m³ or AQI ranges from 301 to 400	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop use of diesel generator sets 	Pollution Control Board, Assam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop earth cutting 	District Administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance parking fee by 3-4 times in busy commercial areas. 	Urban Local Bodies of NACs/ District Development Authority (GMDA in Guwahati city)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop use of coal/firewood in hotels and open eateries. Barbeque restaurants to be closed 	Urban Local Bodies of NACs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert in newspapers/TV/radio to advice people with respiratory and cardiac patients to avoid polluted areas (like busy commercial areas/industrial areas etc.) and restrict outdoor movement. 	Pollution Control Board, Assam
Moderate to poor	Agency responsible/Implementing Agency
When ambient PM_{2.5} concentration is between 61-120 µg/m³ and PM₁₀ is 101-350 µg/m³ or AQI 101-300	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stringently enforce/stop garbage burning in landfills and other places (common areas) and impose heavy fines on person responsible. 	Urban Local Bodies of NACs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close/stringently enforce all pollution control regulations in brick kilns and industries 	Pollution Control Board, Assam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stringently enforce pollution control in industrial units through PCB monitoring. 	Pollution Control Board, Assam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do periodic mechanized sweeping on roads with heavy traffic and water sprinkling also on unpaved roads every two days. 	Urban Local Bodies of NACs. Traffic Police of Guwahati and other NACs towns to identify roads with heavy traffic and provide information to respective Municipal Commissioner and Municipal Board.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Regular pothole repairing. 	Officer in charge of PWD-R, CPWD of Guwahati and other NACs to identify unpaved roads with heavy traffic and provide information to respective Municipal Commissioners/ Urban Local Bodies of NACs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict vigilance and no tolerance for visible emissions – stop plying of visibly polluting vehicles by impounding or heavy fine. 	Officer-in-Charge of Transport Department and Traffic Police of Guwahati and other NACs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict vigilance and enforcement of PUC norms. 	Transport Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stringently enforce rules for dust control in 	PCBA; Municipal Commissioner/Executive officers of

construction activities and close non-compliant sites	the ULBs of NACs and Officers-in-charge of Police department.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deploy traffic police for smooth traffic flow at identified vulnerable areas 	Commissioners Traffic Police of Guwahati and other NACs of Assam.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strictly enforce Supreme Court ban on firecrackers. 	Chief Controller of Explosives.
	Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organizations (PESO)
	District Administration and Commissioner or Officer in-charge of licensing in the police departments of Guwahati and other NACs of Assam.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information dissemination Social media, mobile Apps should be used to inform people about the pollution levels, contact details of control room, enable them to report polluting activities/sources to the concerned authorities, and actions that will be taken by government based on the level of pollution. 	Pollution Control Board, Assam
