Status of Ambient Air Quality and Noise Level before, during and after Ambubachi Mela

(2019 to 2023)



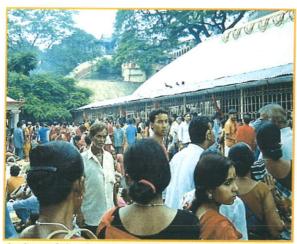


Studies conducted and reported by:

Central Laboratory
Pollution Control Board, Assam
Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21

Report on Ambient Air Quality and Noise Level Monitoring before and during Ambubachi Mela (2019 to 2023)

Kamakhya temple which is one of the most revered shrines of the Hindus is located atop the Nilachal hills in the midst of Guwahati City about 300 m above sea level on the banks of river Brahmaputra. The mandir, to which pilgrims and devotees come to worship, is situated on a beautiful hill overlooking the Brahmaputra River and the green plantations and jungles. Ambubachi is the most important festival of Kamakhya temple and is held every year during monsoon (mid-June).



A view of the devotees in Kamakhya Temple on the occasion of Ambubachi Mela

During Ambubachi the doors of the temple remain closed for four days. Daily worship and other religious performances are suspended during this period. After four days, the temple doors are reopened and the Goddess is bathed and other rituals performed. On the fifth day only the devotees are allowed to enter inside the temple for worship. Thousands of devotees from all over the country and abroad visit the temple on this occasion.

The yearly festival, which is among the biggest religious congregations in the country, attracts devotees from various States besides a sizeable section from the neighbouring Countries. Every year more than three to four lakhs pilgrims come to the temple during this period.

The scientists from the Central Laboratory of Pollution Control Board, Assam has been conducting monitoring of Ambient Air and Ambient Noise level before, during and after the Ambubachi Mela.

Due to Covid-19 pandemic situation, the celebration of Ambubachi Mela during 2020 and 2021 was not allowed, as such environmental monitoring could not be done during this period.

The status report on Ambient Air Quality and Ambient Noise Level Monitoring before during and after Ambubachi Mela during 2019 to 2023 excep 2020 and 2021 are presented below.

Ambient Air Quality:

Board had set up one manual ambient air quality station Kamakhya Temple to study the ambient air quality before, during and after Ambubachi Mela each year. The analytical results are presented in **Table no. 1 to 3**.

Table no. 1: Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Maa Kamakhya Temple (Before, During & After Ambubachi Mela, 2019)

| Place/Location | Date of Monitoring | SO ₂ (µg/m³) | NO ₂ (µg/m³) | PM ₁₀ (μg/m³) | Weather | Remarks | | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| In Front of Kamakhya Devalaya Charitable Health Care Centre (Roof-Top of Rest Room Building) | 12.06.2019 | 2 | 20 | 67 | Clear | Before Ambubachi Mela | | | |
| | 22.06.2019 | 2 | 11 | 29 | Clear | During Ambubachi Mela | | | |
| | 23.06.2019 | 10 | 4.5 | 30 | Clear | | | | |
| | 24.06.2019 | 2 | 4.5 | 51 | Clear | | | | |
| | 25.06.2019 | 2 | 4.5 | 54 | Clear | | | | |
| | 26.06.2019 | 2 | 4.5 | 35 | Rainy | | | | |
| | 03.07.2019 | 2 | 4.5 | 27 | Clear | After Ambubachi Mela | | | |
| NAAQS for 24 Avg. for Industrial, Residential, Rural and Other Area | | 80 | 80 | 100 | | | | | |

Table no. 2: Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Maa Kamakhya Temple (Before, During & After Ambubachi Mela, 2022)

| Place/Location | Date of Monitoring | SO ₂ (μg/m ³) | NO ₂ (μg/m ³) | PM ₁₀ (μg/m ³) | Weather | Remarks |
|---|--------------------|---|---|--|---------|--------------------------|
| In Front of Kamakhya Devalaya Charitable Health Care Centre (Roof-Top of Rest Room Building) | 15.06.2022 | 2 | 4.5 | 27 | Clear | Before Ambubachi Mela |
| | 22.06.2022 | 2 | 9.0 | 26 | Clear | |
| | 23.06.2022 | 2 | 4.5 | 27 | Clear | |
| | 24.06.2022 | 2 | 5.0 | 23 | Clear | During Ambubachi Mela |
| | 25.06.2022 | 2 | 4.5 | 20 | Clear | |
| | 26.06.2022 | 2 | 4.5 | 32 | Clear | |
| | 05.07.2022 | 2 | 4.5 | 34 | Clear | After Ambubachi Mela |
| NAAQS for 24 Avg. for Industrial, Residential, Rural and Other Area | | 80 | 80 | 100 | 1 | |

