

## DC asks Departments to prepare Action Plan for NCAP phase-II to improve Air Quality Index

Index value improves as PM10 decreases from 122  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: To review the present status and progress achieved with regard to implementation of Rs 5.0 crore City Action Plan (Part I) taken under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to improve Air Quality Index in District, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad, who is also the Chairman of District Implementation Committee here on Monday at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex.

Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Athar Amir Khan was also present on the occasion.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of Rs 5 Crore Action Plan (Part I) being implemented under NCAP for execution of various interventions including procurement of 4 Road sweeping or Vacuum Cleaning machines for regular cleaning of City roads, Procurement of 3 Jetting Machines for water spraying

of City roads, and Installation of 9 Fountains at major intersections/circles. Installation of Air Quality Monitoring System in the City to ensure strict implementation of mitigation measures for Prevention, Control and Abatement of Air Pollution and to improve the Air Quality in the non-attainment City of Srinagar District. The DC also reviewed process of uploading details on PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities), a portal launched for monitoring of implementation of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to support tracking of physical as well as financial status of City Air Action Plan implementation and disseminate information on air quality management efforts under NCAP to public.

On the occasion, the DC was apprised that an expenditure of Rs 3.20 crore have been so far spent under Rs 5.0 crore City Action Plan (Part I) on procurement of 3 water spraying Jetting Machines and 4 Road sweeping/ Vacuum

Cleaning machines under NCAP. In addition, authorization for procuring additional 10 Road Sweeping machines and 10 water sprinkler machines from Solid Waste component under Swachh Bharat programme has also been granted. Further, the DC was informed that construction of Fountains under NCAP at 9 important locations particularly at heavy traffic volume intersections of the District is being carried out and work on 6 Fountains under programme at Batamaloo, Bemina, Sonwar, SMHS Hospital, Hazratbal, Soura are nearing completion.

While reviewing the progress of uploading on PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities), DC was apprised that Srinagar District has seen significant improvement in Air Quality Index and has seen decrease in Index value (mass of pollutant particles) from 122 micrograms per cubic meter of air to 100 micrograms per cubic meter of air thereby improving Air Quality index.

The DC was also informed that over 3.50 lakh plant saplings were also planted under Trees Outside Forests (TOF) programme in various parts of the District during year 2021-22 to increase the green cover in City that also will prove pivotal in attaining better Air Quality Index in years ahead. On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized on proactive actions and proper coordination among the line Departments in better implementation of the City Action Plan under NCAP. He also stressed the Officers to ensure all hotspots related to air pollution are covered so that necessary measures are incorporated in the City Action Plan.

With regard to air pollution caused due to smoke/pollution generating units, the DC asked the Officers to conduct specific drives and pollution audit of all such smoke/pollution generating units in the District to ensure all safety measures are in place in these units to keep vigil on any violation of guidelines of the Government.

### DC Kulgam reviews implementation of COTPA-2003 in district

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat on Monday chaired a meeting of District Level Coordination Committee for National

Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) and reviewed measures for implementation of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA)-2003 in the district.

Reviewing various developments in the power sector during the current financial year, the DDC was informed that the Arampora Grid Station was augmented from 90 MVA to 120 MVA in October 2022. Besides, Augmentation of Grid Station Vilgam from 50 MVA to 100 MVA shall be completed by next month.

He directed them to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the consumers as per the curtailment schedule so that the people do not face any inconvenience. He also directed them to ensure completion of all ongoing augmentation works within the stipulated time frame so that more improvement is seen on the ground.

Meanwhile, it was informed in the meeting that the district has a total of 87800 registered consumers with 90.15 MW load and the current available power supply in the district is 120 MW. Besides, it was informed that the peak requirement in the district goes beyond the available power supply which is being followed by a curtailment schedule. Accordingly, 16 hours power supply is being

given to the consumers in metered areas and 12 hours supply is provided to non-metered areas of the district.

He also informed that the metering of households is in progress in the areas where meters are not installed and the task is being carried out in a phased manner.

Regarding power theft, the DDC was informed that inspection teams are continuously working to curb the power theft in Divisions and Sub divisions.

SE KPDCL Kulwara, Mumtaz Ahmad; Executive Engineers of KPDCL XEN Projects Wing Kulwara, XEN STD Sopore, XEN Grid Station Kulwara, AEEs of sub divisions and other concerned attended the meeting.

To ensure tobacco free schools, college principals, Chief Education Officer & Zonal Education Officers were directed to ensure that no sale of tobacco products/cigarettes is made within 100 yards of college and school premises in the district.

Earlier, Dr. Mir Mushtaq

State Nodal Officer tobacco control program at Directorate Health services

Kashmir gave a detailed presentation about COTPA-2003 and overview of National Tobacco Control programme.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Showkat Ahmad Rather; Additional Deputy Commissioner Viqar Ahmed Giri; SDM Bashir Ul Hassan; DSWO, Principals of GDCs, CMO BMOs, besides officials from State Tobacco Control Cell DHSK and other concerned attended the meeting.

The DC directed the officers to intensify the drive for imposition of fine on the offenders in and around the hospitals, educational institutions, Government offices, public transport adding that this shall give a strong message to the offenders to refrain from such activity.

During the meeting, Nodal Officer for enforcement of the COTPA in the district was directed to ensure imposition of chal-

lans on the offenders who smoke in public places.

He was also directed to submit a monthly report regarding the number of challans made, fine recovered and other controlling measures.

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