GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST

6thLevel, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi-110002

F. No.10 (39)/ENV/2021/7150 - 66

Dated: 4/02/2025

Subject: Directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to double the existing vehicle parking fee in Delhi upon invoking of Stage III (Severe) and Stage IV (Severe+) under Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in Delhi.

Whereas, Delhi faces grave air pollution particularly in winter season and level of pollutants like Particulate Matter Concentration (PM2.5 and PM10) goes much beyond the prescribed standards for Ambient Air Quality.

And whereas, the whole Union Territory of Delhi has been declared as an Air Pollution Control area, under the sub section (1) of section 19 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 vide notification no. GSR 106 (E) dated 20.02.1987.

And whereas, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and adjoining areas has repeatedly taken up the matter relating to air pollution with Government of NCT of Delhi and various organizations and has issued various Directions, Advisories and Orders for effective implementation of measures for abating air pollution in NCR from time to time.

And whereas, the Commission For Air Quality Management (CAQM) in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, in exercise of its powers conferred upon it under section 12 of Commission For Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas Act 2021 has issued Direction No. 75 containing revised Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) on 27.07.2023 vide Direction no. 75, which defines four stages of adverse air quality in Delhi viz. Stage I-Poor (AQI 201-300), Stage II-Very Poor AQI (301-400), Stage III-Severe (AQI 401-450), and Stage IV-Severe + (AQI > 450) respectively, thereafter followed by its amendment vide Direction No. 77 dt 06.10.2023 and revision dt 13.12.2024.

And whereas, CAQM vide its direction no. 75 read with direction no. 77 and its revision dt 13.12.2024 has directed to "Enhance vehicle Parking fees to discourage private transport" during the invoking of GRAP Stage II - 'Very Poor',

And whereas, CAQM Policy to Curb Policy to Curb Air Pollution in the National Capital Region, issued in July 2022, also provides guidelines for parking policy and various vehicle restraint measures for parking management including the introduction of Transport Demand Management measures with steep rise in parking fees. The policy also emphasise on more steps needed to restrain personal vehicles use.

And whereas, Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) for air pollution control in Delhi & NCR, issued by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in 2018, also details out strategies to reduce vehicles on-road, Parking policy and enforcement measures to be prepared and finalized for implementation in Delhi and NCR to reduce congestion and pollution, that should include Enforcement strategies and Parking pricing policy and Parking management strategies.

And whereas, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide it's order dated 18.12.2017 in O.A. No. 21/2014 titled as "Vardhman Kaushik vs. Union of India & Ors also directs that the Government shall provide destination buses and make every effort to discourage the use of private vehicles, including two-wheelers, cars and heavy vehicles. Public transport is extensively being augmented in the City with the introduction of electric buses.

And whereas, as per the Comprehensive study on air pollution and greenhouse gases 2015 conducted by IIT Kanpur, vehicles contribute about 19.7% of PM10 and 25.1% of PM2.5 in winters and about 6.4% to PM10 and 8.5% to PM2.5 in summers. Further, vehicles contribute to about 18% of CH₄ emissions, 92% of N₂O emissions and 30% of CO₂ emissions in the City, with a contribution of 32%, based on annual emissions.

And whereas, vehicles make such a significant contribution to air pollution and it severely affects the health of citizens and especially the vulnerable population like children, are more susceptible to diseases occurring due to severe air pollution including respiratory problems and cutaneous diseases.

And whereas, total of about 82.4 lakhs vehicles are registered in Delhi. There are about 677 parking facilities available with approved parking capacity for about 1,06,037 number of vehicles (excluding vehicles being parked in 91 parking areas of DMRC).

And whereas, in order to discourage use of private vehicles and promote use of public transportation, there is a need to impose higher rates of vehicle parking in the City as a deterrent.

Now, therefore, in view of the above, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read with notification No.SO 667 (E) issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India dated 10.09.1992, following directions are hereby issued in advance and subject to invoking of Stage III (Severe) and Stage IV (Severe+) under GRAP by the Commission For Air Quality in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas:

When actions envisaged under GRAP Stage III- 'Severe' Air Quality (AQI between 401 – 450) and GRAP Stage IV- 'Severe +' Air Quality (AQI above 450) gets activated in Delhi, the existing Parking Charges at authorized parking sites to be doubled to discourage use of private vehicles.

All municipal corporations/ local bodies and DMRC to ensure implementation of the directions at the authorized parking sites under their jurisdiction in letter and spirit.

The violation of the directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be punishable under Section 15 of the said Act.

By order and in the name of the Lieutenant Governor of National Capital Territory of Delhi

(A. K. Singh)
Pr. Secretary (Environment)

Dated: 04/02/25

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Copy for compliance to:

Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

2. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.

3. Managing Director, DMRC

4. Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board.

Copy To:

Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, GNCTD.

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- 2. Commissioner, Delhi Police.
- 3. Additional Chief Secretary-cum-Commissioner, Department of Transport, GNCTD.
- 4. Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Department, GNCTD.
- 5. Divisional Commissioner, Department of Revenue, GNCTD.
- 6. Pr. Secretary (Environment and Forest), GNCTD.
- 7. Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority.
- 8. Addl. Secretary, GAD: with request to circulate to all GNCTD depts.
- 9. Addl. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD.
- 10. Member Secretary, Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, STC Building, New Delhi.
- 11. Staff Officer to Chief Secretary, Delhi.
- 12. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister (Environment), GNCTD.
- 13. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister (Transport), GNCTD.

(A. K. Singh)

Pr. Secretary (Environment)