

F.No.DE.40(6)/90/SCB/2025/ 1711-1716

Date: 17/03/25

CIRCULAR

Subject-"Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools" launched by Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)- reg.

Please refer to the DO Letter No. 21011/1/2022-IEC dated 19/02/2025 received from Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQMR).

In this regard, the CAQM is launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools" in collaboration with Yuvamanthan- India's Largest Youth Development Platform. The program seeks to directly engage all students, teachers and parents in Delhi-NCR, fostering sustainable practices at individual, school, and district levels. It includes E-course on air pollution and Sustainability, prepares Sustainability Ambassadors, and conducts Shunya Audits for Environmental Assessments. It also features Workshops, Student Led Research Projects, district-wide Clean Air Challenges, and E-waste collection drives to promote responsible environmental practices. Details of this program are also provided by the CAQM (Enclosed as Annexure- B). This program, which also aligns with the Commission's mission, aims to foster these values among teachers, students and their parents, contributing to the larger vision of Sustainable, Environmentally conscious citizens and building them as ambassadors of clean air.

Therefore, all the HoSs of the Govt./Govt. Aided/Pvt. Unaided recognized schools of DoE, GNCT of Delhi are directed to disseminate the above information to all the teachers, students, and parents of their respective school. Further, all the DDEs (District/Zone) are requested to ensure the participation of all the schools and to provide contact details of a designated person from each school under their jurisdiction in the attached format and send it to the mail-id sciencebranch@gmail.com by 25.03.2025.

For any further clarification and coordination, please contact Ms Sakshi Verma, Programme Director Yuvamanthan, Mob.No.+91-9540483248, email id-director@yuvamanthan.org and Vinayak Azad, IEC & Media Consultant CAQMR, Mob.No.+91-9999390918, email id-vinayak.azad@nic.in.

This issues with the prior approval of the competent authority.



(Dr. C.S.Verma)

Dy. Director of Education (Science)

Enclosed-As above

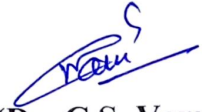
F.No.DE.40(6)/90/SCB/2025/ 1711-1716

Copy for information and necessary actions to:-

Date: 17/03/25

1. PS to Secretary (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.
2. PA to Director (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.

3. All DDEs (District/Zone) for the compliance please.
4. Dr. Sujit Kumar Bajpai, Member, Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), New Delhi
5. All the HOSs of Govt./Govt Aided/Private Unaided Recognized Schools of Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.
6. In-charge, Computer Cell with the request to upload the Circular on the Departmental website as well as in public circular.



(Dr. C.S. Verma)
Dy. Director of Education (Science)

Ashok Kumar

Fwd: Revised mail for CAQM launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools"-reg.

From : Ashok Kumar <secyedu@nic.in>

Fri, Feb 21, 2025 10:03 AM

Subject : Fwd: Revised mail for CAQM launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools"-reg.

2 attachments

To : Veditha Reddy <diredu@nic.in>, addl de school <addl.de.school@gmail.com>

21-2-25
D.E.
Addl. DE (Science)
Addl. DE (School)

381/SE
21/02/2025

From: "Shri Dharmendra" <csdelhi@nic.in>

To: "Sh. A.K Singh" <senv@nic.in>, "Ashok Kumar" <secyedu@nic.in>, "Veditha Reddy" <diredu@nic.in>

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 7:14:50 PM

Subject: Fwd: Revised mail for CAQM launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools"-reg.

Addl. DE (Science)

From: "CAQM NCR" <caqm-ncr@gov.in>

To: "Shri Dharmendra" <csdelhi@nic.in>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 5:33:51 PM

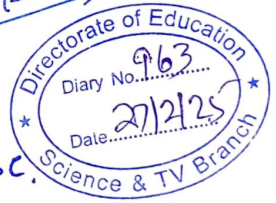
Subject: Revised mail for CAQM launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools"-reg.

AD
20/2/25

1025/DE
21/02/25

77/Addl. DE/Science
24/02/25

DDE (Sci.)
27/2/25
OSD SC.



==== Forwarded message =====

From: CAQM NCR <caqm-ncr@gov.in>

To: "Shri Dev" <csdelhi@nic.in>

Date: Wed, 19 Feb 2025 17:15:45 +0530

Subject: CAQM launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools"-reg.

==== Forwarded message =====

Respected Sir,
Please find attached herewith a letter on the above cited subject.

With Regards,

O/o, CAQM

Regards
O/o The Chief Secretary, Delhi

27/2/25
Sh. Anwar Saleem
Received on 21/2/25

Shri Dharmendra, IAS, CS, Delhi.pdf
399 KB

Annexure.pdf
131 KB

सुजीत कुमार बाजपययी

Dr. Sujit Kumar Bajpayee
Member



97
राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और
निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में
वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग
Commission for Air Quality Management
in National Capital Region and
Adjoining Areas

D.O. No. 21011/1/2022-IEC
19th February, 2025

Respected Sir,

In furtherance of its mandate under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) is launching the "Building a Sustainable Future Program for Air Quality Awareness in Schools" in collaboration with Yuvamanthan India's Largest Youth Development Platform.

2. The program seeks to directly engage all students, teachers and parents in Delhi-NCR, fostering sustainable practices at individual, school, and district levels. It includes an E-Course on Air Pollution and Sustainability, prepares Sustainability Ambassadors, and conducts Shunya Audits for environmental assessments. It also features workshops, student-led research projects, district-wide Clean Air Challenges, and E-waste collection drives to promote responsible environmental practices. The program details are enclosed for reference.

3. This program, which aligns with the Commission's mission, aims to foster these values among students, teachers, and parents, contributing to the larger vision of a sustainable, environmentally conscious citizens and building them as ambassadors of clean air. Your cooperation in promoting air quality management and sustainability practices is essential to achieving our shared vision for cleaner air and environment around us.

4. Given the urgency and importance of the matter, we urge your office to disseminate this information to relevant institutions under your purview. Additionally, we request you to advise District Authorities and District Education Officers (DEOs) to ensure the participation of all schools within districts under CAQM's jurisdiction and facilitate coordination by providing a designated contact person for each school.

5. For further clarification and coordination, the following representatives may be contacted:

- Yuvamanthan: Sakshi Verma, Programme Director, +91-9540483248, director@yuvamanthan.org;
- CAQM: Vinayak Azad, IEC & Media Consultant, +91-9999390918, vinayak.azad@nic.in

Warm Regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dr. Sujit Kumar Bajpayee)

Shri Dharmendra, IAS,
Chief Secretary,
Government of NCT of Delhi
3rd Floor, Delhi Secretariat,
I. P. Estate, New Delhi - 110002



17 वीं मंजिल, जवाहर व्यापार भवन (एस.टी.सी. बिल्डिंग) टॉलस्टोव मार्ग नई दिल्ली 110001
दूरभाष 011 23446847 ई मेल sujit.bajpa@gov.in, वेब www.caqm.nic.in
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (SEC Building), Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001
Tel 011 23446847, E-mail sujit.bajpa@gov.in, Web www.caqm.nic.in

Annexure:

Building a Sustainable Future Program: Air Quality Awareness in Schools

As Bharat strives towards achieving developed nation status by 2047, the vision set forth by our Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasizes the critical need for environmental stewardship and sustainable development. In this transformative journey, the role of air quality management and sustainability practices becomes vital in creating a cleaner and healthier nation.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) plays a key role in advancing this mission, focusing on improving air quality and promoting environmental sustainability at every level. As we witness the increasing impact of air pollution on public health and the environment, it is essential to engage the future leaders—our students, teachers, and parents—in understanding and addressing these challenges. This program aligns with the national vision for a Viksit Bharat, where environmental responsibility is integral to our progress.

The Building a Sustainable Future Program, launched by CAQM in collaboration with Yuvamanthan, is designed to empower students, teachers, and parents with the knowledge and tools to drive grassroots change. This initiative focuses on fostering responsible environmental practices through awareness, action, and collaboration.

Program Components

1. School-Level Initiatives through Eco Clubs and School Sustainability Councils

- **E-Course on Air Pollution and Sustainability for all Students, Teachers and Parents**
 - This online course provides an in-depth understanding of air pollution, its impacts on human health, the environment, and climate change, along with practical solutions for sustainability.
 - Modules: Introduction to Air Pollution, Health and Environmental Impacts, Sustainable Solutions to Combat Air Pollution, Monitoring and Reporting Air Quality, Creating a Sustainable Future
 - Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in Air Pollution and Sustainability.
 - Participants can register online, and the course will be hosted on a user-friendly platform that includes multimedia content, discussion forums, and downloadable resources for further learning.
- **Sustainability Ambassadors Program**
 - Identify passionate students as School-level Sustainability Ambassadors.
 - Provide specialized training on environmental leadership, and campaign management.
 - They will conduct sessions on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Management, GRAP Citizen Charter awareness workshops/assembly announcements, clean air pledges, tree plantation, e-waste collection drives, and Mission LIFE activities.

- They will implement Dust Management measures, such as increasing green cover by planting dust-filtering plants and trees. This will help mitigate air pollution and improve campus air quality.
- **Shunya Audit**, Shunya Audit is a comprehensive initiative combining both online tools and offline activities to assess and reduce the environmental impact of schools. Students will utilize digital platforms to track data and generate reports across several key areas:
 - **Waste Management:** Students will categorize and monitor waste segregation using a color-coded bin system and create compost from biodegradable waste collected at school.
 - **Energy Efficiency:** By analyzing electricity usage, students will promote energy-saving practices and advocate for renewable energy sources like solar panels.
 - **Biodiversity:** Students will map the campus's flora and fauna to document existing biodiversity and identify areas for improvement.
 - **Personal Carbon Footprints:** Students will evaluate their transportation choices and encourage sustainable commuting methods to reduce their carbon footprints.

The Shunya Audit also promotes the 3 Rs—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle—through various practices.

- **Reduce:** Students are encouraged to minimize waste by carrying reusable water bottles, avoiding single-use plastics, and limiting food wastage in school cafeterias. Energy conservation is also emphasized, with reminders to switch off lights, fans, and electronic devices when not in use.
- **Reuse:** Creative activities will be organized to repurpose materials, such as turning old notebooks into new ones, using scrap paper for crafts, and refurbishing broken or discarded items for new uses.
- **Recycle:** Schools will establish systems for segregating recyclables like paper, plastic, and metal, which will be sent to certified recycling units. Awareness campaigns will educate students about recycling symbols and the importance of choosing recyclable products.
- **Workshops & Seminars:**
 - Interactive sessions on air pollution causes, impacts, and solutions.
 - Customized presentations based on local air quality challenges.
 - Use of innovative tools like air quality meters for demonstrations.
 - Invite environmentalists, scientists, and policymakers to engage with students.
- **Student-Led Air Quality Research Projects**
 - Form research teams to study local air quality issues, focusing on sources of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10), seasonal variations, and the impact on local flora, fauna, meteorological factors and impact of human activities contributing to air pollution in different sectors.
 - Conduct field research using low-cost sensors, surveys, and data analysis to gather relevant air quality data.
 - Publish findings in a "Clean Air Report" to be submitted to CAQM and shared with the local community.
- **Sustainable Transportation Challenges**

- Encourage students to create school-wide campaigns promoting alternatives like Walking, Cycling, Public Transport or using EVs/Hybrid Vehicles for daily commutes.
- Track participation and calculate cumulative reduction in emissions as a real-world impact metric through a Carbon Footprint Calculator.
- **Carbon Footprint Reduction Game**
 - A year-long gamified challenge tracking individual and collective school contributions to reducing emissions.
 - Reward points will be awarded for tasks such as tree plantation, carpooling, conducting awareness drives, waste collection drives, active participation in school-level air pollution reduction initiatives, Nukkad Naataks, and Vox Pops, Model United Nations (MUN), Youth Parliaments, hackathons, case study competitions, quizzes, poster designing, reel-making. Ad-Mad shows, app development challenges, podcasts, poem recitations, game-offs, theatre performances, flash mobs, and public speaking contests.
 - Points redeemable for eco-friendly rewards like saplings, educational kits, or scholarships.

2. Household/Community Level Interventions by Students

- **The Shunya Audit for Home** Students will lead the Shunya Audit at home using both online tools and offline actions to evaluate and reduce their family's environmental footprint. Leveraging digital platforms, they will:
 - **Track Waste Management:** Segregate waste into biodegradable, recyclable, and hazardous categories while composting organic materials and ensuring proper e-waste disposal. Track waste segregation and submit reports to schools.
 - **Improve Energy Efficiency:** Reduce electricity consumption by promoting energy-saving appliances and solar-powered devices. Encourage families to adopt renewable energy solutions, such as solar-powered lighting.
 - **Calculate Carbon Footprints:** Assess transportation choices, advocating for sustainable options like walking, cycling, public transport or carpooling.
 - **Air Quality Diaries:** Through Activities Based on Mission Life students maintain a diary to log daily pollution-reducing activities like walking/cycling/using public transport to school, reducing electricity use, and avoiding waste burning.
- **Cross-Generational Learning Programs**
 - Students will lead family discussions on key environmental practices, involving parents and grandparents. Topics include adhering to the GRAP Citizen Charter for air quality, following C&D norms, implementing Dust management, transitioning to cleaner cooking fuels, reducing household emissions, promoting indoor plantation for better AQI, and encouraging carpooling or eco-friendly transport. The discussions will also cover the harmful effects of burning dry leaves and garbage and the importance of C&D waste management to control particulate pollution. These efforts aim to inspire sustainable practices for a healthier environment.
- **Registered Housing Society level activities**
 - Students will conduct the Shunya Audit in their housing societies to assess and reduce the community's environmental footprint. They will promote waste segregation, recycling, and energy efficiency in common areas by advocating for

solar-powered lighting and other renewable solutions. Additionally, students will organize activities like tree plantation drives, clean-air pledges, and sustainable transportation challenges, fostering collective responsibility and environmental awareness among residents.

- **Slum Visits**
 - Students will visit nearby slum areas to promote sustainable practices and raise awareness about environmental issues. Activities will include educating residents on waste segregation, recycling, and the harmful effects of waste burning, as well as organizing clean-up drives and tree plantation initiatives to improve local air quality. Students will also conduct DIY workshops on composting and reducing household emissions, empowering slum residents to adopt eco-friendly practices and contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment.

3. District Level Activities

- **Problem-Solving Hackathons**
 - Organize inter-school hackathons focused on air pollution solutions.
 - Themes could include: "Innovative Ways to Improve AQI in Schools" or "Tech for Clean Air: Apps and Devices for Cleaner Cities."
 - Mentorship: Involve environmentalists, scientists, and CAQM officials to mentor students during the hackathons.
- **District Clean Air Challenges**
 - Schools compete on measures like waste segregation rates, local AQI improvement, and energy conservation activities.
 - Document and present successful pollution-reduction strategies.
- **District-Level Conferences: Theme: "Clean Air, Bright Future"**
 - Participants:
 - Schools within each district under CAQM.
 - Students, teachers, and school administrators.
 - Local environmental authorities and stakeholders.
 - Key Activities:
 - **Innovations Showcase:** Students present projects on air quality improvement, such as reducing emissions, monitoring pollution, and creating awareness campaigns.
 - **Panel Discussions:** District-specific air quality challenges and potential solutions discussed with experts.
 - **Interactive Workshops:** Hands-on activities like DIY air monitoring kits or sustainable practice training.
 - **Policy Brainstorming:** Students will propose innovative ideas to improve local air quality, addressing the unique challenges of their districts. To support their efforts, they will be provided with a copy of the "Policy to Curb Air Pollution in NCR," adopted by CAQM in July 2022, as a background resource for informed and impactful recommendations.
 - School sustainability Ambassadors work together to create district-specific air quality improvement plans.
 - **Judging & Selection:**
 - Judges include representatives from CAQM, local pollution control boards, and subject matter experts.

- 93
- 92
- The top 3-5 projects from each district will qualify for the "Clean Air Summit," bringing together the best initiatives from districts under the CAQM jurisdiction to showcase innovative solutions and inspire collective action for cleaner air.

4. CAQM Regional Level Activities

- "Clean Air Summit": Theme: *"Innovating for a Breathable Tomorrow"*
Key Activities:
 - Student Showcase: Selected projects from districts presented to a larger audience.
 - Panel Discussions: Collaboration between students, CAQM, policymakers, and industry leaders on actionable strategies.
 - Innovation Exhibition: Display of all projects to facilitate knowledge-sharing and potential funding for scalability.
 - Policy Presentation: Winning districts present a consolidated proposal for CAQM and other stakeholders.
 - Clean-Air Diaries: Publish a compendium showcasing best pollution- reduction initiatives across CAQM Jurisdiction districts.
 - School sustainability Ambassadors work together to create an Air Quality Improvement Plan as part of the Youth Air Quality Taskforce.
 - Awards Ceremony: Recognition for top projects with awards such as Best Innovation in Air Quality, Most Impactful Policy Proposal, Youth Leader for Clean Air etc.
- Youth Declaration: A Student led declaration addressing air quality priorities & sustainable practices.
- School Sustainability Council Framework : School sustainability ambassadors will digitally collaborate to design the **School Sustainability Council Framework**, focusing on key sustainability pillars: waste management, energy conservation, water conservation, and biodiversity enhancement. They will establish shared guidelines, goals, and initiatives for schools to implement locally and track progress collectively. The framework will promote peer learning, innovation, and joint action to drive measurable environmental impact. Students will leverage digital tools to share ideas, monitor activities, and celebrate achievements across schools.
- Clean Air Leaderboard: Create an Inter-school leaderboard to foster healthy competition, ranking schools based on participation, projects completed, and AQI improvements.
- GRAP Citizen Charter Microsite will serve as an interactive platform to educate and engage citizens on air quality improvement measures. It will include resources, activity trackers, and real-time updates on GRAP stages. Communication channels like SMS, email, and WhatsApp will keep students and parents informed about stage changes, along with actionable do's and don'ts, ensuring consistent awareness and participation.

By integrating these initiatives into schools across the country, we aim to equip the next generation with the tools to tackle air pollution and contribute to sustainable environmental

practices. This program is aligned with the goals of improving air quality and supporting India's development into a global leader in environmental sustainability by 2047.

Steps for Institutional Participation:

1. Register your institution for the **Building a Sustainable Future Program** by visiting <http://yuvamanthan.org/cleanair>
2. Encourage students, teachers, and parents to join the program and send regular communication to them about it.
3. Nominate Sustainability Ambassadors to lead environmental initiatives and awareness campaigns.
4. Ensure that students and teachers participate in Various Challenges and Drives like E-Waste collection drives.
5. Ensure that students and teachers take part in environmental competitions and workshops to promote air quality and sustainability.

For any questions, technical help or inquiries call or WhatsApp/Call 'Yuvamanthan' at +91-9560771911 or email at - director@yuvamanthan.org

By fostering a culture of environmental awareness and responsibility, this program will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Bharat, helping us achieve a Viksit Bharat by 2047.