

Major recommendations to reduce vehicular emissions with particular reference to Delhi

Mandate use of CNG buses in Delhi

1. The Supreme Court of India made the following directives with regards to the buses plying in Delhi.
 - No eight-year old bus to ply except on CNG or other clean fuels from 1 April 2000.
 - Gradual transformation of the entire city's bus fleet into a single mode on CNG by 31 March 2001.
 - Augmenting public transport by increasing the number of public buses to 10000 by 1 April 2001. This date was extended to 31 January 2002.
 - A daily fine of Rs 500 effective from 1 February 2002 and Rs 1000 effective from 6 April 2002 on diesel buses plying on the roads against the Court's orders has been enforced.

New vehicles to conform Euro II emission norms (except 2 and 3-wheelers)

2. Bharat Stage II norms (equivalent to Euro II norms) in vehicles other than 2 & 3 wheelers have been brought into force only in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) with effect from April 1 2000 and further extended to the city of Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai with effect from January 1 2001. The Bharat Stage II norms are applicable to vehicles upto 3500 kg gross vehicle weight. Catalytic converter's have been made mandatory for all four-wheeled petrol driven vehicles for registration in the four metro cities and other 45 cities in the country.

Lead phase out in gasoline

3. From April 1995, mandatory fitment of catalytic converters in new petrol passenger cars sold in the four metros of Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai along with supply of unleaded petrol was effected. Lead in gasoline has been completely phased out in the entire country from April 2000.

Supply of improved quality of diesel

4. (i) Sulphur content in diesel has been reduced from 1.0% max. to 0.25% max. as per the following schedule.
 - In metros
 - 1.0% max. to 0.50% max. 1 April 1996
 - 0.50% max. to 0.25% max. 1 April 1998
 - In the entire country 1 January 2000
- (ii) Sulphur content in diesel has been reduced from 0.25% max. to 0.05% max in metros as per the following schedule.
 - NCT/NCR at select outlets 1 April 2000
 - NCT all outlets 1 March 2001
 - NCR all outlets 30 June 2001
 - Greater Mumbai 1 January 2001
 - Kolkata & Chennai 1 July 2001

Measures Taken by Each City National Capital Territory Delhi

Supply of improved quality of petrol

5. (i) Sulphur content in petrol has been reduced from 0.10% max. to 0.05% max in the following metros as per the following schedule.

- Delhi/NCR 1 April 2000
- Greater Mumbai 1 January 2001
- Kolkata 1 October 2000
- Chennai 1 July 2001

(ii) In the rest of the country, sulphur content in petrol has been reduced from 0.2% max. to 0.1% max with effect from 1 April 2000.

(iii) Benzene content in petrol reduced from 3% max to 1% max in Delhi and Mumbai as per the following schedule.

- NCT of Delhi/NCR 1 November 2000
- Greater Mumbai 1 October 2000

Supply of only pre-mixed petrol in Delhi

6. Supply of pre-mixed petrol in filling stations in Delhi to two-stroke engine vehicles by 31 December 1998.

Phasing out of vehicles

7. In Delhi, commercial vehicles more than 15 years old have been phased out with effect from December 1998. Buses that are 8 years or more have also been phased out. The replacement of pre-1990 and conversion of post-1990 auto-rickshaws and taxis to clean fuels is in progress in the capital.

Provision of fiscal incentives

8. Local governments provided fiscal incentives to replace all post-1990 auto-rickshaws and taxis with new vehicles that operated on clean fuels by 31 March 2001.

Only Euro II conforming heavy duty trucks are allowed to enter in Delhi

9. Heavy duty trucks which fail to meet Euro II standard are not allowed to enter the city.

Increase the number of refueling stations

10. The Gas Authority of India must create a network of 80 CNG refueling stations by 31 March 2000

Periodic emission testing of in-use vehicles

11. Each in-use motor vehicle has to undergo a periodic tail-pipe emissions testing after every 3 months to get a Pollution Under Control (PUC) Certificate. Vehicles without a valid PUC certificate have to pay a fine of Rs 100.

Fuel testing laboratories to check fuel adulteration

12. The Supreme Court directed that two independent fuel testing laboratories be established. One such independent laboratory has been commissioned at NOIDA.