



Department of Environmental Engineering Delhi Technological University

Sustainable Management of Air Quality in Delhi NCR SIUA Lecture Series

The event was started with the national anthem, followed by lighting the lamp of knowledge and wisdom by Dr. S. D. Attri, Dr. Geeta Singh, and Prof. A. K. Haritash. Dr. Geeta Singh, Head of Department, Environmental Engineering, introduced the department initially, followed by introductory words and a welcome note by Prof. A. K. Haritash. Dr. Attri started with the importance of clean air and how we can take different actions to make it cleaner. He highlighted air pollution hotspots near the Indo-Gangetic area, Bengal, and Delhi NCR. He highlighted the source of emission from automobiles, power plants, domestic locations, etc., and how it can be tackled. He highlighted the types of pollutants, like gaseous and particulate matter. The importance of monitoring, He highlighted the importance and extent of the statutory body Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), which is the apex body of air quality management in India. He highlighted the key functions of CAQM, such as issuing statutory direction, research and development, etc. He also discussed the air quality index (AQI) and its various categories depending upon the index values. The priority areas of the commission are industry, thermal power plants, vehicles and transportation, dust pollution from roads, etc. Sudh Vayu Sampark (SuVaS), a network of experts, was also highlighted. Dr. Attri emphasized the management of air pollution from stubble burning, having smoke and particulate matter in the air, and their emission and dispersion. Strong winds, high temperatures, and washing of the atmosphere are the factors affecting the air pollution. Solutions such as crop rotation, IEC activity, enforcement, monitoring, etc. can be adopted for management of air pollution by stubble burning. Fixing the cost of stubble, adoption of pellets, use of biomass fuels, etc. can be considered as measures to tackle stubble burning. He highlighted a reduction of 70% in pollution from Punjab state. The pollution can be mitigated by restricting the entry of interstate buses until they are running on battery or CNG. Strict ban on commercial goods vehicle in Delhi NCR from 1st November as a step towards tackling

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the air pollution in Delhi NCR. Monitoring of vehicles using ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras installed at the borders of Delhi NCR to identify the violating vehicles. Dr. Attri talked about the clean mode of transport, management of end-of-life vehicles, BS-VI vehicles, etc. Tackling of road dust by water spraying and tree plantation was also highlighted. He also talked about the targets to reduce air pollution by December 2026 in Delhi NCR. Prof. Meenakshi Dhote from SPA Delhi joined later, and she was welcomed formally, followed by her address to the gathering about the joint activity of DTU and SPA. The session ended with a round of questions and answers between the audience and Dr. Attri. About 80 individuals participated, comprising faculty members, research scholars, students, and staff members. The event was a great success in imparting information to the audience.



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