

Annexure 5

National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	Time weighted average	Concentration in ambient air			Method of measurement
		Industrial area	Residential, rural & other areas	Sensitive area	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	Annual average	80 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³	15 µg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved West & Geak method ▪ Ultra florescence
	24 hours	120 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³	30 µg/m ³	
Oxides of nitrogen as NO ₂	Annual average *	80 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³	15 µg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jacob & Hocheiser modified (Na-Arsenite) method ▪ Gas phase chemiluminescence
	24 hours **	120 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³	30 µg/m ³	
Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM)	Annual average *	360 µg/m ³	140 µg/m ³	70 µg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High Volume Sampling (Average flow rate not less than 1.1m³ minute)
	24 hours **	500 µg/m ³	200 µg/m ³	100 µg/m ³	
Respirable Particulate Matter (size less than 10 microns)(RPM)	Annual average *	120 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³	50 µg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respirable particulate matter Sampler
	24 hours **	150 µg/m ³	100 µg/m ³	75 µg/m ³	
Lead (Pb)	Annual average *	1.0 µg/m ³	0.75 µg/m ³	0.5 µg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AAS Method after sampling using EPM 2000 of equivalent filter paper
	24 hours **	1.5 µg/m ³	1.0 µg/m ³	0.75 µg/m ³	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8 hours **	5.0 mg/m ³	2.0 mg/m ³	1.0 mg/m ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non Dispersive Infra red (NDIR) spectroscopy
	1 hour	10.0 mg/m ³	4.0 mg/m ³	2.0 mg/m ³	

(Source: CPCB, 2001)

* Annual Arithmetic mean of minimum 104 measurements in a year taken twice a week 24 hourly at uniform interval.

** 24 hourly/8 hourly values should be met 98% of the time in a year. However, 2% of the time, it may exceed but not on two consecutive days

Note:

1. National Ambient Air Quality Standard: The levels of air quality with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health, vegetation and property.
2. Whenever and wherever two consecutive values exceeds the limit specified above for the respective category, it would be considered adequate reason to institute regular/continuous monitoring and further investigations.
3. The State Government/State Board shall notify the sensitive and other areas in the respective states within a period of six months from the date of Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.