

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

**Ministry of Environment and Forests**

**Monthly Air Quality Monitoring Report  
Reporting Month: May, 2015**

**Clean Air and Sustainable Environment Project**  
(নির্মলবায়ু এবং টেকসই পরিবেশ প্রকল্প)

**June, 2015**

**Department of Environment**

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## 1. Introduction

Air quality management plans based on knowledge of sources, appropriate air quality standards, accurate air quality data, and effective incentives; and enforcement policies is therefore needed to be adopted.

At this backdrop, real-time measurements of ambient level pollutants were made at 8 major cities (Namely, Dhaka, Narayanganj, Gazipur, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet) of Bangladesh. The data generated will be used to define the nature and severity of pollution in the cities; identify pollution trends in the country; and develop air models and emission inventories.

The program encompasses operation of the sampling and monitoring network, and quality assurance activities to ensure the quality of the data collected and disseminated by the CASE project.

CASE project monitors the criteria pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulfur dioxide, PM10 and PM2.5. Monitoring is performed to demonstrate attainment or non-attainment of national ambient air quality standards to assess the trends of air pollution levels.

The main purpose of this report is to present, analyze and make available of these data to the general public, stakeholders, researchers and policy makers to develop effective air pollution abatement strategies. This report summarizes the air quality data collected at the different CAMS in operation under the Department of Environment (DoE) air quality monitoring network.

The basis for discussion of air quality has been the data collected from the Air Quality monitoring Network stations under DoE. The data have been quality controlled and the air pollution levels have been compared to the Bangladesh Ambient Air Quality Standard as adopted in 2005. Table 1 represents the current and approved air quality standards for Bangladesh.

Table 1: National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Bangladesh

Pollutant	Objective	Average
CO	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (9 ppm)	8 hours(a)
	40 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (35 ppm)	1 hour(a)
Pb	0.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual
NO <sub>x</sub>	100 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (0.053 ppm)	Annual
PM10	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual (b)
	150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24 hours (c)
PM2.5	15 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual
	65 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24 hours
O <sub>3</sub>	235 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (0.12 ppm)	1 hour (d)
	157 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (0.08 ppm)	8 hours
SO <sub>2</sub>	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (0.03 ppm)	Annual
	365 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (0.14 ppm)	24 hours (a)

Notes:

- (a) Not to be exceeded more than once per year
- (b) The objective is attained when the annual arithmetic mean is less than or equal to 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- (c) The objective is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with a 24-hour average of 150 µg/m<sup>3</sup> is equal to or less than 1
- (d) The objective is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with the maximum hourly average of 0.12 ppm is equal to or less than 1 (Source: AQMP, DOE).

## 2. Monitoring Network

The main objective of the Bangladesh AQM network is to provide reliable information to the authorities and to the public about the air quality in most populous cities of Bangladesh.

As a part of the air quality monitoring strategy, several objectives can be achieved, including:

- Establish source/receptor relationships;
- Identify which are the pollutants of concern and their current status;
- Show how widespread air pollution problems are and indicate the general extent of the public exposure;
- Provide benchmarks against which trends in overall air quality can be compared and devise performance indicators for assessing the impact of an air quality management plan or strategy;
- Provide a data base for evaluation of effects; of urban, land use management, and transportation planning; of development and evaluation of abatement strategies; and of development and validation of atmospheric processes and models.

Another objective in the monitoring and management programme is to provide input data for modeling. These data will serve as a background for performing air quality planning and abatement studies. Model results may also serve as input to other studies such as health related investigations and exposure assessments.

The ambient air quality monitoring network Bangladesh consists of eleven (11) fixed Continuous Air Monitoring Stations (CAMS). The locations of the 11 CAMS are shown in Figure 1. Brief description of the monitoring stations and the list of measured parameters recorded at each station are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Description of Monitoring Network:

City	ID	Location	Lat/Lon	Monitoring capacity
Dhaka	CAMS-1	SangshadBhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar	23.76N 90.39E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC concentrations with meteorological parameters.
	CAMS-2	Firmgate	23.76N 90.39E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC with meteorological parameters.
	CAMS-3	Darus-Salam	23.78N 90.36E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Gazipur	CAMS-4	Gazipur	23.99N 90.42E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Narayangonj	CAMS-5	Narayangonj	23.63N 90.51E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Chittagong	CAMS-6	TV station, Khulshi	22.36N 91.80E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC with meteorological parameters.
	CAMS-7	Agrabad	22.32N 91.81E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Khulna	CAMS-8	Baira	22.48N 89.53E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC with meteorological parameters
Rajshahi	CAMS-9	Sopura	24.38N 88.61E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC with meteorological

City	ID	Location	Lat/Lon	Monitoring capacity
				parameters.
Sylhet	CAMS-10	Red Crecent Campus	24.89N 91.87E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Barisal	CAMS-11	DFO office campus	22.71N 90.36E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.



Figure 1: CAMS Location in Bangladesh

Monitoring data from network stations are transferred to a central data centre at the Department of Environment office in Dhaka and simultaneously transferred to Air Quality Management System based on NILU AIRQus system established under BAPMAN project. The data are stored in AIRQus database for quality check, control, evaluation, validation, statistical analysis. Quality controlled data are then stored in the final database for further analysis, reporting, presentations and future use.

### 3. Monthly Air Quality

The data presented in this report are based on monitoring results of air quality parameters during the month of May, 2015 from 11 CAMS operated by CASE-DoE monitoring network. Table-3 summarizes the basic statistics of the data along with the data capture rate and the number of days for which specific pollutant exceeded the Bangladesh National Ambient Air Quality Standard (BNAAQS). Since NO<sub>x</sub> have only annual standard, so for this pollutant daily 24-hours average concentration levels were compared with the annual average. During data quality control some data, which are outliers (beyond 3<sup>rd</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> percentile) and inconsistent data, were flagged as invalid and those were not included in the analysis. Time series plots based on the data generated in the CAMS are also given in Annexes.

In general the data availability (valid data) found to be over 80% except few parameters in some CAMS in operation. During the reporting month several analyzers (especially SO<sub>2</sub> & NO<sub>x</sub>) were not functional due to routine preventive/corrective maintenance. In case of data capture rate for specific pollutant below 75% for a particular averaging time are not reported. Data from TV Station Chittagong CAMS could not be included in the report because data were not available in the central data station due to failure of the virtual private networking. Khulna, BARC, TV-Station Chittagong and Rajshahi CAMS are under repair & Maintenance.

Inspection of the available data shows that there were few occurrences of non-compliance for PM<sub>10</sub> & PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels at all monitoring stations during the month of May, 2015. It is observed that the 24 hr average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeded BNAAQS for 02 days at Darus-Salam, Mirpur, 07 days at BARC CAMS and 01 day each at Sangsad Bhaban, Sylhet & Gazipur CAMS during the month of May, 2015. For PM<sub>10</sub> non-attainment with respect to BNAAQS occurred for 01 day each at Gazipur & Sylhet CAMS and 02 days at Narayanganj CAMS during the reporting month. There were no PM results from TV Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi CAMS due to malfunction/ poor data capture rate. The monthly average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> measured at different CAMS were found 35.7-53 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 65-117 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the monitoring month of 2015. The concentration level of those was found 40-58 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 70-156 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the month of April, 2015. From the time series plot of both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, it is seen in most cases PM concentrations lower than the BNAAQS. 24-hours average PM levels in all cities monitored are decreasing compared to previous month because rainy seasons are coming and wind speed & precipitation is increasing. Higher wind speed increases dispersion and occurrences of rainfall helps washing out of particulate matter and thus decreases the PM pollution levels. It is also observed that gaseous pollutants measured at different CAMS did not exceed the BNAAQS during the month of May, 2015.

In general PM pollution levels in the cities monitored during the reporting month found lower compared to previous month in respect of public health. Usually in the dry seasons the pollution level reached highest peak and gradually decreases during wet season, which is reflected in the data monitored in all CAMS during the month of May, 2015. It is observed that average wind speed and precipitation compared to previous month has an increasing tendency, which increases the rate of dispersion of the pollutants and this might be a reason for observed lower PM concentration.

Daily air quality index (AQI) values were calculated based on the available air quality data and summary of the AQI by categories are presented in annex Figure 5. Due to data unavailability AQI values for Chittagong TV station, Rajshahi and Khulna could not be calculated. Summary data shows majority of the days AQI values were in moderate, caution and few good & unhealthy categories.

#### **4. Summary and conclusion**

Data obtained from CAMS operated under DoE air quality monitoring network during May, - 2015 have been analyzed and reported. Data availability was 65-80% for all the criteria pollutant monitored at different CAMS with few exceptions. Air quality data for some pollutants were not reported because either the analyzer was not functional or the data capture rate was too low. From the analysis of the data following conclusion can be drawn:

- PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are the most critical pollutants. 24-hour average for both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were found mostly lower than the BNAAQS during the month of May, 2015 with few exceptions. It is observed that the average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> measured at different CAMS were 35.7-53 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 65-117 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the month of May, 2015.
- The gaseous pollutants measured at different CAMS did not exceed limit values of the BNAAQS.

- Due to increasing average wind speed and increasing precipitation during May, 2015, dispersion and wash out of pollutants increases and thus the pollution concentration levels showed lower.
- Monthly summary of calculated AQI values based on data from different CAMS showed that during this month most of day's air quality was either moderate or caution and few good & unhealthy categories as well. In all cases most frequent responsible pollutant was PM2.5.

During the reporting month number of analyzer especially analyzers of old CAMS and SO<sub>2</sub> & NO<sub>x</sub> of new CAMS did not produced data and they are under maintenance process. Procurement of necessary spares for repairing the analyzers is under process.

Table 3: Summary Air Quality and Meteorological data measured during May, 2015 at different CAMS operated under DoE

Parameter	unit	NAAQS	Summary	CAMS-1 (S-Bhaban)	CAMS-2 (BARC) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-3 (D-salam)	CAMS-4 (Gazipur)	CAMS-5 (Narayong anj)	CAMS-6 TV-St (Chittagong) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-7 Agrabad- (Chittagong)	CAMS-8 (Sylhet)	CAMS-9 (Khulna) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-10 (Rajshahi) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-11 (Barisal)
SO <sub>2</sub> -24 hr	ppb	140	Average	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA1	16.0	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Max	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA1	20.9	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Min	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA1	9.99	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Excedance(Days)	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA1	0	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA1	89	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
NO <sub>2</sub> -24 hr	ppb	53 (Annual)	Average	DNA*	DNA*	10.8	DNA*	5.50	DNA1	DNA*	14.4	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Max	DNA*	DNA*	19.9	DNA*	14.0	DNA1	DNA*	24.6	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Min	DNA*	DNA*	4.63	DNA*	2.75	DNA1	DNA*	8.40	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Excedance(Days)	DNA*	DNA*	0	DNA*	0	DNA1	DNA*	0	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	DNA*	96	DNA*	72	DNA1	DNA*	90	DNA*	DNA*	DNA*
CO- 1 hr	ppm	35	Average	DNA*	2.56	0.71	0.46	0.65	DNA1	1.81	3.93	DNA*	DNA*	0.75
			Max	DNA*	11.9	1.72	7.60	1.80	DNA1	19.2	6.56	DNA*	DNA*	2.26
			Min	DNA*	0.05	0.36	0.05	0.36	DNA1	0.90	3.05	DNA*	DNA*	0.51
			Excedance(Hour )	DNA*	0	0	0	0	DNA1	0	0	DNA*	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	71	99	86	73	DNA1	85	92	DNA*	DNA*	81
CO-8hr	ppm	9	Average	DNA*	2.97	0.71	0.47	0.64	DNA1	1.71	3.93	DNA*	DNA*	0.75
			Max	DNA*	9.86	1.35	1.56	1.21	DNA1	4.16	5.62	DNA*	DNA*	1.84
			Min	DNA*	0.16	0.44	0.11	0.40	DNA1	1.04	3.22	DNA*	DNA*	0.58
			Excedance(Hour )	DNA*	3	0	0	0	DNA1	0	0	DNA*	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	56	98	86	67	DNA1	82	90	DNA*	DNA*	77
O <sub>3</sub> -1hr	ppb	120	Average	DNA*	17.0	10.5	3.92	DNA*	DNA1	6.88	DNA*	10.33	DNA*	5.25
			Max	DNA*	72.7	63.2	35.8	DNA*	DNA1	45.6	DNA*	40.6	DNA*	22.1
			Min	DNA*	4.41	0.34	0.05	DNA*	DNA1	0.28	DNA*	1.43	DNA*	0.33
			Excedance(Hour )	DNA*	0	0	0	DNA*	DNA1	0	DNA*	0	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	98	99	85	DNA*	DNA1	90	DNA*	56	DNA*	80
O <sub>3</sub> -8hr	ppb	80	Average	DNA*	17.1	10.3	3.86	DNA*	DNA1	6.92	DNA*	10.3	DNA*	5.18
			Max	DNA*	63.5	58.5	17.0	DNA*	DNA1	37.5	DNA*	31.3	DNA*	19.1
			Min	DNA*	6.60	0.44	0.12	DNA*	DNA1	0.43	DNA*	2.09	DNA*	0.81
			Excedance(Hour )	DNA*	0	0	0	DNA*	DNA1	0	DNA*	0	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA*	98	98	83	DNA*	DNA1	88	DNA*	54	DNA*	75

CAMS= Continuous Air Monitoring Station, NAAQS=National Ambient Air Quality Standard, a=Refurbishment CAMS, PM= Particulate Matter

DNA= Data Not Available, 1= DNA due to station not within the monitoring network, \*=DNA due to malfunction of the analyzer/sensor/ poor data capture rate



Table 3: Summary Air Quality and Meteorological data measured during May, 2015 at different CAMS operated under DoE (Cont'd)

Parameter	unit	NAAQS	Summary	CAMS-1 (S-Bhaban)	CAMS-2 (BARC) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-3 (D-salam)	CAMS-4 (Gazipur)	CAMS-5 (Narayong anj)	CAMS-6 TV-St (Chittagong) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-7 Agrabad- (Chittagong g)	CAMS-8 (Sylhet)	CAMS-9 (Khulna) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-10 (Rajshahi) <sup>a</sup>	CAMS-11 (Barisal)
PM <sub>2.5</sub> -24hr	µg /m <sup>3</sup>	65	Average	37.5	53.2	43.7	47.6	38.4	DNA1	35.7	41.2	DNA*	DNA*	39.8
			Max	65.7	86.7	71.6	87.5	52.0	DNA1	46.5	71.2	DNA*	DNA*	52.5
			Min	22.0	28.0	27.8	20.6	27.8	DNA1	27.5	21.7	DNA*	DNA*	29.6
			Excedance(Days)	1	7	2	1	0	DNA1	0	1	DNA*	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	87	83	99	73	63	DNA1	68	73	DNA*	DNA*	56
PM <sub>10</sub> -24hr	µg /m <sup>3</sup>	150	Average	77.3	DNA*	91.4	91.0	117.66	DNA1	68.5	73.3	DNA*	DNA*	65.4
			Max	111	DNA*	126	175	153	DNA1	79.4	151	DNA*	DNA*	84.7
			Min	44.8	DNA*	52.4	44.1	83.4	DNA1	56.4	37.1	DNA*	DNA*	41.9
			Excedance(Days)	0	DNA*	0	1	2	DNA1	0	1	DNA*	DNA*	0
			Data capture(%)	98	DNA*	83	74	69	DNA1	58	82	DNA*	DNA*	54
Solar rad. 1hr	watt/m <sup>2</sup>	NA	Average	167	DNA*	230	222	213	DNA1	223	191	DNA*	DNA*	198
			Max	790	DNA*	987	957	533	DNA1	923	977	DNA*	DNA*	968
			Min	6.15	DNA*	6.66	6.39	99.7	DNA1	7.20	6.04	DNA*	DNA*	7.53
			Data capture(%)	100	DNA*	99	88	73	DNA1	90	92	DNA*	DNA*	60
Relative Humidity 1hr	(%)	NA	Average	70.4	66.8	70.8	78.8	71.0	DNA1	73.1	78.8	DNA*	DNA*	76.7
			Max	91.6	97.1	92.1	99.5	98.5	DNA1	92.1	98.0	DNA*	DNA*	94.4
			Min	42.1	34.8	42.8	38.6	45.1	DNA1	41.7	50.2	DNA*	DNA*	20.9
			Data capture(%)	100	99	99	88	74	DNA1	90	92	DNA*	DNA*	60
Ambient Temp. 1hr	(°c)	NA	Average	27.3	DNA*	30.2	28.7	DNA*	DNA1	29.1	26.8	DNA*	DNA*	30.6
			Max	33.8	DNA*	36.5	35.7	DNA*	DNA1	34.2	34.5	DNA*	DNA*	36.8
			Min	18.3	DNA*	21.4	20.6	DNA*	DNA1	21.7	21.0	DNA*	DNA*	10.3
			Data capture(%)	100	DNA*	99	88	DNA*	DNA1	90	92	DNA*	DNA*	60
Rainfall 1hr	(m.m.)	NA	Average	1.00	1.51	0.08	0.11	0.40	DNA1	0.14	0.43	DNA*	DNA*	0.45
			Max	5.60	5.06	3.90	8.91	1.32	DNA1	7.48	11.7	DNA*	DNA*	15.2
			Min	0.39	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.13	DNA1	0.02	0.02	DNA*	DNA*	0.02
			Data capture(%)	100	51	96	73	74	DNA1	45	57	DNA*	DNA*	33

CAMS= Continuous Air Monitoring Station, NAAQS=National Ambient Air Quality Standard, a=Refurbishment CAMS, PM= Particulate Matter

DNA= Data Not Available, 1= DNA due to station not within the monitoring network, \*=DNA due to malfunction of the analyzer/sensor/ poor data capture rate

FIGURE 3: TIME SERIES OF ALL PARAMETERS (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> AND O<sub>3</sub>) MEASURED IN ALL CAMS DURING MAY, 2015

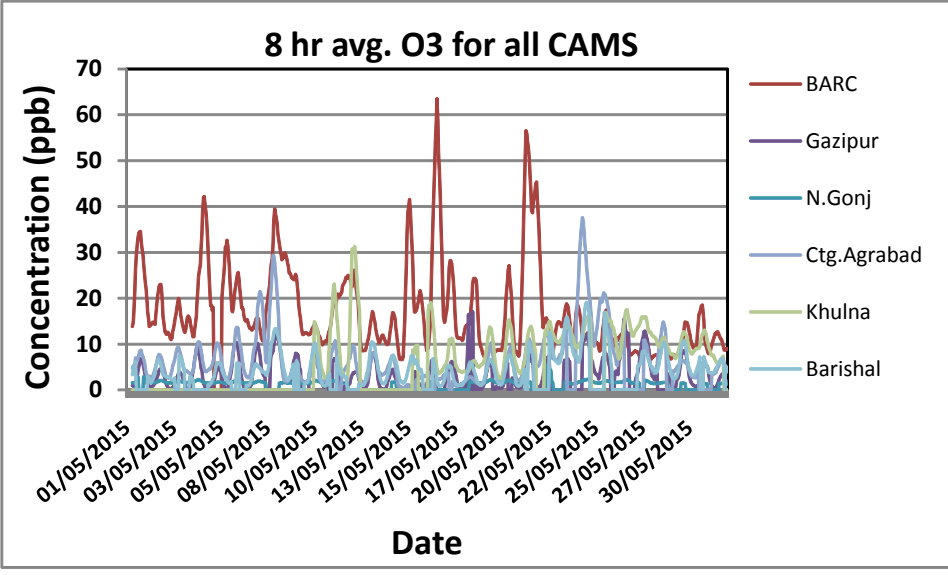
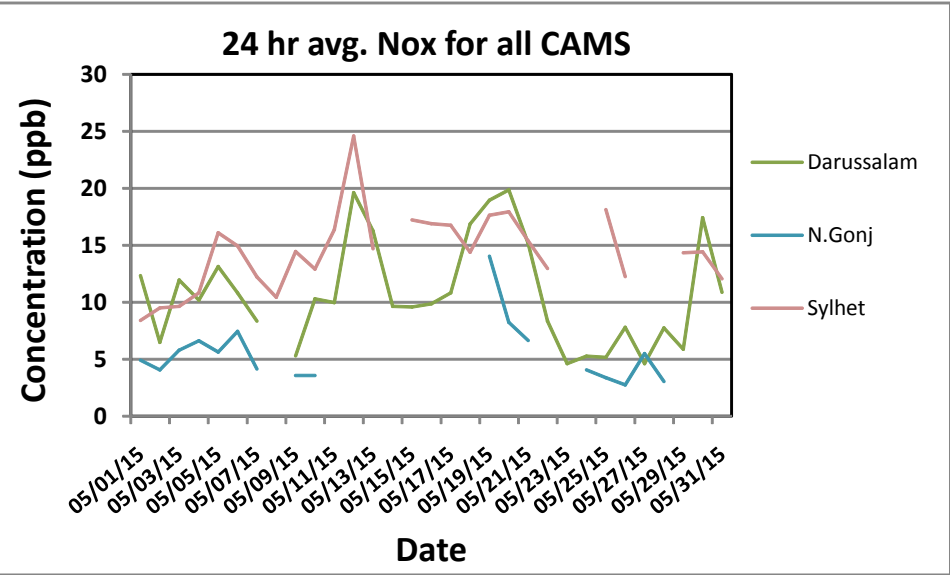
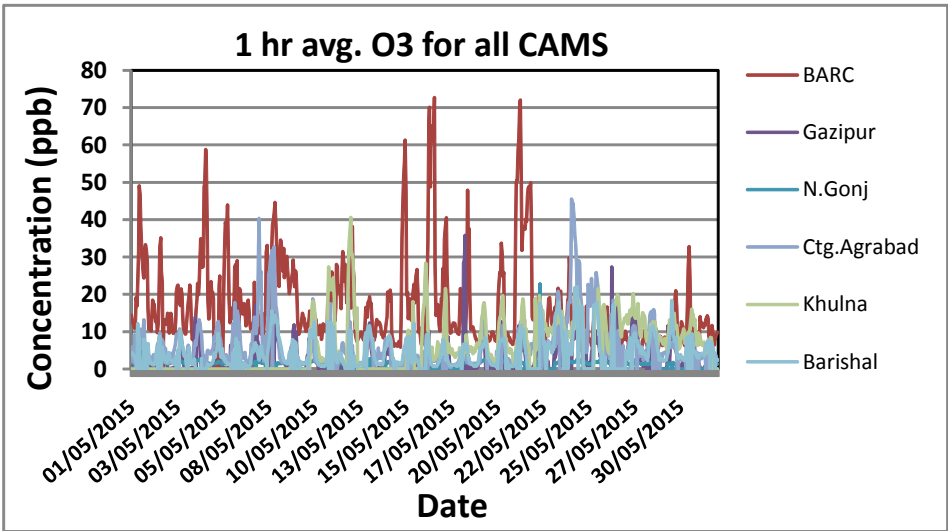
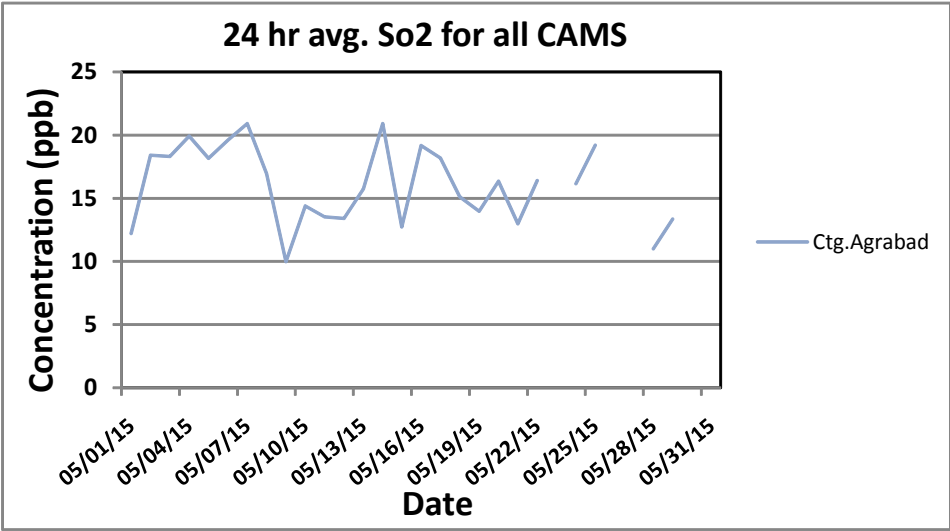


Figure 4: TIME SERIES OF ALL PARAMETERS (CO, PM10 AND PM2.5) MEASURED IN CAMS DURING MAY, 2015

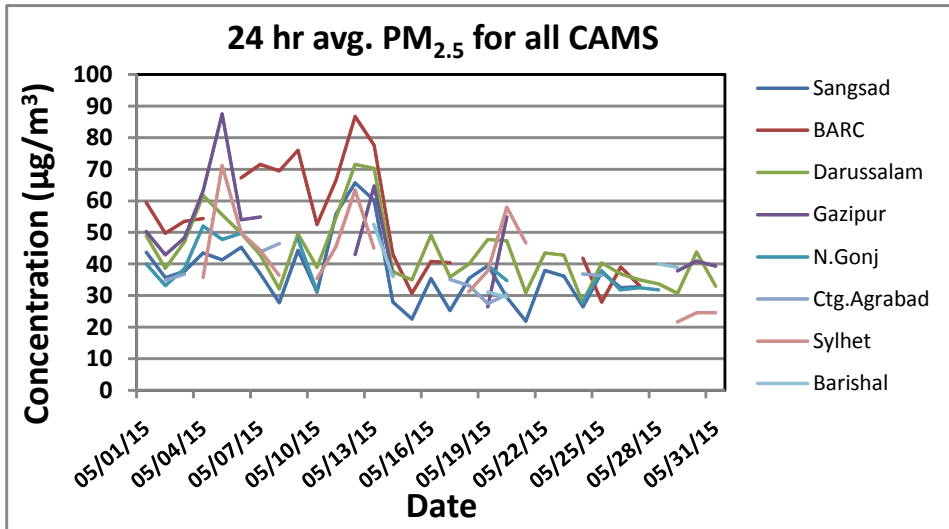
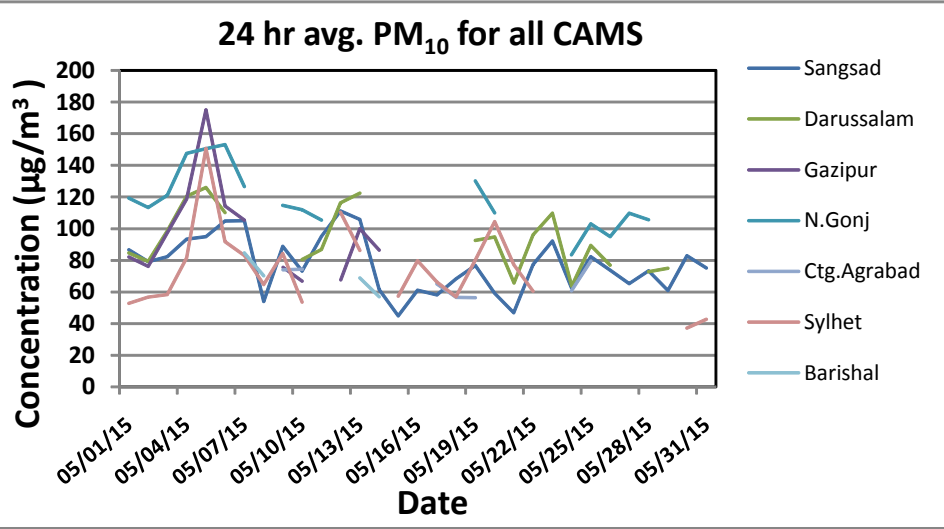
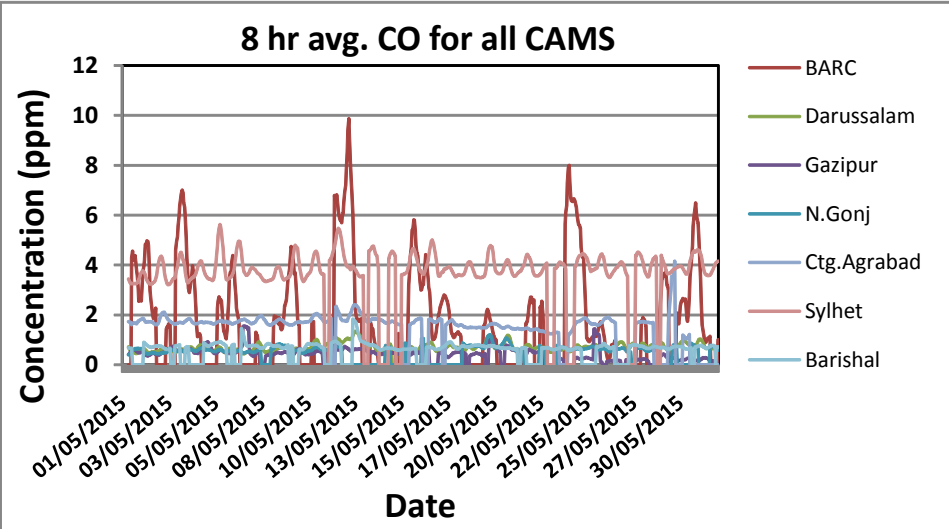
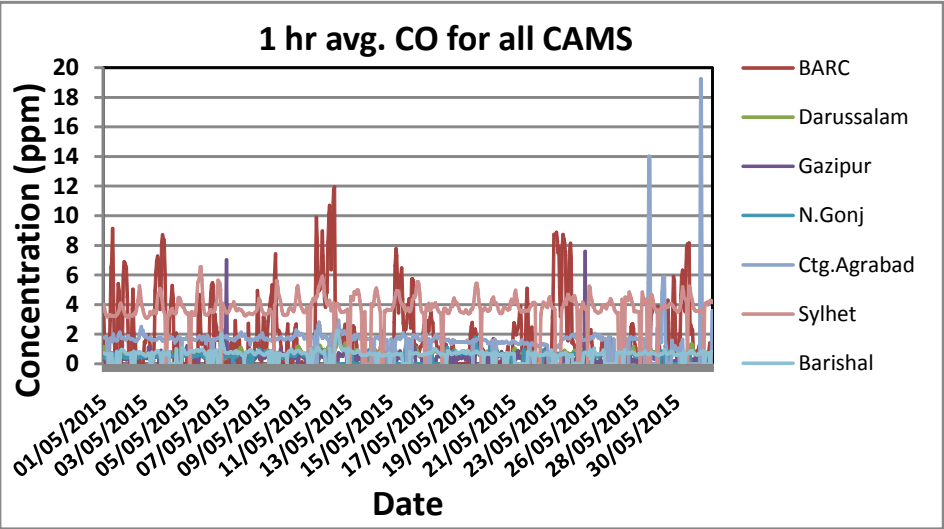


Figure 5: Monthly Summary of AQI for month of May, 2015

