



PRESS Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Pollution Control Department

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Pollution Control Department solved problem from PM_{2.5} pollutant at point sources

On 16 October 2019 Mr. Pralong Dumrongthai, Director General of Pollution Control Department (PCD) revealed that according to the announcement of the Meteorological Department regarding Thailand will enter the cold season on 17 October 2019, PM_{2.5} might increase in Bangkok Metropolitan and its vicinity areas and affect to people health.

H.E. Varawut Silpa-Archa, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and Mr. Jatuporn Buruspat, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment concerned this situation and assigned the concerned agencies to find appropriate solution to prevent PM_{2.5} pollutant at sources.

Mr. Pralong said that PCD, as the organization on issuing mitigation measures and guideline to solve the pollutant problem, cooperated with other concerned agencies to implement and protect PM_{2.5} pollutant from vehicles sources. On 16 October 2019 PCD in collaboration with the Traffic Police Division, the Department of Land Transport and the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) measured black smoke from public buses at Bus Area 4, Bus Operation 3 (Praram 9) which had been measured during August and September 2018. The result of value of black smoke in 2018 was during 11-36 % and value of average of black smoke was 19 %, not over standard (standard is 45%).

The result of value of black smoke measurement compared with last year (2018) reduced significantly such as Bus no.11-8240 reduced from 36 % to 20 %, Bus no.11-9657 reduced from 20 % to 16%, Bus no.11-9064 reduced from 23% to 17%, and Bus no.11-8710 maintained the same value at 20 %.

The reasons of that improvement are the policy of the Prime Minister (General Prayuth Chan-ocha) that all public buses in Bangkok have to use gasoline B20 since January 2019 as well as BMTA has continually maintained all public bus according to the government command on haze mitigation measures.

Moreover, PCD cooperates with the Traffic Police Division, the Department of Land Transport, the BMTA, and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration to set up implementing plan and time frame of black smoke measurement for all vehicles and will intensively investigate in order to cope with haze situation in the coming period.