



PRESS

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CAPM warning on 22-24 December 2022, PM_{2.5} tends to increase and may exceed the standard values in Bangkok and its vicinity

Mr. Pinsak Suraswadi, Director General of Pollution Control Department (PCD) and Director of Center for Air Pollution Mitigation (CAPM), revealed that the overall air quality situation in Thailand, PM_{2.5} has a tendency to increase due to meteorological factors, including the fact that the air buoyancy ceiling is getting lower, the wind speed is weak, and the air lift is not good, causing the air to stagnate and have more PM_{2.5} accumulation. CAPM has been monitored the situation closely, especially in Bangkok and its vicinity. As of 22 December 2022, PM_{2.5} was found to be between 28 - 57 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and is likely to increase significantly, cover the area of Pathumwan District, Din Daeng District, Min Buri District, Yannawa District, Bang Na District, Prawet District, Thon Buri District, Khlong San District, Bang Khen District, Bang Khun Thian District, Thawi Watthana District, Nong Khaem District, Bueng Kum District, etc.

Mr. Pinsak said that CAPM has predicted that the situation of particulate matter would tend to be so high that it might exceed the standard in some areas between 23-24 December 2022, with particulate matter tending to increase from the evening of 22 December 2022. The areas that should be especially careful are the roadside areas in Central Bangkok, North Krung Thon, and Southern Krung Thon. After 24 December 2022, particulate matter situation will tend to decrease due to the stronger northeast wind helping to blow particulate matter out of the area and the weather is more open. However, during 27-28 December 2022, there may be a chance to encounter a high particulate matter situation in Bangkok and its vicinity again.

CAPM therefore urges people in Bangkok and its vicinity to monitor their health and ask for their cooperation in refraining from burning agricultural materials in open area in the vicinity of Bangkok during 22-24 December 2022 as well as encouraging them to use public transport during that time. If driving a private car, please turn off the engine when stationary and maintain the engine so that it does not cause black smoke in order to alleviate the severity of PM_{2.5} situation and not affect people's health, Mr. Pinsak said.