



# Air Quality Monthly Report

## April, 2016



Department of Environment  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
Bangladesh

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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	Sangshad Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar	23.76N 90.39E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC concentrations with meteorological parameters.
	CAMS-2	Farmgate	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.
Sylhet	CAMS-8	Red Crecent Campus	24.89N 91.87E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX and O3 with meteorological parameters.
Khulna	CAMS-9	Baira	22.48N 89.53E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC with meteorological

City	ID	Location	Lat/Lon	Monitoring capacity
				parameters
Rajshahi	CAMS-10	Sopura	24.38N 88.61E	PM10, PM2.5, CO, SO2, NOX, O3, and HC 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 of air quality parameters during April, 2016 at 11 CAMS operated under 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.

Data availability (valid data) from those analyzers was functional found to be over 80% except few parameters in different CAMS in operation. During the reporting month several analyzers measuring gaseous pollutants (especially SO<sub>2</sub>) were not operational due to routine preventive/corrective maintenance. In case of data capture rate for specific pollutant below 75% for a particular averaging time are reported in this month for Particulate Matter in major CAMS and all parameters at TV Chittagong CAMS .

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 majority of monitoring stations during the month of April, 2016. It is observed that the 24 hr average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeded BNAFAQS 1-3 days at BARC, Darussalam & Rajshahi CAMS respectively. For PM<sub>10</sub> non-attainment with respect to BNAFAQS occurred for 04 days in Rajshahi & 01 day in Narayonganj CAMS in the reporting month. PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> results are not reported in the month for TV Station Chittagong CAMS and Khulna CAMS due to malfunction of PM Monitor. PM results of Narayonganj, Gazipur, Sylhet, Barishal and Darussalam CAMS are reported though data capture rate below 60% in this month due to unavailability of Filter paper. The monthly average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> measured at different CAMS were found 27-53 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 67-117 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the month of April, 2016. That concentration level of those was found 78-113 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 126-270 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the month of March, 2016. From the time series plot of both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, it is seen there are most of the episodes of PM concentrations lower than previous month. 24-hours average PM levels in all cities monitored are decreasing compared to previous month because rainy season is coming and wind speed and 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 all the gaseous pollutants measured at different CAMS did not exceed the BNAFAQS during the month of April, 2016.

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 April, 2016. It is observed that average wind speed and precipitation compared to previous month has a 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 (valid data) from different CAMS and summary of the AQI by categories are presented in annex Figure 5. Summary data shows majority of the days AQI values were in either moderate categories or caution categories.

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

Data obtained from CAMS operated under DoE air quality monitoring network during April, 2016 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:

- Although PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are the most critical pollutants but 24-hour average for both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations during reporting month were found lower than previous month. It is observed that the average concentration level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> measured at different CAMS were 27-53 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 67-117 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively during the month of April, 2016.
- The gaseous pollutants measured at different CAMS did not exceed limit values of the BNAFAQS.

- Due to increasing average wind speed and precipitation during April, 2016, dispersion and wash out of pollutants increases and thus the pollution concentration level decreases.
- 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 categories as well. In all cases most frequent responsible pollutant was PM2.5. In absence of PM2.5 sometimes found responsible pollutant PM10.

During the reporting month number of analyzer especially SO<sub>2</sub> of new CAMS did not produced good data and they are under maintenance process.

Table 3: Summary Air Quality and Meteorological data measured during April, 2016 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	3.69	DNA	DNA	DNA	2.57	3.95	DNA	5.10	DNA	DNA
			Max	DNA	12.3	DNA	DNA	DNA	5.19	9.08	DNA	10.1	DNA	DNA
			Min	DNA	1.14	DNA	DNA	DNA	0.31	2.28	DNA	1.28	DNA	DNA
			Excedance(Days)	DNA	0	DNA	DNA	DNA	0	0	DNA	0	DNA	DNA
			Data capture(%)	DNA	66	DNA	DNA	DNA	48	50	DNA	67	DNA	DNA
NO <sub>2</sub> -24 hr	ppb	53 (Annual)	Average	DNA	DNA	21.4	6.0	14.4	DNA	5.66	DNA	DNA	DNA	1.70
			Max	DNA	DNA	40.0	13.6	19.7	DNA	13.3	DNA	DNA	DNA	5.88
			Min	DNA	DNA	12.19	2.08	6.78	DNA	1.30	DNA	DNA	DNA	0.20
			Excedance(Days)	DNA	DNA	0	0	0	DNA	0	DNA	DNA	DNA	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA	DNA	93	45	80	DNA	57	DNA	DNA	DNA	83
CO- 1 hr	ppm	35	Average	1.09	0.75	3.01	DNA	DNA	0.42	0.96	0.91	DNA	0.82	DNA
			Max	6.54	6.51	8.48	DNA	DNA	1.97	15.8	2.42	DNA	3.04	DNA
			Min	0.05	0.05	1.84	DNA	DNA	0.05	0.16	0.28	DNA	0.18	DNA
			Excedance(Hour)	0	0	0	DNA	DNA	0	0	0	DNA	0	DNA
			Data capture(%)	88	69	93	DNA	DNA	66	92	86	DNA	39	DNA
CO-8hr	ppm	9	Average	1.09	0.78	3.02	DNA	DNA	0.42	0.96	0.91	DNA	0.83	DNA
			Max	5.33	1.92	5.34	DNA	DNA	1.40	5.59	2.14	DNA	2.32	DNA
			Min	0.09	0.13	2.62	DNA	DNA	0.09	0.30	0.32	DNA	0.39	DNA
			Excedance(Hour)	0	0	0	DNA	DNA	0	0	0	DNA	0	DNA
			Data capture(%)	86	66	93	DNA	DNA	62	92	86	DNA	38	DNA
O <sub>3</sub> -1hr	ppb	120	Average	DNA	0.74	4.37	DNA	6.94	4.74	14.4	22.8	20.5	2.94	DNA
			Max	DNA	2.92	23.3	DNA	62.6	20.9	61.2	52.9	70.4	30.8	DNA
			Min	DNA	0.21	0.66	DNA	1.52	0.86	0.06	0.07	3.26	0.58	DNA
			Excedance(Hour)	DNA	0	0	DNA	0	0	0	0	0	0	DNA
			Data capture(%)	DNA	79	93	DNA	79	67	90	86	88	39	DNA
O <sub>3</sub> -8hr	ppb	80	Average	DNA	0.74	4.32	DNA	7.07	4.69	14.0	22.6	20.5	2.98	DNA
			Max	DNA	1.62	15.9	DNA	18.4	16.1	39.8	48.6	55.9	11.7	DNA
			Min	DNA	0.53	0.94	DNA	2.28	2.46	5.22	2.06	5.61	1.47	DNA
			Excedance(Hour)	DNA	0	0	DNA	0	0	0	0	0	0	DNA
			Data capture(%)	DNA	78	92	DNA	75	62	88	85	87	38	DNA

CAMS= Continuous Air Monitoring Station, NAAQS=National Ambient Air Quality Standard, a=Refurbishment CAMS, PM= Particulate Matter  
DNA= Data Not Available, \*=DNA due to malfunction of the analyzer/sensor/poor data capture rate

Table 3: Summary Air Quality and Meteorological data measured during April, 2016 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)	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	37.1	53.1	44.7	38.9	35.2	DNA	30.3	27.5	DNA	51.1	35.2
			Max	47.0	69.9	83.5	47.2	47.1	DNA	41.8	44.7	DNA	69.6	45.0
			Min	29.3	39.8	29.4	30.9	31.4	DNA	21.6	16.8	DNA	24.9	28.0
			Excedance(Days)	0	2	1	0	0	DNA	0	0	DNA	1	0
			Data capture(%)	56	79	86	40	41	DNA	53	55	DNA	38	49
PM <sub>10</sub> -24hr	µg /m <sup>3</sup>	150	Average	DNA	DNA	105	DNA	117	DNA	82.4	68.4	DNA	122	67.2
			Max	DNA	DNA	142	DNA	154	DNA	112	95.8	DNA	190	75.0
			Min	DNA	DNA	78.1	DNA	100	DNA	61.3	38.2	DNA	49.7	54.3
			Excedance(Days)	DNA	DNA	0	DNA	1	DNA	0	0	DNA	4	0
			Data capture(%)	DNA	DNA	60	DNA	54	DNA	67	49	DNA	39	49
Solar rad. 1hr	watt/m <sup>2</sup>	NA	Average	144	DNA	236	DNA	73.1	DNA	192	196	DNA	148	210
			Max	734	DNA	990	DNA	340	DNA	923	909	DNA	824	862
			Min	5.15	DNA	6.38	DNA	0.82	DNA	6.82	4.76	DNA	0.34	7.95
			Data capture(%)	91	DNA	93	DNA	79	DNA	93	87	DNA	37	84
Relative Humidity 1hr	(%)	NA	Average	70.6	DNA	70.8	DNA	73.7	80.2	75.4	78.8	DNA	DNA	77.7
			Max	91.2	DNA	89.9	DNA	90.0	96.4	89.5	98.7	DNA	DNA	96.3
			Min	29.3	DNA	25.3	DNA	44.7	58.3	52.2	41.8	DNA	DNA	35.8
			Data capture(%)	91	DNA	93	DNA	80	67	93	87	DNA	DNA	84.0
Ambient Temp. 1hr	(°c)	NA	Average	27.9	25.4	30.5	DNA	DNA	26.5	28.8	26.2	DNA	DNA	30.9
			Max	35.5	30.3	38.7	DNA	DNA	31.6	34.3	34.1	DNA	DNA	38.1
			Min	16.1	21.3	19.2	DNA	DNA	17.2	18.8	19.0	DNA	DNA	23.6
			Data capture(%)	91	79	93	DNA	DNA	0	93	87	DNA	DNA	84
Rainfall 1hr	(m.m.)	NA	Average	0.68	2.10	0.06	1.79	0.34	DNA	0.02	0.34	7.03	DNA	DNA
			Max	4.22	6.06	3.56	4.05	0.55	DNA	0.28	8.12	17.5	DNA	DNA
			Min	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.11	0.14	DNA	0.02	0.02	0.11	DNA	DNA
			Data capture(%)	88	74	81	49	77	DNA	54	65	71	DNA	DNA

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

DNA= Data Not Available, \*=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 April, 2016

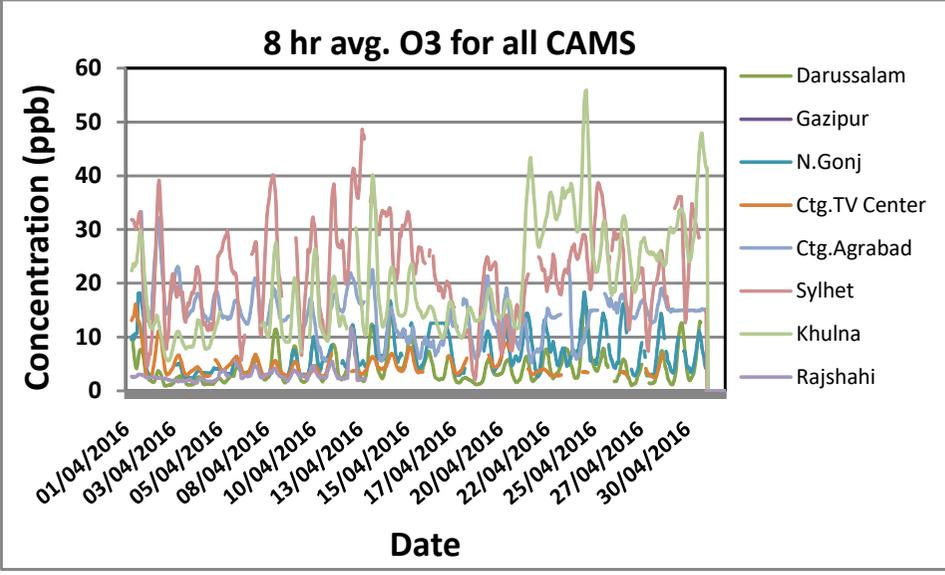
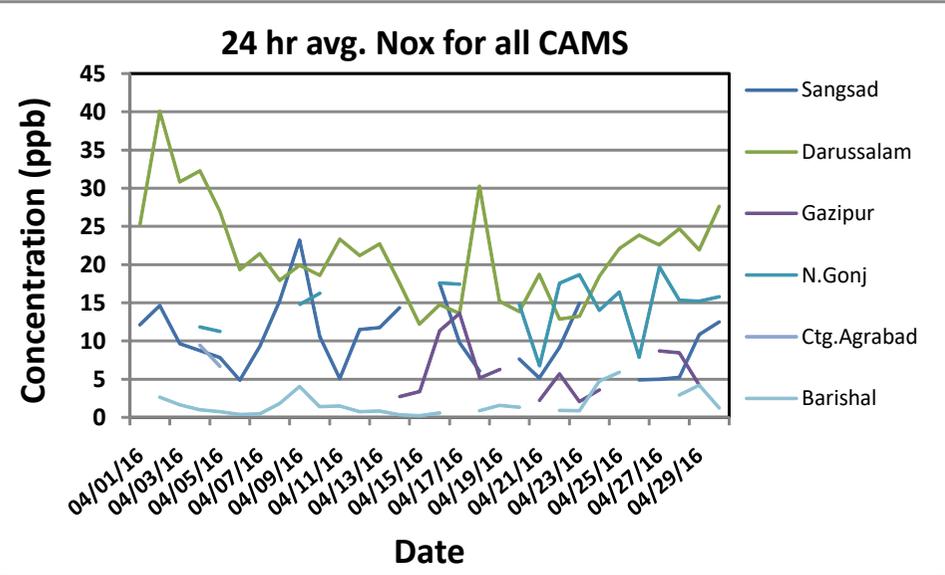
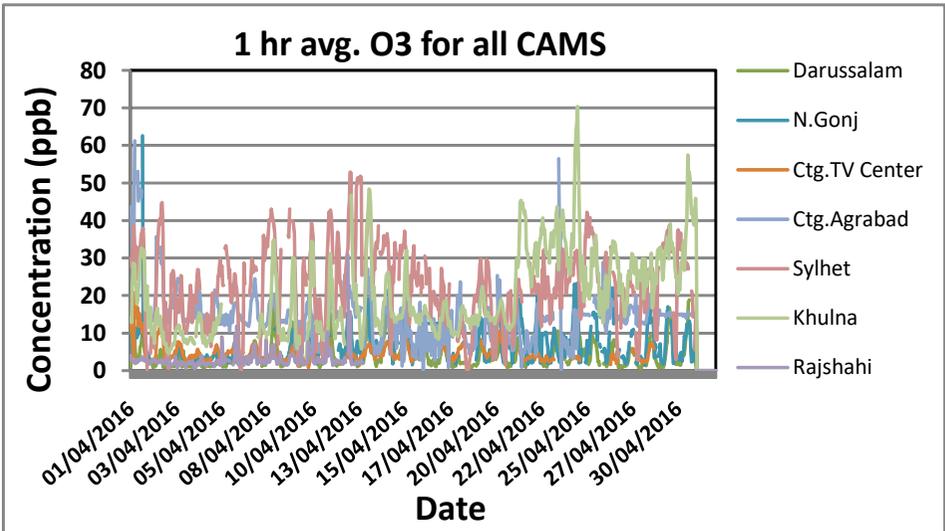
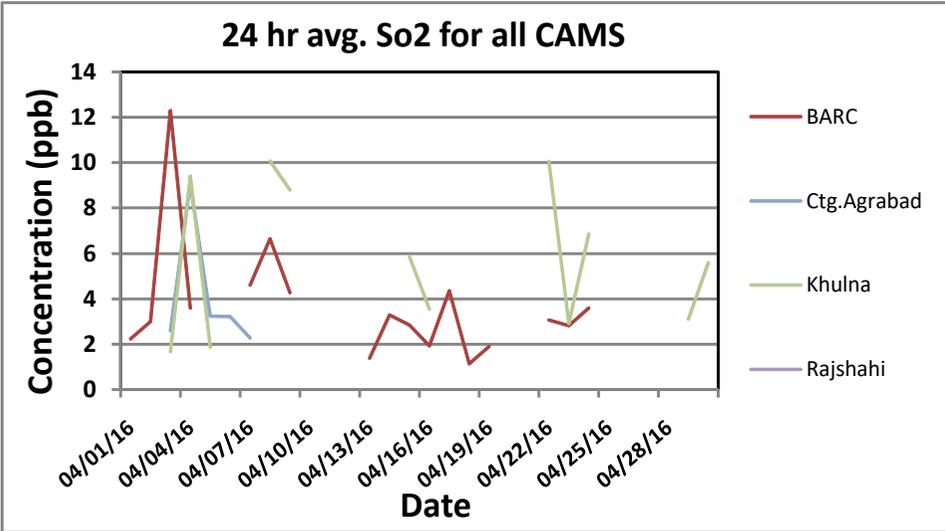


Figure 4: TIME SERIES OF ALL PARAMETERS (CO, PM10 AND PM2.5) MEASURED IN CAMS DURING April, 2016

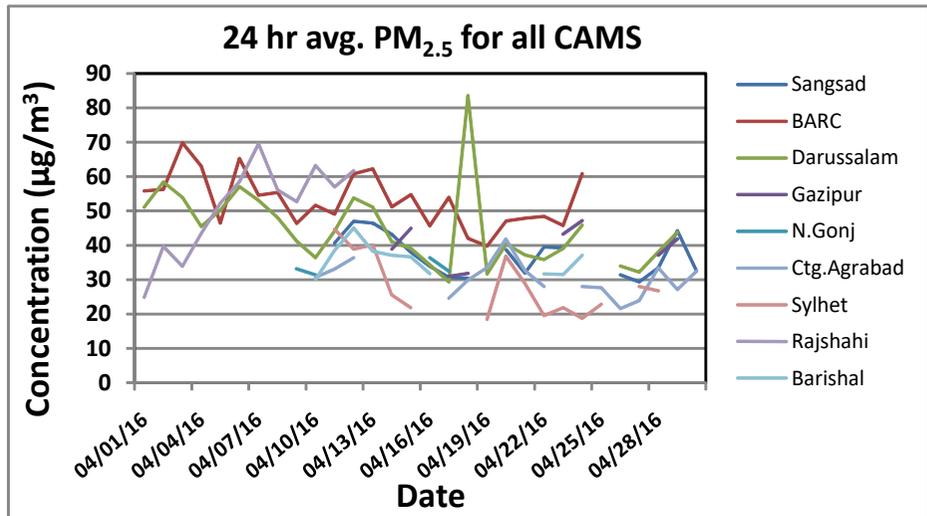
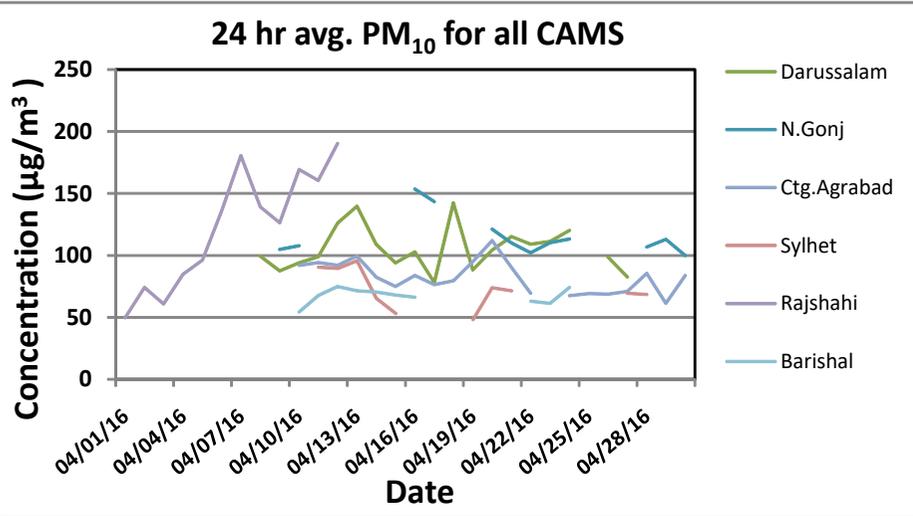
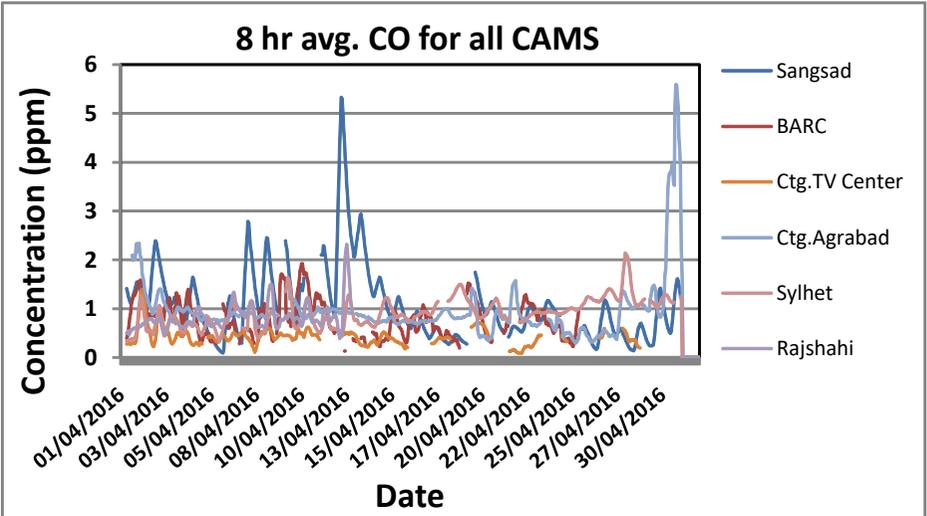
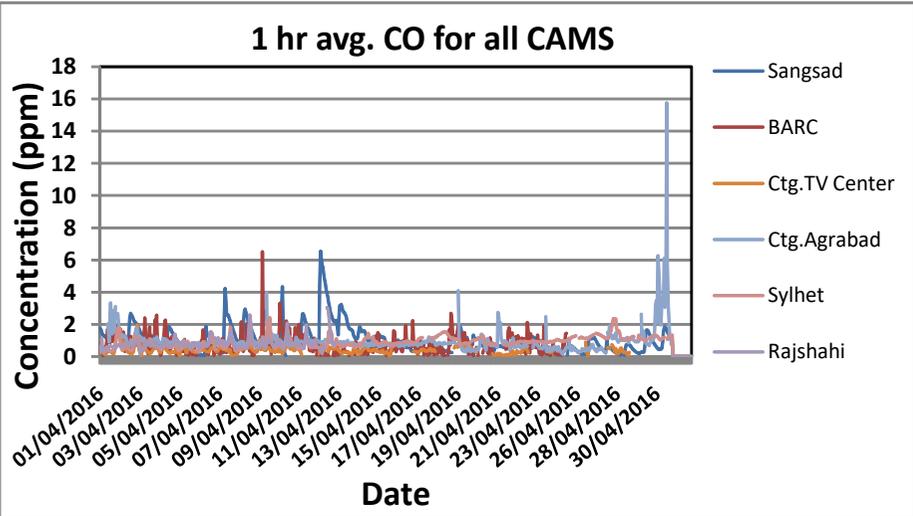


Figure 5: Monthly Summary of AQI for month of April, 2016

