

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

- GRAP Stage-IV was invoked by the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP on 17.01.2026, in view of sharp deterioration of AQI of Delhi on the given day;
- Today, Delhi's average AQI of the day clocked 378, as per the daily AQI Bulletin provided by CPCB, clearly indicating a downward trend;
- CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP met today in view of significant improvement in the air quality of Delhi-NCR;
- As per the dynamic model and forecasts for meteorological conditions and air quality index made available by IMD/ IITM, the average AQI of Delhi is likely to remain in 'Very Poor' category in the coming days;
- Keeping in view the disruptive nature of restrictions under Stage-IV of extant GRAP impacting a large number of stakeholders and public as well as considering the trend of improvement in the average AQI of Delhi, the GRAP Sub-Committee unanimously decides to revoke Stage-IV of the extant schedule of GRAP in the entire NCR, with immediate effect;
- All actions under Stages III, II & I of the extant schedule of GRAP (November 2025) shall however remain invoked and be implemented, intensified, monitored and reviewed by all agencies concerned in the entire NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not rise further in the coming days;
- Construction & Demolition project sites etc. which have been issued specific closure orders on account of violations/ non-compliances of various statutory directions, rules, guidelines etc. shall not resume their operations without specific order to this effect from the Commission;
- All agencies responsible for implementation of various actions listed under Stages III, II & I of the extant schedule of GRAP shall strictly implement the provisions and citizens are advised to follow the charter of GRAP under Stages III, II & I to obviate the need for re-imposition of Stage-IV of extant GRAP in NCR;
- The Sub-Committee shall be keeping a close watch on the situation and will review the air quality scenario from time to time for further appropriate decision depending upon the air quality in Delhi and forecast made by IMD/ IITM;

- The extant GRAP schedule (November 2025) can be accessed from the Commission's website, i.e., <https://caqm.nic.in/>

NEW DELHI:

The Sub-Committee on Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) vide its order dated 17.01.2026 invoked Stage-IV of extant GRAP when the average AQI of Delhi started to exhibit a sharp increasing trend.

Delhi's daily average AQI has shown significant improvement as it recorded 440 on 18th January 2026, which improved to 410 yesterday (19.01.2026) and further improved and recorded 378 today as per the daily AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Noting this declining trend in the AQI levels of Delhi, the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP met today to review the current air quality scenario in the region as well as the forecasts for meteorological conditions and air quality index made available by IMD/ IITM. While comprehensively reviewing the overall air quality parameters of Delhi-NCR, the Sub-Committee observed as under:

- *Owing to favourable meteorological conditions and increase in wind speed, AQI of Delhi has shown improvement and has been recorded as 378 ("Very Poor") today i.e. on 20.01.2026. Further, IMD/IITM forecast indicates AQI of Delhi to remain in this range in coming days.*

Therefore, keeping in view the disruptive nature of restrictions under Stage-IV of the extant GRAP impacting a large number of stakeholders and public as well as considering the trend of improvement in the average AQI of Delhi and also the forecasts by IMD/ IITM indicating the likelihood of the average AQI of Delhi to stay in 'Very Poor' category in the coming days, the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP today unanimously decided to revoke all actions under Stage-IV of the extant schedule of GRAP in the entire NCR, with immediate effect.

Further, all actions under Stages III, II & I of the extant schedule of GRAP (November 2025) shall, however remain in place and be implemented, monitored and reviewed by all agencies concerned in NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not rise further in the coming days. Agencies shall keep strict vigil and especially intensify measures under Stages III, II & I of the extant GRAP in order to obviate the need for re-imposition of Stage-IV of extant GRAP in NCR.

Construction & Demolition project sites etc. which have been issued specific closure orders on account of violations/ non-compliances of various Statutory Directions, rules, guidelines etc. shall under no circumstances, resume their operations without any specific order to this effect from the Commission.

While GRAP Stage-IV is being revoked, keeping in view the winter season when weather conditions may not be always favourable and in order to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further, citizens are requested to strictly adhere to the citizen charter under Stages III, II and I of extant GRAP.

The Sub-Committee, shall keep a close watch on the air quality scenario and review the situation from time to time for further appropriate decisions depending upon the air quality in Delhi and forecast for meteorological conditions and air quality index made available by IMD/ IITM.

The extant schedule of GRAP (November 2025) is available on the Commission's website, i.e., <https://caqm.nic.in/>
