Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

- Delhi's average AQI has been on an increasing trend and as per the Daily AQI Bulletin by CPCB, Delhi recorded a daily average AQI of **324** on November 02, 2026 i.e. **'Very Poor'** category;
- CAQM Sub-Committee for operationalization of GRAP took stock of the current air quality scenario and air quality forecast made available by IMD/ IITM at the meeting held today;
- As per the air quality forecast provided by IMD/ IITM, Delhi's overall air quality is likely to stay in 'Very Poor' category in the coming days;
- The Sub-Committee unanimously decided to invoke the action plan as per Stage-II of the extant GRAP in the entire NCR with immediate effect;
- All actions as envisaged under Stage-II of the extant GRAP – 'Very Poor' Air Quality, be implemented in right earnest by all the agencies concerned in NCR with immediate effect, in addition to all Stage-I actions of GRAP already in force;
- CAQM urges citizens to follow the specific steps listed in the Citizen Charter of Stage-II along with Stage-I of GRAP;
- Agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP including Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR States and DPCC are advised to ensure strict implementation of actions under Stage-II of extant GRAP in addition to actions under Stage-I of GRAP;
- CAQM is closely monitoring the situation and will review the air quality scenario on a regular basis in the coming days;
- The extant GRAP document may be accessed from the Commission's official website, i.e., https://caqm.nic.in

NEW DELHI:

Today, Delhi recorded a daily average Air Quality Index (AQI) of **324** i.e. **'Very Poor'** category, as per the daily AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on November 02, 2026.

The Sub-Committee on GRAP in its meeting held today i.e. November 02, 2026 further reviewed the air quality scenario in the region, as well as the IMD/IITM forecasts and air quality index of Delhi comprehensively and observed as under:

"The Air Quality Index (AQI) of Delhi which was observed 117 ('Moderate' Category) on 31.10.2026, has exhibited a sharp rise with AQI of 261 ('Poor' Category) on 01.11.2026 & has further increased to 324 ('Very Poor' Category) on 02.11.2026 owing to unfavorable meteorological conditions. The forecast by IMD/IITM has also predicted AQI to remain in 'Very Poor' category in coming days."

Therefore, in an effort to prevent further deterioration of air quality, the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP has taken the call to invoke the action plan as per Stage-II of the extant GRAP in the entire NCR. All actions as envisaged under Stage-II of the extant GRAP – 'Very Poor' Air Quality (DELHI AQI- 301-400), be implemented with immediate effect in right earnest by all the agencies concerned in NCR, in addition to all Stage-I actions of GRAP already in force. Further, agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP including Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR States and DPCC have been advised to ensure strict implementation of actions under Stage-II of GRAP in addition to actions under Stage-I of GRAP during this period.

The Sub-Committee also urges citizens to adhere to the following specific steps listed in Citizen Charter of Stage-II along with Stage-I of GRAP and assist in effective implementation of the GRAP measures aimed towards sustaining and improving air quality in the region, as under:

- People to use public transport and minimize use of personal vehicles.
- Use technology and take less congested route even if slightly longer.
- Ensure proper parking, lane driving and clearance to pedestrian footpaths.
- Regularly replace air filters at recommended intervals in your vehicles.
- Avoid dust generating construction activities during the months of October to January.
- Ensure cleaning of kitchen chimney filters at regular intervals.
- Avoid outdoor smoke generating cooking and heating activities in residential areas and public spaces.
- Avoid accumulation and open burning of solid waste and biomass.
- People, whose positions allow working from home, may work from home.

Further, the action plan as per Stage-II of extant GRAP is applicable with immediate effect in the entire NCR, in addition to all Stage-I actions of GRAP already in force. This action plan includes steps to be implemented/ ensured by various agencies including Pollution Control Boards of NCR States and DPCC. These steps are:

1. Carry out mechanical/ vacuum sweeping along with water sprinkling of the identified roads on a daily basis preferably during night or early morning hours. Enhance the number of shifts / hours of deployment of such machines to further intensify mechanised sweeping and ensure proper disposal of the collected dust in designated sites/ landfills.
2. Ensure daily water sprinkling along with dust suppressants, before peak traffic hours, on roads and right of ways especially at heavy traffic corridors and other congestion points.

3. Ensure focussed and targeted actions for abatement of air pollution in all identified hotspots in Delhi-NCR. Intensify remedial measures for the predominant sector(s) contributing to adverse air quality in each of such hotspots.
4. Intensify inspections for strict enforcement of dust control measures at C&D sites.
5. Enhance vehicle parking fees to discourage private transport.
6. Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) to necessarily provide electric heaters (with provision of electricity supply / point) to staff engaged in security, sanitation, horticulture and other miscellaneous services to avoid open biomass/ MSW burning during winters.
7. (i) GNCTD and NCR State Governments to stagger timings for public offices and municipal bodies in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Gautam Buddha Nagar. (ii) State Governments may take a decision to stagger timings for public offices and municipal bodies in other areas of NCR.
8. Central Government may take a decision on staggering of timings of Central Government offices in Delhi – NCR.

The Commission is closely monitoring the situation and will review the air quality scenario on a regular basis in the coming days. The extant schedule of GRAP is available on the Commission's official website and may be accessed via https://caqm.nic.in.

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