

Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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PRESS RELEASE

- GRAP Stage-I was invoked by the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP on 14.10.2025, in view of deterioration of AQI of Delhi;
- Today, Delhi's average AQI of the day clocked 119 ('Moderate' category), as per the daily AQI Bulletin provided by CPCB, clearly indicating improvement;
- CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP met today in view of 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 'Moderate' category in the coming days;
- Keeping in view the improvement in the average AQI of Delhi, the GRAP Sub-Committee unanimously decides to revoke Stage-I of the extant schedule of GRAP in the entire NCR, with immediate effect;
- All agencies of the concerned State Govts./ GNCTD in the NCR to ensure that all Statutory Directions, Advisories, Orders etc. issued by the Commission are followed and implemented in right earnest, in an effort to sustain better AQI levels as being experienced currently and not to let the air quality slip to the "Poor" category;
- Rules / regulations / guidelines issued by MoEF&CC and CPCB and related instructions/ guidelines issued by the respective State Govts. / GNCTD and Pollution Control Boards / DPCC across all contributing sectors to be also followed strictly;
- All the agencies concerned to take note of various actions and the targeted timelines as envisaged in the comprehensive policy issued by the Commission to curb air pollution in NCR and take appropriate actions accordingly in the field, particularly the dust mitigation measures;
- CAQM is keeping a close watch on the air quality scenario and review the situation from time to time for further appropriate decision depending upon the Air Quality in Delhi and forecast made available by IMD/IITM

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 14.10.2025,

invoked Stage-I of extant GRAP when the average AQI of Delhi started to exhibit an increasing trend.

Delhi's daily average AQI has significantly improved as it recorded 175 on 15.03.2026 (yesterday), which improved to 119 on 16.03.2026 (today), as per the AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Noting the improvement in the average AQI of Delhi, the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP met today to review the current air quality scenario in the region as well as forecast for meteorological conditions and air quality index made available by IMD/ IITM and accordingly take an appropriate call on the actions under Stage-I of extant GRAP in place in the entire National Capital Region (NCR) since 14.10.2025.

While comprehensively reviewing the overall air quality parameters of Delhi-NCR, the Sub-Committee observed as under:

- *The AQI of Delhi has shown significant improvement owing to favourable meteorological conditions and has been recorded 119 at 4:00 PM today i.e. on 16.03.2026. Further, the forecast by IMD/IITM indicates that AQI is likely to remain in moderate category in coming days.*

Therefore, keeping in view the 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 'Moderate' category in the coming days, the CAQM Sub-Committee on GRAP today unanimously decided to revoke all actions under Stage-I of the extant schedule of GRAP in the entire NCR, with immediate effect.

All the agencies of the concerned State Govts./GNCTD in the NCR, in an effort to sustain the better AQI levels as being experienced currently and not to let the air quality slip to the 'Poor' category, however, need to ensure that all statutory directions, advisories, orders etc. issued by the Commission are followed and implemented in right earnest, including the rules/ regulations/ guidelines issued by MoE&FCC and the Central Pollution Control Board and related instructions/ guidelines issued by the respective State Govts./GNCTD and Pollution Control Boards/DPCC, across all contributing sectors.

In this context, all the agencies concerned are also required to take note of various actions and the targeted timelines as envisaged in the comprehensive policy issued by the Commission to curb air pollution in the NCR and take appropriate actions accordingly in the field, particularly the dust mitigation measures.

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