

# Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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## PRESS RELEASE

- As per GRAP, Stage-II is to be imposed in the entire NCR when the daily average AQI of Delhi touches/ crosses or is expected to touch/ cross 301 index value as per the AQI forecasts by IMD/IITM;
- As per the air quality forecast provided by IMD/ IITM, Delhi's overall air quality is likely to dip and enter 'Very Poor' category on 23.10.2023 and 24.10.2023 owing to unfavorable meteorological and climatic conditions;
- As per the Daily AQI Bulletin by CPCB, Delhi's average AQI clocked 248 today at 4PM;
- CAQM Sub-Committee for operationalization of GRAP accordingly took stock of air quality scenario and air quality forecasts for Delhi made available by IMD/ IITM at the meeting held today;
- The Sub-Committee decides to invoke 11-point action plan as per Stage-II of GRAP in the entire NCR in view of Delhi's average AQI likely to reach the projected levels of Stage-II of GRAP on 23.10.2023 and 24.10.2023, as per the dynamic model and weather/ meteorological forecast provided by IMD / IITM;
- All actions as envisaged under Stage-II of the revised 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 cooperate and follow the Citizen Charter of GRAP;
- Agencies responsible for implementing measures under GRAP including Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR States and DPCC addressed to ensure successful and strict implementation of actions under Stage-II of GRAP in addition to actions under Stage-I of GRAP;
- CAQM is keeping a close watch on the situation and will review the air quality scenario on a regular basis in the coming days;
- The detailed revised GRAP document may be easily accessed from the Commission's official website, i.e., [caqm.nic.in](http://caqm.nic.in)

NEW DELHI:

Today, Delhi's average Air Quality Index (AQI) clocked 248 as per the daily AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). As per the dynamic model and forecasts for weather/ meteorological conditions and air quality made available by IMD/IITM, there is a likelihood of the average AQI of Delhi dipping to the 'Very Poor' category (DELHI AQI- 301-400) on 23.10.2023 and 24.10.2023 owing to unfavorable meteorological and climatic conditions. Accordingly, the Sub-Committee for operationalization of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) met today to take stock of air quality scenario of Delhi-NCR.

While comprehensively reviewing the air quality scenario in the region as well as the weather/ meteorological conditions and air quality forecasts made available by IMD/ IITM, it was noted that the air quality parameters are likely to dip and reach the projected levels of Stage-II of GRAP on 23.10.2023 and 24.10.2023, as per the dynamic model and weather/ meteorological forecast provided by IMD / IITM. Therefore, in an effort to prevent further deterioration of air quality, the Sub-Committee for operationalization of GRAP has taken the call to invoke 11-point action plan as per Stage-II of revised GRAP in the entire NCR. All actions as envisaged under Stage-II of the revised GRAP - 'Very Poor' Air Quality (DELHI AQI- 301-400), be implemented in right earnest by all the agencies concerned with immediate effect in the entire 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 addressed to ensure successful and 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 Citizen Charter under GRAP and assist in effective implementation of the GRAP measures aimed towards sustaining and improving the air quality in the region, as under:

- People to use public transport and minimize use of personal vehicles.
- Use technology, take less congested route even if slightly longer.
- Regularly replace air filters at recommended intervals in your automobiles.
- Avoid dust generating construction activities during months of October to January.
- Avoid open burning of solid waste and bio-mass.

Further, an 11-point action plan as per Stage-I of GRAP is applicable with immediate effect in the entire NCR, in addition to all Stage-I actions of GRAP already in force. This 11-point 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 and water sprinkling of the identified roads on a daily basis.

2. Ensure water sprinkling along with use of dust suppressants (at least every alternate day, during non-peak hours) on roads to arrest road dust especially at hotspots, heavy traffic corridors, vulnerable areas and proper disposal of dust collected in designated sites/landfills.
3. Intensify inspections for strict enforcement of dust control measures at C&D sites.
4. Ensure focussed and targeted action for abatement of air pollution in all identified hotspots in NCR. Intensify remedial measures for the predominant sector(s) contributing to adverse air quality in each of such hotspots.
5. Ensure uninterrupted power supply to discourage use of alternate power Generating sets/ equipment (DG sets etc.).
6. Strictly implement the schedule for regulated operations of DG sets across all sectors in the NCR including Industrial, Commercial, Residential and offices etc. in accordance with Direction No. 76 dated 29.09.2023.
7. Synchronize traffic movements and deploy adequate personnel at intersections / traffic congestion points for smooth flow of traffic.
8. Alert in newspapers / TV / radio to advise people about air pollution levels and Do's and Don'ts for minimizing polluting activities.
9. Enhance Parking fees to discourage private transport.
10. Augment CNG/ electric bus and metro services by inducting additional fleet and increasing the frequency of service.
11. Resident Welfare Associations to necessarily provide electric heaters to security staff to avoid open Bio-Mass and MSW burning during winters.

The Commission is closely watching the situation and will review the air quality scenario on a regular basis in the coming days. The detailed revised schedule of GRAP is available on the Commission's official website and may be accessed via [caqm.nic.in](http://caqm.nic.in)

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