



GRAP to be Enforced in Delhi-NCR

Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) will implement an emergency action plan in Delhi to tackle rising air pollution.

- The emergency plan is called the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP).
- Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was prepared by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC) after the order of Supreme Court of December 2016.
- GRAP includes the measures which will be taken by different government agencies to prevent worsening of Air Quality of Delhi-NCR (National Capital Region) and prevent PM10 and PM2.5 levels to go beyond 'moderate' national Air Quality Index (AQI) category.
- The EPCA is mandated to enforce the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the city as per the pollution levels.

Types of measures under Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP):

- Measures to be taken are divided into different categories based on the Pollution level:

| Category | Ambient Particulate Matter (PM) Concentration | Measures |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Moderate to Poor | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PM 2.5 between 61-120 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$▪ PM10 between 101-350 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Enforce pollution control in thermal power plants▪ Mechanized sweeping on roads▪ Ban on firecrackers▪ Stop garbage burning |
| Very Poor | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PM2.5 between 121-250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$▪ PM10 between 351-430 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stop use of diesel generator sets▪ Increase bus and metro services and increasing frequency of metro service▪ Stop use of coal/firewood in hotels and open eateries |
| Severe | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PM2.5 more than 250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$▪ PM10 more than 430 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increase frequency of mechanized sweeping of road and sprinkling of water on roads▪ Close brick kilns, Hot Mix plants, Stone Crushers▪ Shut down Badarpur power plant▪ Introduce concessional rates to encourage off-peak travel in public transport. |
| Severe+ or Emergency | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PM2.5 of or more than 300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$▪ PM10 of or 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stop entry of diesel trucks into Delhi (except essential commodities)▪ Stop construction activities▪ Introduce odd and even scheme |

(persist for 48 hours or more)

▪ Shutting of schools

National Air Quality Index (AQI)

- National Air Quality Index (AQI) is under the aegis of the CPCB.
- AQI has been developed to inform people about the level of eight pollutants— PM2.5, PM10, Ammonia, Lead, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, ozone, and carbon monoxide.

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