



Severe Pollution Crisis in NCR

Why in News?

The [National Capital Region \(NCR\)](#) faces hazardous air quality levels, exacerbated by farm fires and other factors.

Key Points

- **Air Quality Index (AQI):**
 - **Panipat AQI reached 450**, indicating “severe” pollution; other NCR areas also report rising levels.
 - **AQI** is a tool for effective communication of air quality status to people in terms, which are easy to understand.
 - AQI has been developed for eight pollutants viz. **PM2.5, PM10, Ammonia, Lead, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, ozone, and carbon monoxide.**
- **Primary Causes:**
 - **Stubble burning** in nearby states like Haryana and Punjab contributes heavily, alongside vehicular emissions and industrial pollution.
 - The high pollution levels pose significant health risks, especially for vulnerable groups, leading to calls for emergency measures.

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Category
0-50	Good
51-100	Satisfactory
101-200	Moderate
201- 300	Poor
301-400	Very Poor
401-500	Severe

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The NCR, as of now

