



Complete Ban on Firecrackers

Why in News?

- Recently, [the Supreme Court](#) directed the **Haryana and Uttar Pradesh governments** to impose a **complete ban on firecrackers** in **National Capital Region (NCR)** areas until further orders.

Key Points

- **Call for Complete Ban:**
 - The SC directed the governments of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan to clarify their stance on imposing a year-round firecracker ban in the National Capital Region (NCR).
 - The court emphasized the **need for the ban to address both [air pollution and noise pollution](#).**
- **Current Status and Measures:**
 - A **complete ban on firecrackers** currently applies only **around Diwali and New Year**.
 - Delhi has enforced a year-round ban on the manufacture, storage, sale, and online delivery of firecrackers.
 - **Rajasthan has also imposed a similar ban in areas falling under the NCR.**
- **Enforcement of Anti-Pollution Measures:**
 - The [Graded Response Action Plan \(GRAP\) Stage 4](#) was enforced in Delhi-NCR due to worsening air quality.
 - NCR states were directed to form **teams of officials to ensure strict adherence to GRAP measures.**
 - These teams will function as officers of the Supreme Court, reporting compliance and breaches to the [Commission for Air Quality Management \(CAQM\)](#).

Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)

- The **GRAP** consists of emergency measures designed to prevent the deterioration of air quality after reaching specific thresholds in **the Delhi-NCR region**.
- The **Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** notified the GRAP in 2017.
- Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas (CAQM) implements the GRAP.