

## INDIA IS DIRTIER, MORE LAX AND FAR LESS ALERT

### INDIA AIR QUALITY INDEX AND STANDARDS

Alerts	Health Impact	Description	AQI
None	Minimal Impact	Good	0-50
	May cause minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people	Satisfactory	51-100
	May cause breathing discomfort to the people with lung disease; discomfort to people with heart disease, children and elders	Moderate	101-200
	May cause breathing discomfort to people on prolonged exposure; discomfort to people with heart disease	Poor	201-300
	May cause respiratory illness to the people on prolonged exposure; pronounced effect in people with lung and heart diseases	Very Poor	301-400
	May cause respiratory effects on healthy people; serious health impacts on people with lung/heart diseases	Severe	401-500

### CHINA AIR QUALITY INDEX AND STANDARDS

AQI	Description	Health Impact	Alerts
0-50	Excellent	Air quality satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk	<p>&gt; When PM 2.5 levels are higher than 150 <math>\mu\text{m}^3</math>   Children, elderly with cardiovascular or respiratory conditions warned, dust prevention at construction sites</p> <p>&gt; PM 2.5 levels above 150 <math>\mu\text{m}^3</math> for 3 days   Vulnerable groups to stay indoors, power plants, factories asked to reduce emissions</p> <p>&gt; PM 2.5 levels more than 150 <math>\mu\text{m}^3</math> for 3 days and more than 250 <math>\mu\text{m}^3</math> on some days   factories close, no outdoor activity</p> <p>&gt; PM2.5 above 250 <math>\mu\text{m}^3</math>   Schools close, power plants cut emissions, car use regulated as per licence number</p>
51-100	Good	For some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a small number of people	
101-150	Slightly Polluted	Sensitive groups may experience health effects. General public not likely to be affected	
151-200	Moderately Polluted	Heart and respiratory system of everyone may be affected; serious health effects on sensitive groups	
201-300	Heavily Polluted	Patients with heart and lung diseases severely affected; healthy people are commonly affected	
>300	Severely Polluted	Weaker endurance in activities and significant severe health warnings among healthy; certain diseases have early appearance	

China has a four-level alarm system which triggers based on PM 2.5 levels in the city

## AT DELHI'S AIR QUALITY BEIJING WOULD HAVE SHUT DOWN FACTORIES...

...restricted construction activities and barred outdoor exercise in schools.

For three days in a row, Delhi's air quality has been very poor, and the city has done nothing. Here's how India's capital compared with China's on Wednesday

### MOST POLLUTED SPOT

(Air Quality Index)


Delhi  860

Beijing  175

DELHI 5 TIMES MORE POLLUTED

### LEAST POLLUTED SPOT

Delhi  260

Beijing  16

DELHI 16 TIMES MORE POLLUTED

Delhi's least polluted spot was nearly 50% more polluted than Beijing's most polluted place

**ON PAGE 4** ● Six different levels of pollution ● Health hazards of each ● Action taken by Beijing and Delhi

Air quality index values taken on December 2 at 11 pm in Beijing and at 9 pm in New Delhi. Index values are determined by the lead pollutant, which varies from day to day | Source: aqicn.org

## NGT asks city govt to act

The National Green Tribunal pulled up the Delhi government on Wednesday and directed it to convene an emergency meeting to discuss measures to tackle pollution. "All you can say is there is no pollution... All stakeholders who are dealing with pollution indicate that Delhi is highly polluted. We cannot permit such a state of affairs...to prevail," said the bench. **P 4**

## Smog to stay till Saturday

Air quality in Delhi remained "very poor" on Tuesday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board air quality index, with smog continuing for the fifth day. Air quality is expected to be "very poor" over the next three days as well. The PM2.5 level in Anand Vihar, one of Delhi's most polluted areas, was between 137-294 micrograms per cubic metre, against an acceptable limit of 60.