

# CERCA Weekly Newsletter

February 01, 2019

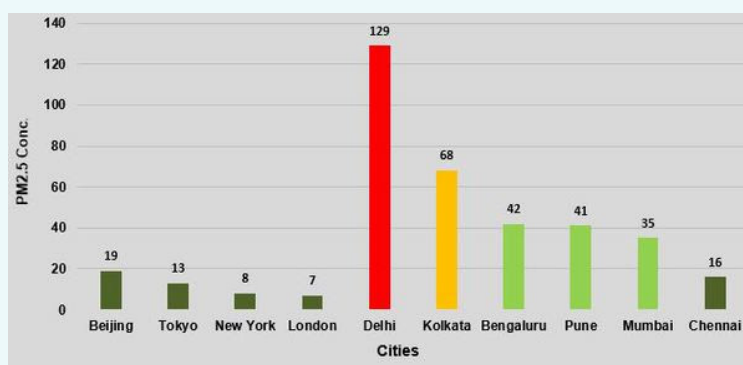
Center of Excellence for Research on Clean Air



Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi



## Air Quality in different cities



Poor air quality led by Delhi.

February 01, 2019, 10:00-11:00 IST (Hourly Average)

Data Source: Berkeley Earth

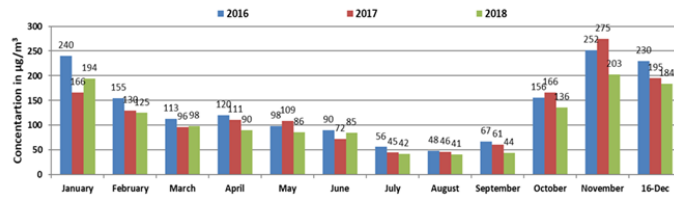
## Delhi air quality for last 30 days



Delhi has seen three better air quality days!  
(based on 10 monitoring stations)

Data Source: CPCB

## Delhi long term air quality trend



About 18 % decrease in PM2.5 levels in October, about 26 % in November and about 6 % in December 2018 in comparison to corresponding months in 2017 have been observed.

### Air quality health impacts

| Air quality         | AQI Category (range) | PM2.5 24-hr (range) | Likely Health Impacts                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Good                | 0-50                 | 0-30                | Minimal Impact                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Satisfactory        | 51-100               | 31-60               | May cause minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people                                                                                                                                      |
| Moderately polluted | 101-200              | 61-90               | May cause breathing discomfort to the people with lung disease such as asthma and discomfort to people with heart disease, children and older adults                                          |
| Poor                | 201-300              | 91-120              | May cause breathing discomfort to people on prolonged exposure and discomfort to people with heart disease with short exposure                                                                |
| Very Poor           | 301-400              | 121-250             | May cause respiratory illness to the people on prolonged exposure. Effect may be more pronounced in people with lung and heart diseases                                                       |
| Severe              | 401-500              | 250+                | May cause respiratory effects even on healthy people and serious health impacts on people with lung/heart diseases. The health impacts may be experienced even during light physical activity |

### Thought Leadership

#### [Is happiness affected by air pollution?](http://theconversation.com/air-pollution-may-be-affecting-how-happy-you-are-110470)

<http://theconversation.com/air-pollution-may-be-affecting-how-happy-you-are-110470>

Source: The Conversation

### New Measures and Initiatives

#### [China to punish regional officials who miss smog targets: ministry](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/pollution/china-to-punish-regional-officials-that-do-not-meet-smog-targets/articleshow/67618476.cms)

China will punish officials in regions that fail to meet their air quality targets this winter

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/pollution/china-to-punish-regional-officials-that-do-not-meet-smog-targets/articleshow/67618476.cms>

Source: Economic Times

#### [India calls for cautionary approach to link climate change](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/global-warming/india-calls-for-cautionary-approach-to-link-climate-change/articleshow/67701050.cms)

India has called for adopting a cautionary approach on linking climate change to security .

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/global-warming/india-calls-for-cautionary-approach-to-link-climate-change/articleshow/67701050.cms>

Source: Economic Times

### Health Impact

**Air pollution linked to Autism: Study**

A recent study has uncovered fresh evidence linking exposure to air pollution with an increased risk of developing autism.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/science/autism-s-connection-with-air-pollution-explored-in-research-1.3768000>

Source: Irish Times

**Children obesity linked to air pollution**

Exposure to air pollution, particularly at school, could be associated with a higher risk of overweight and obesity during childhood.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/01/190131101057.htm>

Source: Science Daily

**International Developments****Toxic air forces Thai officials to close Bangkok schools**

Authorities closed down schools due to the choking air pollution in Bangkok for the rest of the week and deployed drones in desperate attempts to battle air pollution.

<http://www.africanews.com/2019/01/31/thai-officials-deploy-drones-to-battle-air-pollution-schools-closed/>

Source: Africa News

**European cities consider making public transport free to tackle air pollution**

Early 2018, 'Car Nation' Germany surprised the world with a radical proposal of free public transportation to reduce the use of cars in five cities: Bonn, Essen, Reutlingen, Mannheim and the town of Herrenberg, which is south of Stuttgart — one of Germany's most polluted cities.

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/opinion/free-public-transport-to-combat-air-pollution-lessons-from-europe/cid/1682936>

Source: Telegraph India

**New Research (study) or Policy****With Cleaner Air, Life Expectancy in Delhi Could Go Up By 3 Years: Study**

The study shows a 20 to 30 per cent improvement in air quality will add 3 more years to the life of people in polluted cities.

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/with-improved-air-quality-life-expectancy-could-go-up-by-3-years-study-1985201>

Source: NDTV

**Delhi air quality still close to 'severe'**

The air quality index (AQI) in Delhi was recorded at 359 in the 'very poor' range on Thursday. The air quality may improve to 'moderate' after a light shower that is expected.

<https://www.timesnownews.com/mirror-now/in-focus/article/pollution-level-today-delhi-ncr-noida-gurgaon-gurugram-mumbai-bangalore-aqi-air-quality-index-1-february/357772>

Source: Times now

**New Technology****Electric Vehicles may be exempted from road tax: Government**

The proposed incentive is aimed at encouraging the use of electric vehicles to address the problems of air pollution and rising fuel prices.

<https://auto.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/govt-may-waive-road-tax-on-e-vehicles/67741795>

Source: Economic Times

**Kerala Sets EV Road Map; Targets 1 Million Electric Vehicles By 2022**

Amid rising oil prices and pollution concerns, the Kerala government has set a target of putting 10 million electric vehicles (EVs) on road by 2022.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/kerala-targets-1-million-electric-vehicles-by-2022/1342393/>

Source: Financial Express

For more details, visit our website <http://cerca.iitd.ac.in>

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