E-zine

Air pollution

November 2019

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Media Coverage

Latest News Analysis:

A Greenpeace and AirVisual analysis of air pollution readings from 3,000 cities found that 22 of the world's 30 worst cities in terms of air pollution were in India. As per the survey conducted by World Health Organization in 2014 in 1600 cities, Delhi had the dirtiest air. Incessant stubble burning remains one of the main reasons behind the worsening air quality in Delhi-NCR. Vehicle emissions, construction etc increase the severity of air pollution. Giving below the emissions from different sectors in Delhi in 2018.



emergency was declared, as the overall AQI (Air

Reports/Handbook

- State of global air 2019: A special report on global exposure to air pollution and its disease burden | Health Effects Institute | 2019 The State of Global Air report brings into one place the latest information on air quality and health for countries around the globe. This publication presents information on outdoor and household air pollution and on the health impacts of exposure to air pollution. This report also explores how air pollution affects life expectancy.
- National clean air programme (NCAP) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India | 2019 MoEFCC has come up with this NCAP as a national level strategy document prescribing the actions to reduce air pollution at city and regional levels in India. Aim of this programme is to gradually improve the air quality. The NCAP emphasis on comprehensive mitigation actions not limited to rural areas while focussing on actions for transboundary pollution sources.
- Breathe India: an action plan for combating air pollution | NITI Aayog | 2018

NITI Aayog has developed 15 Action Points across a range of industries and sectors. It calls for concerted action from all levels of governance, cutting across Ministries and Departments. In addition, the Action Plan covers all stakeholders without whose active participation and support the air pollution crisis cannot be tackled. The report underscores the need to enact strong measures to curb vehicular emissions. Quality Index) in Delhi crossed the severe-plus mark (above 500), with some neighbourhoods even recording an AQI of over 1,000. The government's air quality monitoring service, SAFAR (System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research), recorded AQI at 552 for Delhi recently. An AQI level between 400 and 500 is 'severe', while anything beyond 500 is 'severe plus', or 'emergency'.

As per TERI's press release, some of the peak air pollution episodes during winters can be avoided by controlling agriculture crop burning and firecrackers. However, if we address both peak and non-peak sources such as transport, industries, residential and road dust, it is possible to reduce Delhi's PM 2.5 level by 46% during winters, which can restore air quality to 'moderate' category. To overcome the problem and reduce pollution in Delhi, the Centre is examining the feasibility of putting up smog towers.

Sources:

- Action initiated against farmers for stubble burning: Amarinder The Hindu, 04 November 2019
- 'The fight against air pollution shouldn't be just • Delhi-centric' - Sharma, Sumit Mint, 16 November 2019
- Delhi AQI at 'emergency' level despite reduction in stubble burning Mint, 18 November 2019

• What is Polluting Delhi's Air? Understanding **Uncertainties in Emissions Inventories** | Council on Energy, Environment and Water |Issue Brief I March 2019

By comparing the existing emissions inventories for Delhi or NCR, this study aims to explain the differences in these estimates. To detail these differences, the authors focus on PM10 and PM2.5 in transport, industries, power plants, road dust, and construction - the five major contributing sectors. An emissions inventory uses the bottom-up method and forms the basis for a source apportionment study.

Breathing cleaner air: ten scalable solutions for ٠ **Indian cities**

TERI | 2016

'Breathing Cleaner Air', by a task force of eminent Indian and international experts, outlines solutions that can significantly reduce air pollution, including critical near-term measures. The report synthesises available data on sources of air pollution, its transport over long distances, its impact on public health, food production, regional climate, to arrive at the solutions that can significantly help reduce air pollution in Indian cities and states. The report focuses on the winter season in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, as the winter season experiences the worst pollution episodes and these areas suffer adversely from air pollution.

 Possible to reduce Definit PM 2.5 winter level by 46%, tackle both peak and non-peak pollution sources: TERI <u>TERI</u>, 2019 	
Articles /Case studies	Database & Indices
 <u>The impact of air pollution on deaths, disease</u> <u>burden, and life expectancy across the states</u> <u>of India: the Global Burden of Disease Study</u> <u>2017</u> K Balakrishnan <i>Lancet Planet Health</i>, Vol.3: e26–39, Jan 2019 	 WHO Global Ambient Air Quality Database (update 2018) World Health Organization The ambient air pollution database includes data on particulate matter (PM10 or PM2.5) concentrations – either the annual mean

•	Effects of short-term exposure to particulate matter air pollution on cognitive performance M. A. Shehab and F. D. Pope Scientific Reports, (2019) 9:8237 Clearing the Air: Highlighting actions to reduce air pollution in India Maureen L. Cropper, Sarath Guttikunda, Puja Jawahar Natural Resources Defense Council, February 2019	 concentrations based on daily measurements, or on data which could be aggregated into annual means. <u>AQI India: Real-Time Air Quality Index (AQI) </u> <u>Air Pollution Level</u> <i>Purelogic Labs India Pvt Ltd</i> AQI India is the first ever pollution control platform in India consistently working on ways to educate people with solutions that can lessen the impact of the impending disaster. The number in the AQI India map shows the real-time air quality index of the particular location
•	Applying benefit-cost analysis to air pollution control in the Indian power sector Zachary Lazri, Kabir Malik, Xiao-Peng Song and Xinlu Yao Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis, 10(S1):185– 205, 2019 Air pollution in Delhi: biomass energy and suitable environmental policies are sustainable pathways for health safety C. B. Tripathi, Prashant Baredar, and Lata Tripathi	• SAFAR (System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology SAFAR was developed indigenously by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune and operationalized by India Meteorological Department (IMD). It is integral part of India's first Air Quality Early Warning System operational in Delhi. The ultimate objective of the project is to increase awareness among general public regarding the air quality in their city.
	Events	
•	International Conference on Air Quality –	10th International Conference on Environmental
	Science and Application: 12th International Conference on Air Quality 9-13 March 2020, Thessaloniki, Greece E: airquality@herts.ac.uk W: https://www.herts.ac.uk/airqualityconference/i nternational-conference-on-air-quality-science- and-application	Pollution and Remediation (ICEPR'20) August 19, 2020 - August 21, 2020 Prague, Czech Republic E: info@icepr.org W: <u>https://icepr.org/</u>
•	Air Pollution 2020: 28th International	Kindly send your views/suggestions/and also
	Conference on Wodelling, Monitoring and Management of Air Pollution	let us know any other contemporary issues
	8 – 10 June 2020, Seville, Spain	you want us to cover
	E: <u>severest@wessex.ac.uk</u>	
	W: https://www.wessey.ac.uk/conferences/2020/a	
	ir-pollution-2020	