

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3110**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2026

**Effectiveness of GRAP**

3110. DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) imposed during the last six months has been totally ineffective across Delhi NCR and there have been serious deficiencies in implementation of anti-pollution measures as per the GRAP norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of serious deficiencies found in its implementation; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to improve the situation and action taken against officials/ bodies responsible for this failure?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

**(a) to (c):**

The Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) is an emergency response action plan and calls for a set of emergent preventive/restrictive actions implemented proactively in the Delhi-NCR region.

Based on the dynamic model and weather forecast provided by IMD (Indian Meteorological Department) / IITM (Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology) on a day-to-day basis, actions under Stages I, II, III and IV of the GRAP are invoked in advance in anticipation of the AQI of Delhi reaching to the projected levels of that stage based on the overall meteorological conditions and anthropogenic activities.

Action targeting severe air pollution sources such as Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste dumping, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) burning, vehicular pollution, industrial pollution are included under different stages of GRAP to prevent further deterioration of the air quality in the region.

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has recently conducted a comprehensive review of the contours of the existing GRAP and made the actions more stringent under the various stages of the GRAP. The revised GRAP schedule

was issued by CAQM vide Order dated 21.11.2025. Details of recent amendments in GRAP are enclosed at **Annexure I**.

Various directions/advisories along with orders related to invocation/ revocation of actions under different stages of GRAP including its schedule are available on the website of CAQM ([www.caqm.nic.in](http://www.caqm.nic.in)).

**Details of amendments made to Graded Response Plan (GRAP) by CAQM on 21.11.2025**

CAQM has issued the following amendments in the schedule of GRAP:

**A. The following measures currently under GRAP Stage II to be taken under GRAP Stage I:**

- (1). Ensure uninterrupted power supply to discourage use of alternate power Generating sets/ equipment (DG sets etc.)
- (2). Synchronize traffic movements and deploy adequate personnel at intersections / traffic congestion points for smooth flow of traffic.
- (3). Alert in newspapers / TV / radio to advise people about air pollution levels and Do's and Don'ts for minimizing polluting activities
- (4). Augment public transport services through CNG/ electric buses and metro services by inducting additional fleet and increasing the frequency of service. Introduce differential rates to encourage off – peak travel.

**B. The following measures currently under GRAP Stage III to be taken under GRAP Stage II:**

- (1). (i) GNCTD and NCR State Governments to stagger timings for public offices and municipal bodies in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Gautam Budh Nagar.  
  
(ii) State Governments may take a decision to stagger timings for public offices and municipal bodies in other areas of NCR.
- (2). Central Government may take a decision on staggering of timings of Central Government offices in Delhi – NCR.

**C. The following measures currently under GRAP Stage IV to be taken under GRAP Stage III:**

- (1). NCR State Governments / GNCTD to take a decision on allowing public, municipal and private offices to work on 50% strength and the rest to work from home.
- (2). Central Government may take appropriate decision on permitting work from home for employees in central government offices.

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