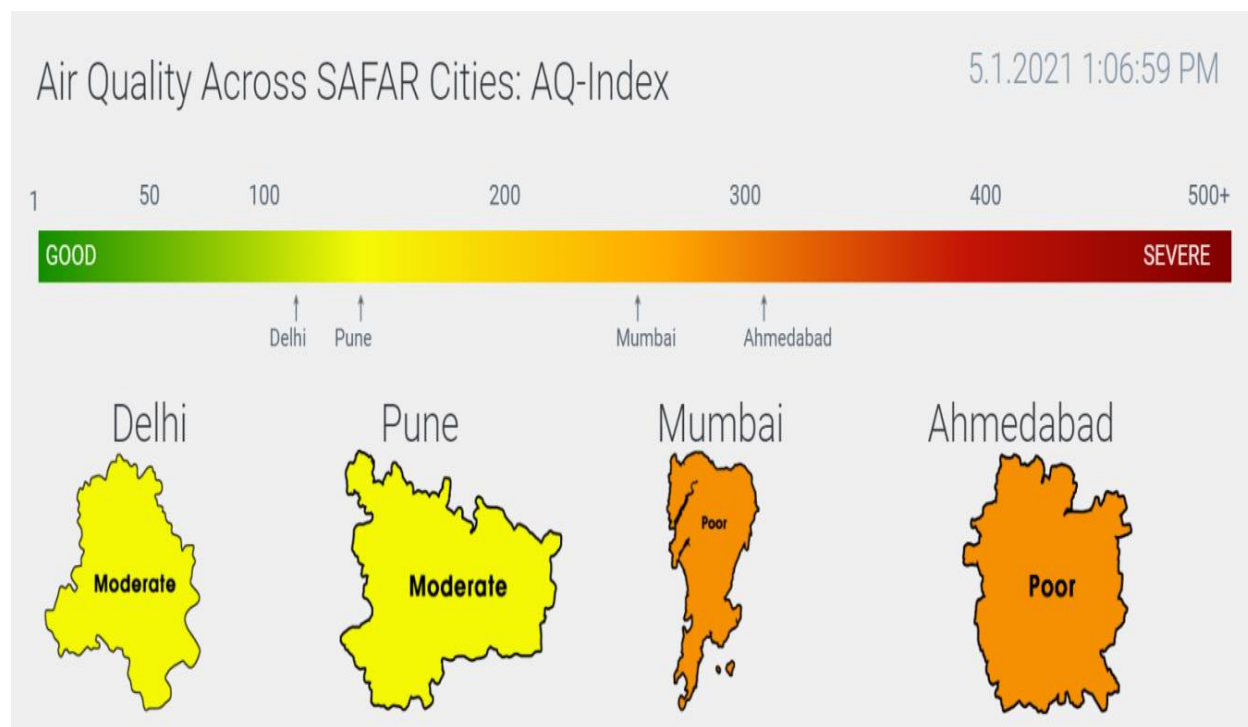


Air quality in the national capital improved to Moderate category from Poor as forecasted

New Delhi, 05 January 2021 (Vigyan Samachar)

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) is issuing an early air quality forecast for Delhi NCR. IMD officials said that air quality of the national capital has improved slightly today to 'Moderate' from 'Poor' category, which is usually uncommon in January when the low temperature and wind speed lead to high pollution.

Delhi is under the grip of a wet spell for last three days due to the influence of Western Disturbance which is likely to continue till next 24 hours. The AQI is likely to stay in the 'Moderate' to 'Satisfactory' category today. However, the calm winds with high moisture content that has been building up due to the wet spell is creating a low ventilation condition that would lead to deterioration of the already improved AQI to 'Moderate' to the 'Poor' category tomorrow.



AQI is likely to further deteriorate to lower end of the Very Poor category on 7th and 8th January 2021.

As per System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR), who monitors the air quality of many parts of Delhi, the average hourly AQI readings had reached a “satisfactory” level as of today.

CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD'S AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI)	CATEGORY
0-50	Good
51-100	Satisfactory
101-200	Moderate
201-300	Poor
301-400	Very Poor
401-500	Severe

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), AQI **from 401 to 500** is considered **‘SEVERE’**; from **301 to 400** is considered **‘VERY POOR’**; from **201 to 300** is **‘POOR’**; from **101 to 200** is **‘MODERATE’** category and from **51 to 100** is considered to be in **‘SATISFACTORY’** category. AQI of **0 to 50** is considered as indicative of **‘GOOD’** quality air.