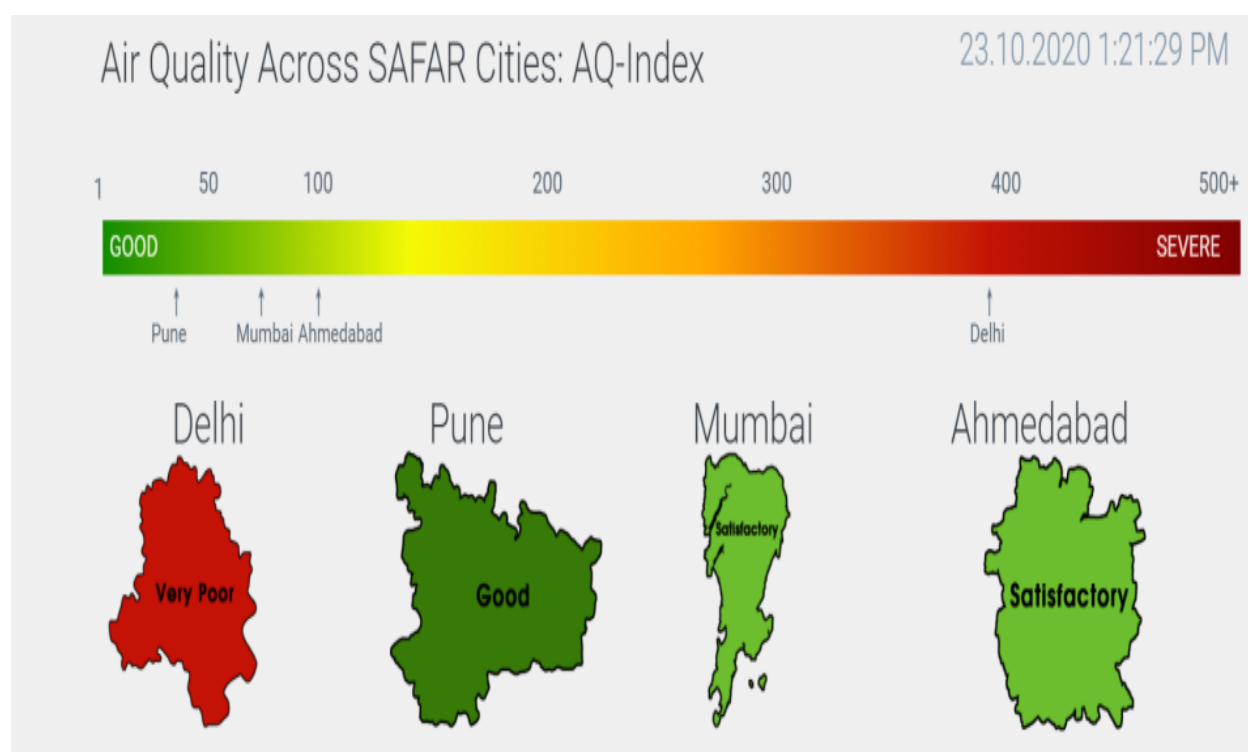


## Air quality forecast for Delhi, Pune, Mumbai and Ahmadabad

New Delhi, 23 October 2020 (Vigyan Samachar): Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) is issuing an early air quality forecast for Delhi NCR. Air quality is likely to remain in poor category today morning and likely to remain poor during the day due to calm surface wind prevailing over Delhi region. Air quality is expected to remain in poor category in Delhi NCR during next two days. Same conditions are expected to prevail on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020 too.



AQI across four major cities in India as on 23.10.2020

System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) synergized accumulated significant stubble burning fire counts around Haryana, Punjab, and neighbouring regions standing at  $\approx 1213$  for yesterday. Since transport-level wind direction is not fully favorable for intrusion, stubble contribution in PM<sub>2.5</sub> estimated is around 17% for today. The %ge contribution shown is relative to the total concentration of PM 2.5 modeled for the day. Hence, on a less polluted day, %ge share may appear higher as compared to a highly polluted day.

As per AQ-EWS models, air quality of Pune is in good category. Mumbai and Ahmedabad AQI are in the satisfactory category. Pune AQI is likely to stay in the good category for the next three days. Mumbai AQI is forecasted to stay in the satisfactory category for next two days. Ahmedabad AQI is likely to marginally deteriorate and in the satisfactory to moderate category for the next two days.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a tool for people to effectively communicate air quality conditions, which are easy to understand. It transforms complex air quality data of various pollutants into a single number (index value), nomenclature and color.

There are six AQI categories, namely Good + Satisfactory, Moderately polluted, Poor, Very Poor, and Severe. Each of these categories is decided based on ambient concentration values of air pollutants and their likely health impacts (known as health breakpoints). AQ sub-index and health breakpoints are evolved for eight pollutants (PM10, PM2.5, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, and Pb) for which short-term (upto 24-hours) National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed.

AQI Category(Range)		PM10 24 - hr ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )		PM2.5 24 - hr ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )		NO <sub>2</sub> 24 - hr (ppb)		O <sub>3</sub> 8 - hr (ppb)		CO 8 - hr (ppm)		
		I low	I high	C low	C high	C low	C high	C low	C high	C low	C high	
Good	0	50	0	50	0	30	0	21	0	25	0.0	0.9
Satisfactory	50	100	50	100	30	60	22	43	26	51	1.0	1.7
Moderate	100	200	100	250	60	90	44	96	52	86	1.8	8.7
Poor	200	300	250	350	90	120	97	149	87	106	8.8	14.8
Very Poor	300	400	350	430	120	250	150	213	107	381	14.9	29.7
Severe	400	500	430	700	250	380	214	750	382	450	29.8	40