

Current Affairs of the Day

Delhi's post-Deepavali air quality hits five-year low

1. Delhi's air quality entered the "severe" category on Friday for the first time this season after people in the city burst firecrackers on Deepavali night despite a blanket ban. The Capital registered its worst post-Deepavali air quality in five years, as per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data.
2. "Firework emissions on the night of Diwali degraded air quality from very poor to the severe category as predicted by SAFAR.

Stubble burning impacts lung health, says study

1. Pollution from stubble burning significantly reduced lung function and was particularly harmful to women in rural Punjab, says one of the largest studies of its kind in India, correlating the effect of air pollution on health.

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

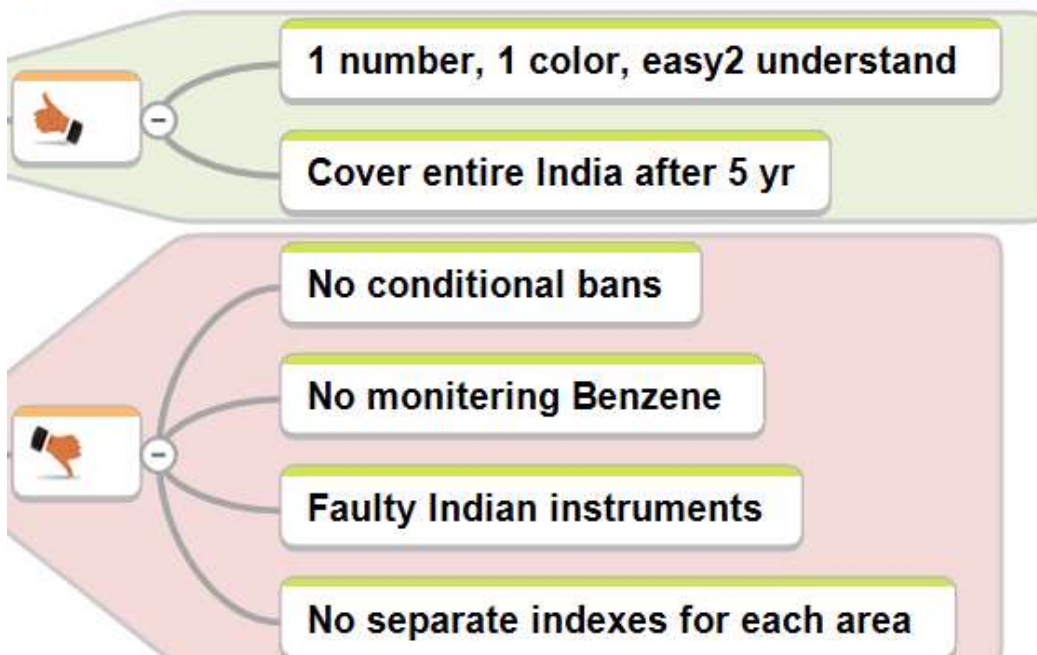
2. While the links between particulate matter pollution and respiratory health are widely documented, there have been limited studies in India that have clearly linked the impact of poor air on lung health.
3. During the crop residue burning period, a two- to three-fold increase was noted in most of the respiratory symptoms, including wheezing, breathlessness on exertion, cough in the morning, cough at night, skin rashes, runny nose or itchiness of eyes, across all age groups.
4. The highest number of complaints were reported by the elderly population (>40-60) and the lowest in the younger age group (>10-18) during the crop burning period in Punjab, the study's authors note.



AQI Category (Range)	PM ₁₀ 24-hr	PM _{2.5} 24-hr	NO ₂ 24-hr	O ₃ 8-hr	CO 8-hr (mg/m ³)	SO ₂ 24-hr	NH ₃ 24-hr	Pb 24-hr
Good (0-50)	0-50	0-30	0-40	0-50	0-1.0	0-40	0-200	0-0.5
Satisfactory (51-100)	51-100	31-60	41-80	51-100	1.1-2.0	41-80	201-400	0.5-1.0
Moderately polluted (101-200)	101-250	61-90	81-180	101-168	2.1- 10	81-380	401-800	1.1-2.0
Poor (201-300)	251-350	91-120	181-280	169-208	10-17	381-800	801-1200	2.1-3.0
Very poor (301-400)	351-430	121-250	281-400	209-748*	17-34	801-1600	1200-1800	3.1-3.5
Severe (401-500)	430+	250+	400+	748+*	34+	1600+	1800+	3.5+

*One hourly monitoring (for mathematical calculations only)

8 Pollutants x 6 Categories





30 more test positive for Zika virus in Kanpur

ALL ABOUT ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE

Zika virus disease is an emerging viral disease transmitted through the bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito

Symptoms

➤ Most of those infected with Zika virus disease either remain asymptomatic or show mild symptoms of fever, rash, conjunctivitis, body ache, joint pain

➤ Severe forms of disease requiring hos-

pitalization is uncommon and fatalities are rare

➤ There is no vaccine or drug available to prevent/treat Zika virus disease at present



➤ Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause infants to be born with microcephaly and other congenital malformation



Child with normal head size



Child with microcephaly





06.11.2021 Saturday




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1. Thirty more people have tested positive for the Zika virus in Kanpur, taking the total number of those infected in the district to 66.
2. Zika is a mosquito-borne virus and hence, getting rid of mosquitoes is the safe way out.
3. To check the spread of the disease, health teams are undertaking sanitisation programmes, including anti-larvae spraying and identifying fever patients, screening seriously ill people and pregnant women. Health teams have been asked to step up door-to-door sampling.

Ethiopia rebels 'join forces' against govt.

State of emergency

Ethiopia's government has declared a national state of emergency after rival Tigrayan forces seized two strategic cities in an apparent push towards the capital, Addis Ababa



Nov 4, 2020: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed orders a military response to what he calls a "traitorous" attack by the TPLF on federal army camps in Tigray

Nov. 28: Abiy announces military operations are "completed", but fighting continues

Feb. 2021: Amnesty International says Eritrean soldiers killed "hundreds of civilians" in November in the holy city of Axum

Nov. 5: Nine rebel groups, including the TPLF, agree to "collaborate and join forces" against the government of Prime Minister Abiy

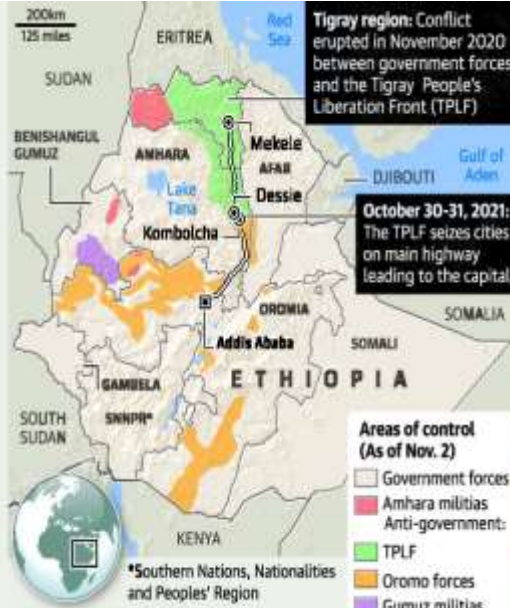
Oct. 4: Abiy is sworn in for a new five-year term in office

June 28: Ethiopian officials flee Mekele in the face of a rebel advance. They take the Tigray capital and push south

Oct. 30-31, 2021: The TPLF seizes cities on main highway leading to the capital

Under attack: A file photo of the site of an air strike in Mekele, Tigray. • AP

We will bury this enemy with our blood and bones and make the glory of Ethiopia high again
ABIY AHMED, Ethiopia's Prime Minister



Tigray region: Conflict erupted in November 2020 between government forces and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)

October 30-31, 2021: The TPLF seizes cities on main highway leading to the capital

Areas of control (As of Nov. 2)

- Government forces
- Amhara militias
- Anti-government
- TPLF
- Oromo forces
- Gumuz militias

*Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region

Sources: AFP, Graphic News

1. Nine rebel groups battling Ethiopia's government joined forces, as fears grow of Tigrayan fighters advancing on the capital.
2. The alliance includes the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which has been locked in a year-long war against Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government.
3. The TPLF predicted Addis Ababa could fall in a matter of weeks.
4. The nine groups, in a statement, said they were forming a united front "to reverse the harmful effects of the Abiy Ahmed rule on the peoples of Ethiopia... and in recognition of the great need to collaborate and join forces towards a safe transition in the country".



THE HINDU

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Art and Culture

A Nihang warrior performs gatka, an ancient form of Sikh martial arts, in Amritsar.





Gatka (Punjabi: *gatkā*) is a weapon-based martial art associated with the Punjab region.

The word *gatka* properly refers to the wooden sticks which were used for sparring

**MAINS
DAWP**

Q1. Critically Discuss currently ongoing intense negotiations at WTO and their drawbacks.

MCQ

Q1. **GATKA** martial art is practised traditionally in the state of

- a. Haryana
- b. Punjab
- c. Assam
- d. Ladakh