

**COMPILATION
OF
MEDIA COVERAGE
FOR
LAUNCH CEREMONY
OF
MOBILE APP: SAFAR_AIR”**

तीव्र हवामान अभ्यासासाठी देशपातळीवर विशेष प्रकल्प

प्रतिनिधी, पुणे

गारपीट, बर्फाचे वादळ अशा टोकाच्या हवामानाचा अंदाज वर्तवणे शक्य व्हावे यासाठी देशपातळीवर विशेष प्रकल्प सुरू करण्यात आल्याची माहिती भूमी विज्ञान मंत्रालयाचे सचिव डॉ. शैलेश नायक यांनी दिली.

‘इंडियन इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ ट्राॅपिकल मिटीऑरॉलॉजी’ तर्फे (आयआयटीएम) आयोजित करण्यात आलेल्या एका कार्यक्रमानिमित्त पुण्यात आलेले नायक पत्रकारांशी बोलत होते. ते म्हणाले, “टोकाच्या हवामानाचा आराखडा देता यावा यासाठी देशपातळीवर ‘एक्स्ट्रीम व्हेदर प्रोग्रॅम’ सुरू आहे. बाराव्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेत या प्रकल्पासाठी ८७ कोटी रुपयांची तरतूद करण्यात आली आहे. या प्रकल्पाअंतर्गत हिमालयातील विशिष्ट भागांमध्ये रडार बसवण्यास सुरूवात झाली आहे. ओरिसा आणि बंगालमधील ‘कालबैसाखी’ वादळांच्या अभ्यासासाठीही रडार बसवली जातील.” हवामानविषयक नैसर्गिक आपत्तीबद्दल नायक म्हणाले, “नागरिकांना नैसर्गिक आपत्तीबाबत माहिती असणे आणि आपत्ती

पुण्यात वाहनांमुळेच सर्वाधिक प्रदूषण

पुण्यातील सर्वाधिक हवा प्रदूषण वाहनांच्या धुरामुळेच होत असल्याचे निरीक्षण ‘सफर’चे (सिस्टिम ऑफ एअर क्वालिटी- व्हेदर फोरकास्टिंग अँड रीसर्च) प्रकल्प संचालक डॉ. गुफरान बेग यांनी नोंदवले. बेग म्हणाले, “पुण्यातील हवा प्रदूषणात वाहनांमुळे होणारे प्रदूषण प्रथम क्रमांकावर तर हवेत उडणाऱ्या धुळीमुळे होणारे प्रदूषण द्वितीय क्रमांकावर असल्याचे दिसून येते. हवेत उडणाऱ्या धुळीमुळे होणारे प्रदूषण मातीच्या (अनपेव्हड) रस्त्यांमुळे होत असल्याची शक्यता आहे. शहरातील झोपडपट्टी भागात होणारा जैविक इंधनाचा वापर आणि औद्योगिक क्षेत्रामुळे होणारे प्रदूषण अनुक्रमे तिसऱ्या व चौथ्या क्रमांकावर असल्याचे दिसते.”

आल्यानंतर नागरिकांकडून होणारी प्रतिक्रिया या गोष्टी महत्वाच्या आहेत. नागरिकांमधील जागरूकता वाढवणे हे आमचे प्रमुख उद्दिष्ट आहे.”

हवेचा दर्जा आता 'सफर एअर ऑप'वर कळणार

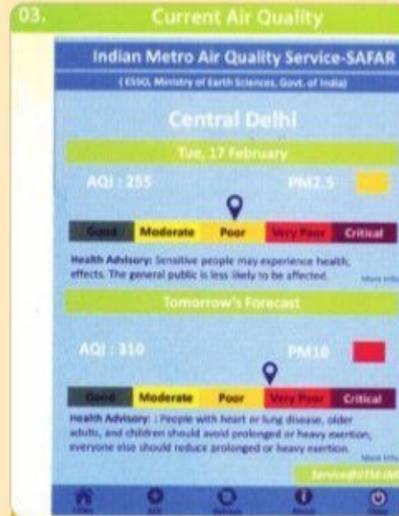
प्रतिनिधी, पुणे

आरोग्याच्या दृष्टीने शहरातील हवेचा दर्जा काय याची माहिती मोबाईल ॲपद्वारे कळू शकणार आहे. 'इंडियन इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ ट्रॉपिकल मीटीओरॉलॉजी' तर्फे (आयआयटीएम) 'सफर एअर' हे मोबाईल ॲप विकसित करण्यात आले असून या ॲपमध्ये हवेच्या दर्जाबरोबरच कोणत्या दर्जाची हवा असताना कशी आरोग्याची काळजी घ्यावी हेही कळणार आहे.

भूमी विज्ञान मंत्रालयाचे सचिव डॉ. शैलेश नायक यांनी

मंगळवारी पुण्यात आयआयटीएममध्ये या ॲपचे उद्घाटन केले. 'सफर'चे (सिस्टम ऑफ एअर क्वालिटी- व्हेद फोरकास्टिंग अँड रिसर्च) प्रकल्प संचालक डॉ. गुफरान बेग या वेळी उपस्थित होते.

वातावरणाविषयी माहिती पुरवणारी 'सफर' ही यंत्रणा सध्या दिल्ली आणि पुण्यात सुरू असल्यामुळे हे ॲप देखील सध्या या दोन शहरांत वापरता येणार आहे. एप्रिलपर्यंत ही यंत्रणा मुंबईमध्येही सुरू होणार असून त्यानंतर २०१७ पर्यंत अहमदाबाद, चेन्नई आणि कोलकात्यातही सफरची सेवा मिळण्यास सुरुवात होईल.



'ॲप' असे काम करणार

पुण्यातील 'सफर' यंत्रणेत शहरात वेगवेगळ्या १० ठिकाणी बसवलेल्या यंत्रणांद्वारे हवेच्या दर्जाची नोंद घेतली जाते. परंतु 'सफर एअर' ॲपमध्ये पुणे शहर, पिंपरी- चिंचवड शहर, पुण्याच्या बाहेरच्या बाजूचा भाग (सबर्ब) आणि पिंपरी- चिंचवड सबर्ब अशा प्रमुख ठिकाणांच्या हवेचा दर्जा कळणार आहे. ज्या भागातून हवेचा दर्जा मागण्यात आला असेल त्याच्या जवळच्या दोन- तीन ठिकाणांच्या सफर नोंदणी यंत्रणांच्या आकड्यांवरून तिथल्या हवेचा प्रातिनिधिक दर्जा काय हे सांगितले जाईल.

हवेच्या दर्जानुसार आरोग्यविषयक सूचना

या ॲपमध्ये हवेचा दर्जा 'चांगला', 'ठीक', 'वाईट', 'अतिवाईट' आणि 'गंभीररीत्या वाईट' अशा प्रतवारित कळू शकणार आहे. यातील प्रत्येक दर्जाला वेगळा 'कलर कोड' देण्यात आला असून दर्जानुसार आरोग्यासाठी सल्लाही देण्यात आला आहे. हवेचा दर्जा 'ठीक' असेल तर ॲलर्जीचा त्रास असलेल्या नागरिकांनी फार काळ घराबाहेर राहणे व दीर्घकाळ अंगमेहनतीचे काम टाळावे किंवा हवेचा दर्जा 'वाईट' असेल तर हृदयविकार आणि फुफ्फुसांचे विकार असणारी मंडळी, ज्येष्ठ नागरिक आणि लहान मुलांना दीर्घकाळ घराबाहेर राहू देऊ नये, असे सल्ले ही यंत्रणा देईल. हवेच्या दर्जाबरोबर सूर्यप्रकाशातील अतिनील

किरणांचे प्रमाण काय हेही या ॲपमध्ये कळेल. या दर्जानुसारही काय काळजी घ्यावी हे ॲप सांगेल.



हे ॲप

<http://sifar.tropmet.res.in>,
<https://play.google.com/store/apps> किंवा
<http://www.moes.gov.in> या संकेतस्थळांवर डाऊनलोड करता येणार आहे.

गारपिटीचा अंदाज दोन वर्षांत

भूविज्ञान मंत्रालयाचे सचिव डॉ. शैलेश नायक यांची माहिती

म. टा. प्रतिनिधी, पुणे

'गारपीट, दरड, तसेच अतिवृष्टीसारख्या आपत्तींचा अंदाज वर्तावण्यासाठी भूविज्ञान मंत्रालयाच्या वतीने पुढाकार घेण्यात आला असून, येत्या दोन वर्षांत काही तास आधी अशा स्वरूपाच्या घटनांचे स्थानिक पातळीवर अचूक अंदाज देणे शक्य होईल,' अशी माहिती भूविज्ञान मंत्रालयाचे सचिव डॉ. शैलेश नायक यांनी मंगळवारी दिली.

'इंडियन इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ ट्रॉपिकल मेटिओलॉजी'च्या (आयआयटीएम) वतीने तयार करण्यात आलेल्या प्रदूषण अंदाजाच्या मोबाइल ॲपचे तसेच टोल फ्री क्रमांकाचे उद्घाटन डॉ. नायक यांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आले. कार्यक्रमाला ज्येष्ठ हवामानशास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. एम. राजीवन, आयआयटीएमचे प्रभारी संचालक डॉ. आर. कृष्णन, सफरचे प्रमुख डॉ. गुफरान बेग आदी उपस्थित होते.

आपत्तींच्या अंदाजाबाबत बोलताना डॉ. नायक म्हणाले, 'महाराष्ट्रासह मध्य भारतात गेल्या वर्षीपासून गारपिटीच्या घटनांचे प्रमाण वाढले आहे. राज्य सरकारकडूनही आम्हाला गारपिटीच्या अंदाजासाठी विचारणा करण्यात आली आहे. ही घटना काही तासांच्या हवामानातील हालचालींतून निर्माण होत असल्यामुळे स्थानिक पातळीवर एक दिवस आधी त्याचा अंदाज वर्तवणे शक्य होत नाही. राज्यात वादळी पावसाच्या अंदाजासाठी बसवण्यात आलेल्या नेटवर्कमधून मिळणारी माहिती, तसेच गारपिटीच्या ढगांचा अभ्यास करणे सध्या



डॉ. नायक (डावीकडे) आणि डॉ. गुफरान बेग

सुरु आहे. याच्या मदतीने मॉडेल तयार करून येत्या दोन वर्षांत गारपिटीचा स्थानिक पातळीवरील अंदाज वर्तवणे शक्य होऊ शकेल.' रडार, उपग्रह आणि ऑटोमेटिक वेदर स्टेशनच्या मदतीने मिळणाऱ्या माहितीच्या आधारे दरड, तसेच अतिवृष्टीच्या घटनांचे अंदाज कसे वर्तवता येतील यावरही सध्या संशोधन सुरु असल्याचे डॉ. नायक यांनी यावेळी सांगितले.

'सफर' या प्रकल्पांतर्गत 'सफर- एअर' हे ॲप तयार करण्यात आले असून, त्याद्वारे शहराच्या विविध भागांतील हवेची गुणवत्ता कशी असेल याचा अंदाज वर्तवण्यात येईल. सध्या हे ॲप दिल्ली आणि पुण्यासाठी सक्रिय करण्यात आले आहे. तसेच या शहरांमधील नागरिकांना १८००१८०१७१७ या टोल फ्री क्रमांकावरूनही शहरातील प्रदूषणाच्या अंदाजाची माहिती घेता येईल,' अशी माहिती प्रकल्पाचे प्रमुख, डॉ. बेग यांनी दिली.

Mobile app launched to keep check on pollution

City scientists of IITM develop app for Pune, New Delhi

ST CORRESPONDENT

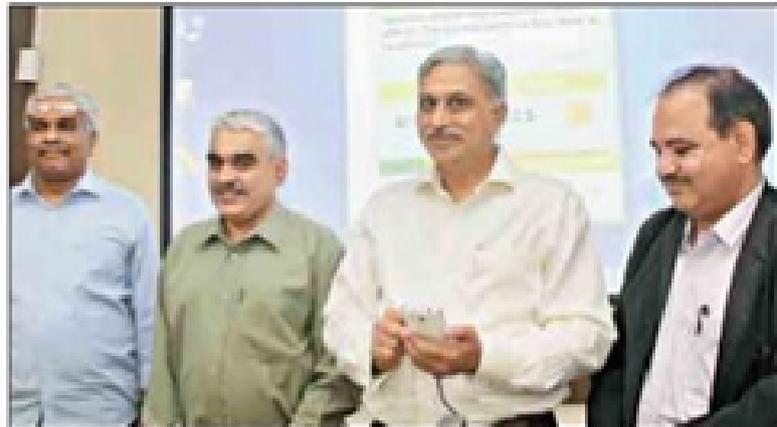
reporters@sakaaltimes.com

Pashan Road: If you are a resident of New Delhi or Pune and are planning to step outside your home, then here is a quick update of pollution levels at your fingertips. Information like air quality and hazard levels are available on a smart-phone application.

The scientists involved in the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) have devised this first-of-its-kind mobile-based application, capable of providing real-time details of air pollution levels.

This free app called 'SAFAR-Air' can provide forecast of air quality up to one day in advance along with health advisories.

"The air quality in metros and growing cities is depleting, mainly due to the rising vehicular population. There is a need to create awareness among the citizens, who could also



Vaibhav Thorbare

INNOVATIVE: (L-R) Senior scientist M Rajeevan and R Krishnan, Secretary of Ministry of Earth Sciences Shailesh Naik and Project Director of SAFAR Gufran Beig at the app launch on Tuesday.

play a vital role by opting for public transport instead of their private vehicles," said Secretary of Ministry Of Earth Sciences (MoES) Shailesh Naik.

The app, currently available for New Delhi and Pune, has a multi-colour-code scheme informing about the Air Quality Index (AQI) and the subsequent hazard advisories, thus enabling the public to plan or alter their outings.

The app will also provide updated information about fine pollutants along with

levels of harmful gases.

According to Project Director of SAFAR, Gufran Beig, a project budget of Rs 15 crore has been allotted for each of the cities.

"This app has been designed to provide sub-regional data of each of the cities. For Pune, the data has been made available for Pune - urban, suburban and PCMC - urban, suburban. In the coming months, we are planning to expand the services to other cities like Mumbai, Chennai and Ahmedabad," Beig said.

Feb 18 2015 : The Times of India (Pune)

Pune, Delhi get app to check air pollution levels

Pune: TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Citizens of Pune, Pimpri Chinchwad and Delhi can now access real-time air quality information through a mobile app.

The Union ministry of earth sciences, which had earlier developed the country's first air quality forecasting system 'system of air quality and weather forecasting and research', on Tuesday launched an android based mobile app "SAFAR-Air". Shailesh Naik, secretary to the Union government, ministry of earth sciences, launched the app at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune, which has developed the application.

SAFAR air quality forecasting system is jointly run by IITM and India Meteorology Department (IMD) in Delhi and Pune and will be made operational in Mumbai by May 2015.

Addressing the media, Naik said that the app will warn people about the quality of air and help them make adjustments to their personal outdoor plans based on the advisory on their handset. "It will not only help them think about sustainable methodologies, but also give them adequate warning on how they should respond towards a particular air quality hazard, providing its health implications and how best it could be avoided. This is also the ministry's effort to build a consciousness among people to adapt to a sustainable lifestyle as fossil fuel burning through the transport sector is the biggest contributor of such pollutants," said Naik.

Gufran Beig, project director, SAFAR said, "The app will help policy makers adopt city-level practical measures focusing on clean air from time to time, especially in Delhi."

Naik also launched a tollfree IVRS system (1800-1801717) for air quality and weather related information such as maximum and minimum temperatures, which is available in Hindi, English and Marathi.

Naik added that this is the first mobile application service in India to provide current and one day advance forecast for air quality and related health advisories through a colour-coded system. The mobile application can be downloaded free of charge from the ministry's website, SAFAR website (<http://safar.tropmet.res.in>) and from Google Play Store.

The mobile application is operational for Delhi and Pune region and will soon be made available for Mumbai. The air quality information and advisories for Delhi will be available for west, east, north, south, central parts based on the data from 10 stations. Users can get information on the air quality index based on eight air quality parameters such as particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5), particulate matter 10 (PM10), ozone or O3, oxides of nitrogen or NOx, Carbon monoxide (CO), Benzene, toluene and xylene (BTX). Data from at least two

monitoring stations is used to provide information for each region. Information and advisories for Pune will be applicable to Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad's urban and suburban areas.

Meanwhile, Naik said that the ministry is currently undertaking a study on weather phenomena like hail storms and landslides, following a spate of such weather events in the recent past. "The study may lead to the development of forecasting models to predict these events much in advance," he added.



The app is operational for Delhi and Pune region and will soon be made available for Mumbai. Users can get information on the air quality index based on eight parameters

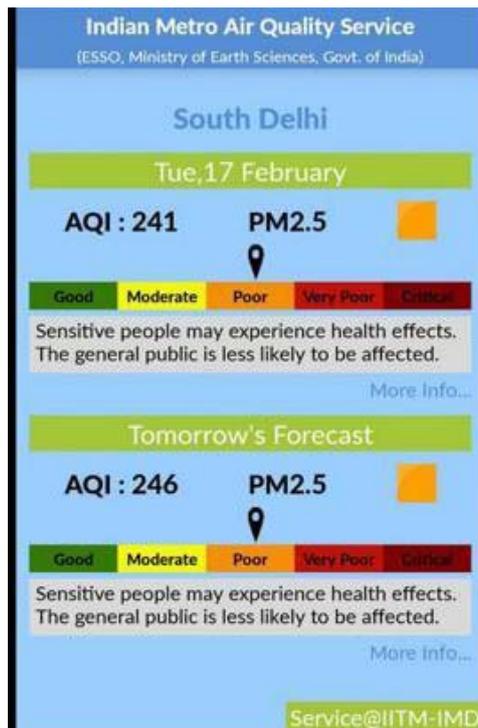
HOME » POLITICS

FIRST PUBLISHED: TUE, FEB 17 2015, 05 22 PM IST

Govt launches mobile app to check your city's air quality

Citizens in Delhi and Pune can now check air quality in real time and get forecasts for the next day through a mobile app

Nikita Mehta ✉



SAFAR-Air, a mobile app was launched by the ministry of earth sciences in Pune on Tuesday.

New Delhi: Citizens of Delhi, the city with the world's most toxic air, and Pune can now check for air quality in real time and get forecasts for the next day through a mobile app launched by the ministry of earth sciences in Pune on Tuesday. The service, likely to be available in Mumbai by April, will be run by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), which has air quality monitoring systems in Delhi and Pune. The mobile app, SAFAR-Air, will provide current data and a forecast for air quality in the user's current location through a colour-coded system—green is good, yellow is moderately polluted, orange is poor, red is very poor and maroon is critical. For instance, in East Delhi, air quality on Tuesday showed particulate matter of 350 mg per m³, for which the health advisory on the app says it is advisable to wear pollution masks and avoid outdoor activity. Users can also share the information from the app on Twitter, Facebook, and by email. The air quality information and advisories for Delhi will be available for five regions—west, east, north, south and central—based on data from 10 monitoring stations, for eight parameters. The forecasting model is run on a supercomputer in IITM called Aditya. Data from at least two

monitoring stations is used for providing information for each region. “The process is on to start this app for Mumbai by April or May, and by 2017 we hope to extend our forecasting services to Chennai and Kolkata,” said Gufran Beig, project director of SAFAR. “The colour coding and the advisories are designed to make information understandable for the general public.” Particulate matter (PM), which can include sulfates, nitrates, ammonia, sodium chloride, black carbon, mineral dust and water, are considered the most dangerous air pollutants. These can settle deep inside the lungs, making people vulnerable to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, as well as lung cancer. Equally, ozone in the air is a major factor in asthma morbidity and mortality, while nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide also can play a role in the onset of asthma, bronchial symptoms, lung inflammation and reduced lung function. In 2014, a World Health Organization (WHO) study in May and a Yale University study in February found the air in New Delhi to be the world’s most polluted. According to SAFAR, this year, the average annual air pollution between November and January was the highest since 2010, when the ministry started monitoring air pollution in Delhi. On an annual average over the five years, PM 2.5 pollution was around 100, while this year it was 114, as compared to 101 in 2013 and 98 in 2012. “There were two reasons for this: This winter, the number of days with the lowest recorded temperatures were more than any of these years, and the emissions from the transport sector have also consistently increased in the last five years,” Beig added. He said that when temperatures are very low, the boundary layer of the atmosphere becomes lower and particulate matter mixes with fog or water droplets which lead to the multiplying of aerosols, which are pollutants.

http://www.livemint.com/Politics/BLUh6k8ei87cdHbPFXsFOM/Govt-launches-mobile-app-to-check-your-citys-air-quality.html?utm_source=copy



Delhi, Pune get mobile app to check air pollution

Pune | Tuesday, 2015 10:36:04 PM IST

India's earth sciences ministry Tuesday launched the country's first air quality mobile application to provide the forecast for air quality and corresponding health advisories in real time. The service is presently for Delhi and Pune.

Available on Android at present, SAFAR-AIR will provide current and one to three day forecast based on a colour-coded system indicating air quality, where red would mean "very poor".

Developed by scientists at the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology that had earlier designed country's first air quality forecasting scheme - system for air quality forecasting and research (SAFAR) - this mobile app can be downloaded free of charge at <http://safar.tropmet.res.in>. It is also available on Google Play Store and on the ministry's website.

The users in Delhi and Pune, the first two cities to get the service, would now be able to plan their personal outdoor activities based on the advisories on the app.

SAFAR-Mumbai will be launched in April 2015.

Releasing the app, Earth Sciences Secretary Shailesh Nayak said SAFAR-AIR was an effort by the government to generate consciousness among people and orient them towards a sustainable lifestyle low on carbon emissions.

He said the initiative was also expected to help policy makers adopt city-level practical measures for clean air, especially in Delhi.

Delhi would have air quality information and advisories available for five locations - west, east, north, south, and central while it would be four - in Pune.

--Indo-Asian News Service tj/vd (249 Words)

2015-02-17-22:12:28 (IANS)

<http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/Business/20150217/2539213.html>

Home \ Pune \ Civic

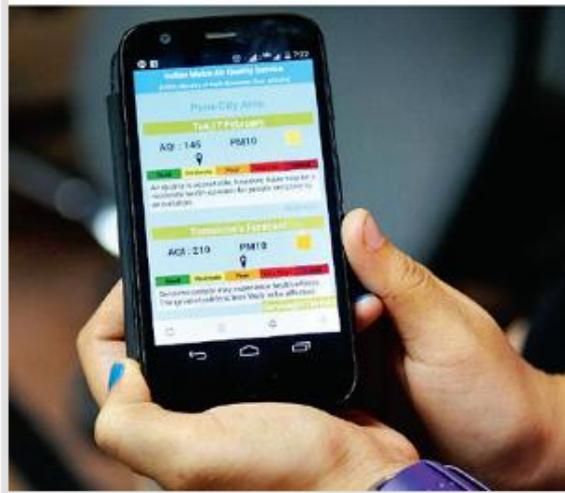
Swipe phone to know air quality in your area

By Mayuri Phadnis, Pune Mirror | Feb 18, 2015, 02:30 AM IST



IITM launches first-of-its-kind app called SAFAR-Air that concentrates on aspects like UV radiation, air pollution forecast for the next day and gives health advice.

Know the air quality in your area at the touch of a screen with the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology's (IITM) app on System of Air Quality Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) that monitors the air quality in the city.



Available on Google Play Store as SAFAR-Air, the app was launched on Tuesday by Dr Shailesh Nayak, secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences, under which the institute is governed the IITM campus in Pashan. Besides the app, they have also launched a toll-free interactive voice response system.

"It is the first-of-its-kind app in the country and also provides a forecast of air quality for the next day. The app also gives health advices that help the public make adjustments to their outdoor

The app was launched in Pashan on Tuesday

plans," said Dr Gufran Beig, programme director of SAFAR, whose team made the app.

Under the programme, IITM has put up LED screens that display readings across the city at locations like Alka Chowk, Shivaji Nagar Chowk, Hadapsar, Pimpri Chinchwad, etc. Besides the air quality, their instruments also monitor the level of ultraviolet (UV) radiation. The air quality is divided into categories like good, moderate, poor, very poor and critical, depending on the amount of particulate matter (suspended solid particles) in the air.

Launched in Pune and Delhi, the app will be made available to Mumbaikars by May. In Pune, the information is divided into four sub-regions -- Pune, Pune Suburbs, Pimpri Chinchwad and suburbs. There are plans to make it hyperlocal as well.

"We have kept it simple and plan to include location-specific data later," added Beig.

"The application is an effort by the ministry to build consciousness among the citizens to adapt to a sustainable lifestyle as the transport sector is the biggest contributor through the burning of fossil fuel," said Nayak.

Delighted with the app, Eshan Sarpotdar, a professional working in a private firm, said, "I have used similar apps on weather but this app is quite useful in the city. Even the user interface is quite user friendly and allows for quick and easy navigation. However, there is scope for improvement by adding more features which can keep the users engaged."

Seconding her opinion, Vivek Purohit, a professional and an entrepreneur, said, "Such an app is a must. Such data readily available is a boon for those suffering from cough and cold. However, they should also add data about noise pollution. Also, it would be good if they can make it more area-centric."

<http://www.punemirror.in/pune/civic/Swipe-phone-to-know-air-quality-in-your-area/articleshow/46278820.cms>

[NATIONAL](#) » [OTHER STATES](#)

PUNE, February 18, 2015

Updated: February 18, 2015 00:25 IST

New app to check air quality

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

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TOPICS

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In a bid to enhance awareness of the hazards of air pollution, India's first 'air quality' Mobile App, SAFAR-Air, was launched on Tuesday at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune.

The application, developed by scientists at IITM, will enable citizens to check their city's air quality in real time. The forecasting system, jointly run by the IITM and the India Meteorology Department is now available in Delhi and will come to Mumbai by May this year.

Launching the app, Shailesh Nayak, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), said it would greatly aid the policy maker to adopt practical city-level measures to address air pollution.

Gufran Baig, Project Director, SAFAR, said this was the first mobile application service in India to provide a current and advanced forecast for air quality.

Keywords: [SAFAR-Air](#), [air quality mobile app](#), [Maharashtra government](#)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/govt-launches-app-to-check-air-quality/article6905942.ece>

A new app that forecasts air pollution in Delhi, Pune

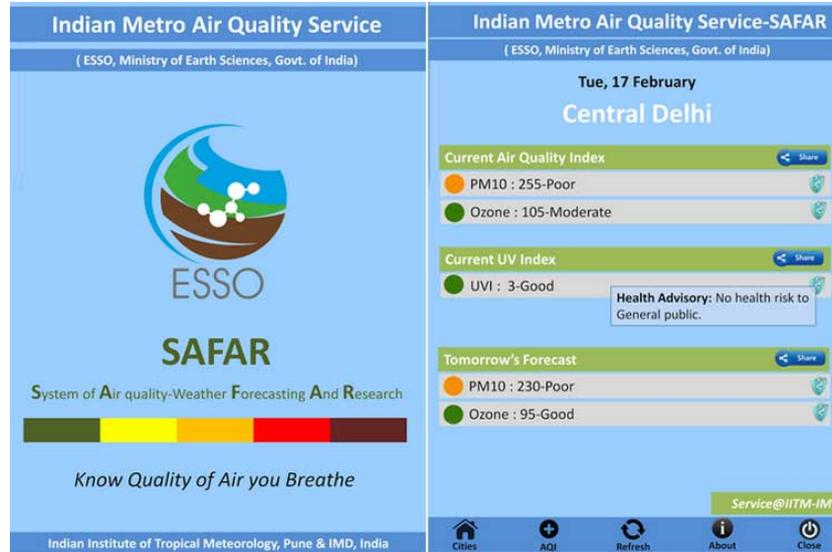
Pune: India's earth sciences ministry has launched the country's first air quality mobile application to provide the forecast for air quality and corresponding health advisories in real time. The service is presently for Delhi and Pune.

Available on Android at present, SAFAR-AIR will provide current and one to three day forecast based on a colour-coded system indicating air quality, where red would mean "very poor".

Developed by scientists at the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology that had earlier designed country's first air quality forecasting scheme - system for air quality forecasting and research (SAFAR) - this mobile app can be downloaded free from its [official site](#). It is also available on Google Play Store and on the ministry's website.



You can use this Android app to check air pollution levels in Delhi and Pune



By IANS on Feb 18, 2015 at 12:31 PM



India's Earth Sciences Ministry has launched the country's first air quality mobile application to provide the forecast for air quality and corresponding health advisories in real time. The service is presently for Delhi and Pune.

[Available on Android at present](#), SAFAR-AIR will provide current and one to three day forecast based on a color-coded system indicating air quality, where red would mean "very poor."

The app is developed by scientists at the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology that had earlier designed country's first air quality forecasting scheme - system for air quality forecasting and research (SAFAR). The users in Delhi and Pune, the first two cities to get the service, would now be able to plan their personal outdoor activities based on the advisories on the app.

SAFAR-Mumbai will be launched in April 2015.

Releasing the app, Earth Sciences Secretary Shailesh Nayak said SAFAR-AIR was an effort by the government to generate consciousness among people and orient them towards a sustainable lifestyle low on carbon emissions.

He said the initiative was also expected to help policy makers adopt city-level practical measures for clean air, especially in Delhi. Delhi would have air quality information and advisories available for five locations – west, east, north, south, and central while it would be four – in Pune.

<http://www.bgr.in/news/you-can-use-this-android-app-to-check-air-pollution-levels-in-delhi-and-pune/>

Now there is an app to measure Delhi's deadly air—in real time

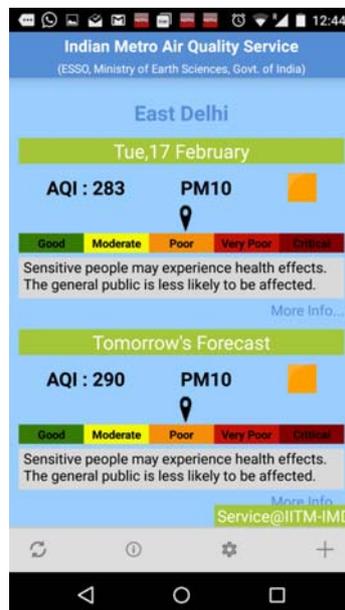
By Shelly Walia & Saptarishi Dutta | 5 hours ago



Residents of the world's most polluted city—New Delhi, in case you were still wondering—can now find out exactly how toxic the air in their neighbourhood is.

The new mobile app, called SAFAR Air—jointly developed by Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) and the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)—has just gone live on the Google Play Store. (An iOS app is on its way).

True to its name (*safar* means to travel in Hindi), the app allows users to access on-the-go, real-time information about the pollution levels within their cities. It's currently available in Delhi and Pune, and will be available to users in Mumbai by April, followed by Ahmedabad, Chennai and Kolkata.



In addition to real-time updates, the app also provides forecast.

From web to app

Back in 2010, SAFAR started as a web-based portal for real-time information on Delhi's pollution levels during the Commonwealth Games. Three years on, the two institutes started tracking Pune's air on their website.

A three-member team at IITM had been working on the app for the last six months. "We need to establish systems perfectly before launching the app...we need to be sure," Gufran Beig, director and chief scientist of the SAFAR project, told Quartz. "An app is a big responsibility."

"People are clueless about the air they are breathing. If there is fog, they think it might be pollution," he said. "People will have this information on their fingertips now."

How it works

SAFAR has 10 monitoring stations each in Delhi and Pune that gather data on air quality every five minutes.

That information is then processed in a control room, following which it is colour-coded and presented on the app.



SAFAR's control room (Ministry of Earth Sciences)

The app indicates the city's air quality status on a scale of good to critical. If the air quality is poor, a health advisory will be flashed. The app also gives users information on UV index.

While the government figures out a way to bring pollution under control, this app could help people buy time.

<http://qz.com/345283/now-there-is-an-app-to-measure-delhis-deadly-air-in-real-time/>

Now, mobile app to forecast air quality

Secretary of Ministry of Earth Sciences Shailesh Nayak inaugurated the country's first air quality mobile app, **Safar-Air**, at Pune's Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology on Tuesday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, FEBRUARY 17

WITH air quality levels now on one's mobile, policy makers would have to sit up and take cognizance of the impure air and rising pollution levels, observed Secretary of Ministry of Earth Sciences Shailesh Nayak after inaugurating the country's first air quality mobile app **Safar-Air** at Pune's Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology. The first mobile application service in India to provide current

and one to three day advance forecast for air quality and related health advisories in terms of a colour-coded system was launched in the city on Tuesday.

Developed by IITM scientists, the app can be downloaded free of charge from the ministry's (MoES) website, **Safar**, <http://safar.tropmet.res.in>, and also from Google Play Store. Nayak complimented the scientists of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, who have developed this unique application. SAFAR air quality forecasting

system is being run jointly by IITM and India Meteorology Department currently in Delhi and Pune and will be made operational in Mumbai by May 2015. "This will greatly help policy makers adopt some city-level practical measures from time to time to ensure clean air, specially in Delhi," said Nayak.

He also launched the Toll free IVRS system (1800-180-1717) for air quality and weather related information which is more user-friendly and available in Hindi, English and regional language.

Nayak emphasised on its application part which asks everyone to think about sustainable methodologies and on how to respond to hazards to avoid air pollution and health implications.

This is an effort from the ministry to build-up the consciousness of the community to adapt to a sustainable lifestyle. The maximum contributor to these pollutants are fossil fuels used in the transport sector.

During the launch ceremony, **SAFAR** project director Gufran Beig presented a

brief lecture on 'Indian Metro Air Quality Forecasting services'. He mentioned that this was the first mobile application service in India to provide current and one day advance forecast for air quality and related health advisories in terms of colour-coded system, thus allowing the public to easily comprehend the condition of air and to make any adjustments in their personal outdoor plans based on the advisory provided in their handsets.

The AQ information and advisories for Delhi will be

available for five specific regions namely for west, east, north, south, central Delhi based on the 10 monitoring stations' data for eight parameters namely PM2.5, PM10, O3, NOx, CO, BTX and forecasting model running on India's fastest supercomputer 'Aditya' at IITM.

The data of at least two monitoring stations is used for providing information for each region. The AQ information and advisories for Pune will be for Pune — urban, suburban, PCMC — urban and suburban.

<http://epaper.indianexpress.com/441628/Indian-Express-Pune/18-February-2015#page/23/2/SAFAR>

In a first, city to get app that provides update on 'good' to 'critical' air quality

Indian Express, Mumbai, 16 Feb 2015-02-18

Written by Anjali Lukose | Mumbai | Posted: February 16, 2015 3:22 am

It will soon be possible to plan one's travel route and know the quality of air in the city before stepping out of the home, with just a tap on one's cell phone. In a first, a mobile app has been developed to provide current air quality as well as one to three-day forecast for air quality and related health advisories.

The app, developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, and the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), providing air quality information for Delhi and Pune will be launched on Tuesday. Mumbaikars can avail the "System of Air Quality Forecasting and Research (SAFAR)-Air" app by April. On a scale of 'good' to 'critical', the app will indicate the city's air quality status.

If the air quality is 'very poor', an advisory stating 'people with heart or lung disease, older adults, and adults should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion' will follow.

For Mumbai, information will be collated from the air quality monitoring stations and numerous automatic weather stations that are being set up in the city under the SAFAR project.

“The advantage of the system product is that it will give complicated scientific information in simple terms and also provide air quality index. The display boards in the city will also provide UV index, skin advisory and dynamic city pollution maps,” says Dr Gufran Beig, programme director of SAFAR.

For instance, harmful gases are discharged from vehicles, industries, slums and get stagnated in a humid region like Mumbai. Our app would help people identify the most polluted and less polluted areas in Mumbai and take precautionary measures to protect themselves from harmful health effects,” Beig added.

Two air quality monitoring stations are currently being installed in Colaba and Bhandup, as well as 10 automatic weather stations in Borivali, Malad-Malvani, Bhandup, Warsova, Andheri, Sakinaka, Kurla, Dharavi, Mahim, Worli, Byculla, Colaba, Chembur, Mahul and Mankhurd. “We have chosen locations such that we could cover various micro environments such as residential, commercial, industrial, slums in the city and around 15 display boards across the city will showcase the same information,” said Beig. The digital display boards at traffic junctions in Mumbai will be in Marathi and English, and the integrated voice response service for air quality-related information, which is currently operational for Delhi and Pune (toll free number 18001801717), will also be available for Mumbai, once the monitoring stations are operational.

anjali.lukose@expressindia.com

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/in-a-first-city-to-get-app-that-provides-update-on-good-to-critical-air-quality/>

Delhi, Pune get mobile app to check air pollution

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IANS, Pune | Updated: Feb 18, 2015 03:28 IST

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Other Links of Media coverage for the Events:

- i) <http://www.vishwagujarat.com/technology/delhi-pune-get-mobile-app-to-check-air-pollution/>
- ii) <http://www.livehindustan.com/news/desh/today-news/article1-mobile-app-Delhi-pollution-Mumbai-Pune-39-329-471402.html>
- iii) AhmedabadMirror, Pune, 19 Feb. 2015
<http://www.ahmedabadmirror.com/news/india/Swipe-phone-to-know-air-quality-in-your-area/articleshow/46292336.cms>
- iv) **Delhi & Pune residents can now check air quality level in SAFAR Air Android app**
AndroidOS.in
<http://www.androidos.in/2015/02/delhi-pune-residents-can-now-check-air-quality-level-safar-air-android-app/>
- v) **Delhi & Pune residents can now check air quality level in SAFAR Air Android app**
AndroidOS.in
<http://www.androidos.in/2015/02/delhi-pune-residents-can-now-check-air-quality-level-safar-air-android-app/>
- vi) **SAFAR-Air - India Broadband Forum**
<http://broadbandforum.co/threads/safar-air.93398/>
- vii) **Delhi & Pune residents can now check air quality level in SAFAR Air Android app**
Allwebsolutions.net
<http://www.allwebsolutions.net/science-technology/mobile-wireless/delhi-pune-residents-can-now-check-air-quality-level-in-safar-air-android-app/>
- viii) **App to check air quality in Delhi, Pune launched**
Danilnews
<http://danilnews.com/news/app-to-check-air-quality-in-delhi-pune-launched>