

INTRODUCTION

Delhi's rapid urbanization is one of the key drivers of economic prosperity in the National Capital Region. But with unprecedented growth comes formidable environmental related challenges – including air pollution, which is causing severe public health challenge. Air pollution in India is estimated to kill 1.5 million people every year; it is the fifth largest killer in India. Currently India has the world's highest death rate from chronic respiratory diseases and asthma, according to the WHO. As reported in Delhi, poor quality air damages irreversibly the lungs of 2.2 million or 50 percent of all children .

Indeed, the Delhi government has announced a number of measures to ostensibly contain air pollution, which include shutting down power plants in Delhi, penalising leaf and garbage burning, and allowing either odd or even numbered cars on particular days in the city. The Judiciary too has ordered for restoration of footpaths and penalizing of air pollution from fossil fuels and construction related dust. However, statistics of children and adults with weak lung capacities, asthma, cancer and other respiratory diseases continues to rise thus creating a dire need for more definite action on ground which needs to extend beyond awareness campaigns alone.

Delhi Clean Air Forum:- Connecting Neighbourhoods and Building Knowledge

To begin with, URJA will be launching, a citizens air pollution drive across Delhi targeting different geographic regions of Delhi NCR. During this project, URJA will organize four zonal levels multiple stakeholder based meetings.

The objective is to discuss various local issues leading to air pollution and to map the various innovative solutions available at the neighborhood/community level and strategies for implementing them. This would create the necessary momentum required for accelerating the ongoing transition towards a cleaner, safer and sustainable Delhi.

During this discourse, URJA will also conduct two important Village Level Consultation to discuss and record the various problems and solutions available at the village level. URJA aspires to achieve the following action plan as an outcome from these meetings:

- Methods to stop burning of garden waste, plastics paper and other combustibles- Role of Municipality
- Emission from restaurant and hotel chimneys, Industries and cremation grounds- Role of DPCC
- Control of roadside dust
- Prevention of toxic dust from construction waste, cement and aggregates
- Control of vehicular pollution

Demographic Distribution

Delhi is one of the fastest-growing metropolises in Asia. Delhi's population was 4.05 lakhs (0.4 million) at the beginning of 20th century, which is currently as per the 2011 census over 16 million. Of this, 2.5 per cent is rural and 97.5 percent Urban.

REGION	POPULATION (%)
North West	21.8
North	5.3
North East	13.4
East	10.2
West	15.1
South West	13.7
South	16.3



Some of the primary issues the session will highlight:

- Energy Conservation and Efficiency
- Methods to stop burning of garden waste, plastics paper and other combustibles- Role of Municipality
- Emission from restaurant and hotel chimneys, Industries and cremation grounds- Role of DPCC
- Control of roadside dust
- Prevention of toxic dust from construction waste, cement and aggregates
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Date	Municipal Zone	Type of Constituency Urban/Rural
2nd May 2016	Central & West (C&W)	Urban
13th May 2016	North (N)	Urban
22nd May 2016	Village Cell Meeting	Rural
3rd June 2016	East (E)	Urban
12th June 2016	Village Cell Meeting	Rural
15th June 2016	South (S)	Urban

About URJA:

URJA, the apex body of RWA in Delhi, was set up in 2005 and gathers, analyzes, disseminates information & aggregates public opinion to demand efficient delivery of civic amenities, health services, security, clean air and water to residents of Delhi through an accountable, efficient and responsive Government. We connect and network with 2500 RWA apart from several significant NGOs

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