

IQAir's 2021 World Air Quality Report

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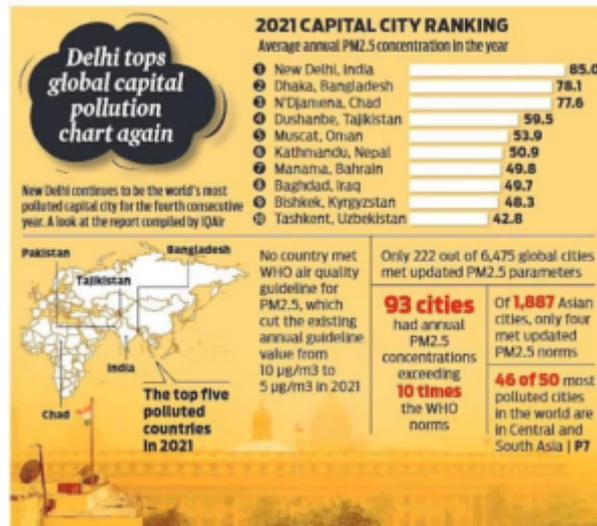
In news— The World Air Quality Report 2021, prepared by Swiss organization IQAir has been released recently.

The IQAir's report & key findings-

- **The report is based on PM2.5 air quality data from 6,475 cities in 117 countries, regions, and territories around the world.**
- As per the report, **air pollution continued to spike to unhealthy levels in 2021.**
- The report also revealed that **not a single country managed to meet the WHO's air quality standard in 2021**, and smog even rebounded in some regions after a Covid-related dip in numbers.
- WHO's guidelines of September 2021 warrant good air quality with PM2.5 concentration level between 0-5 g/m³ (the last update released in 2006).
- **New Delhi continues to be the world's most polluted capital city for the fourth consecutive year.**
- Dhaka (Bangladesh) ranked second, followed by N'Djamena in Chad, Dushanbe in Tajikistan and Muscat in Oman.
- All six metro cities except Chennai saw a rise in air pollution levels in 2021.
- In India, major sources of air pollution include vehicular emissions, power generation, industrial waste, biomass combustion for cooking, the construction sector, and episodic events like crop burning.
- The index noted that air quality in China continued to improve in 2021.
- Countries and regions in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia suffered from the highest annual average PM2.5 concentration weighted by population.
- **Top five most polluted countries are Bangladesh, Chad,**

Pakistan, Tajikistan and India.

- As per the report, air pollution is now considered to be the world's largest environmental health threat, accounting for seven million deaths around the world every year.



About IQAir-

- It is a **Swiss air quality technology company**, specializing in protection against airborne pollutants, developing air quality monitoring and air cleaning product
- It also operates AirVisual, a real-time air quality information platform.
- IQAir was founded 1963 by brothers Manfred and Klaus Hammes, who introduced an air filter system for residential coal ovens in Germany to help reduce black dust build-up on the walls behind ovens.