



News

TOI Games

Live Videos

TOI Flashreads

World

'Severe' AQI Threat: Schoolchildren Move Delhi HC Seeking Ban On Outdoor Sports In Peak Pollution Season

CITY

| Abhinav Garg | Nov 18, 2025, 09:07 IST

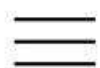
TOI
Games

Schoolchildren have petitioned the Delhi High Court to halt outdo... [Read More](#)



Share

Preferred on



Schoolchildren have petitioned the Delhi High Court to halt outdoor sports trials and tournaments from November to January due to severe air pollution. The plea argues that holding strenuous sports events during these peak pollution months poses serious health risks to minors, violating their fundamental rights. The court is expected to hear the case this week.

Read Less



Share

Preferred on 

NEW DELHI: In the wake of Delhi's worsening air quality during winter, a group of schoolchildren moved the [Delhi High Court](#) on Monday, seeking a halt to all outdoor sports trials and tournaments scheduled between Nov and Jan, when pollution levels routinely reach 'severe' and 'hazardous' levels.



Games



Tired of too many ads?

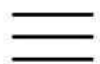
[Go Ad Free Now](#)

The plea requests that the court direct the directorate of education and the association of schools to avoid scheduling sports events during the peak pollution months and instead hold them later, when the air quality is safer.

The minors, filing the petition through their parents, contended that while they actively participate in state-level sports tournaments, camps and trials in Delhi and elsewhere, the poor air quality during these events poses a serious health risk.

Advertisement





You Can Also Check: [Delhi AQI](#) | [Bank Holidays in Delhi](#) | [Gold Rate Today in Delhi](#) | [Silver Rate Today in Delhi](#)

The petition argues that Delhi faces an annual public health emergency during these months, and that holding school, inter-zonal, state and national sporting events in this period endangers children's health.

It emphasises that forcing minors to undertake strenuous physical activity in severely polluted conditions violates their fundamental rights under Articles 21 and 21A of the Constitution. The plea cites frequent instances when the Air Quality Index (AQI) remains in the 'severe' category, causing risks such as impaired lung development, cognitive impairment and cardiovascular strain.

The case is likely to be taken up for hearing this week.