Pollution in Cyberabad affects the cost of living

Amid growing concerns over deteriorating air quality in India's major cities, recently the government launched the National Air Quality Index (AQI) that will put out real time data about the level of pollutants in the air and inform people about the possible impacts on health.

The new index covered 10 cities — Delhi, Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Faridabad, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad — each of which would have monitoring stations with AQI display boards with colour –coded with six levels – Dark green, the first level indicates good air quality, while maroon at the other end indicates severe pollution.

The aim was to eventually deploy the index in all cities with a population of over one million and identifies associated health impacts. In a study conducted by World Health Organization found that poor air quality reduces the lifespan of the average citizen by 3.2 years.

According to AQI data, Cyberabad is one of the worst air qualities, PM2.5 with high of 38 and PM10 level is 87 is also high in Cyberabad with the scale of maroon. PM 2.5 levels are commonly used as the best indicator of severe air pollution, while PM 10 particles are also a cause of public health concern, but less lethal. But when the scale touches maroon, the advisory reads: "May cause respiratory impact even on healthy people, and serious health impacts on people with lung/heart disease. The health impacts may be experienced even during light physical activity."

The latest data of Air Pollution in Cyberabad reveals that, the city is highest with 76.92 levels and drinking water pollution and inaccessibility with 58.90 – Moderate level, dissatisfaction with garbage disposal as 75.88 high levels, dirty and untidy with 69.07 high levels. Noise and light pollution with 52.68 moderate levels, water pollution with 65.79 high levels, dissatisfaction to spend time in the city with 70.56 high levels and dissatisfaction with Green parks in the city 53.88 moderate levels.