

**Analysis of  
All Party Manifestos for Delhi Assembly Elections 2020  
on  
Air Pollution Action in Delhi**

**Executive Summary and Context**

The air pollution challenge faced by citizens of Delhi has notably and suitably become the top priority for all 3 contesting parties – AAP, BJP and INC – which is reflected in their manifestos.

United Residents for Joint Action (URJA) which is the apex body of over 2500 RWAs in Delhi had put out a People's Green Manifesto 2020 on December 23, 2019 with demands to inform the political parties about how Delhi citizens want them to address air pollution by 2025.

This analysis compares manifestos of each party with People's Green Manifesto to present demands which have been included aka PROMISED and the ones which have not been addressed aka MISSED ahead of the elections on February 8, 2020.

From the analysis, **Indian National Congress (INC) manifesto comes out on the top** with most concrete, comprehensive and reliable promises including most of the demands from People's Green Manifesto 2020.

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URJA  
CarbonCopy  
February 4, 2020.

**CITIZEN DEMANDS ADDRESSED IN MANIFESTOS**

S.No.	Demand for Action on Air Pollution	Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)	Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP)	Indian National Congress (INC)
1.	Targets for renewable electricity, esp. solar	NO	NO	NO
2.	Shutdown of polluting power generation plants	NO	NO	NO
3.	Increase in bus service and metro expansion	YES	YES	YES
4.	Bus route adjustment and last mile connectivity	NO	YES	YES
5.	Reduction in private vehicles for de-congestion	NO	NO	YES
6.	Road design audit for de-congestion	NO	NO	YES
7.	Space for cycling tracks & footpaths	NO	YES	YES
8.	Specific target for share of electric vehicles	YES	NO	YES
9.	Focus on reducing petrol/diesel vehicles	YES	YES	YES
10.	Inclusion of all vehicle pollutants in PUC test	NO	NO	YES
11.	Efforts to reduce waste at risk of burning	YES	YES	YES
12.	Landfills management to reduce pollution	NO	YES	NO
13.	Alternatives to biomass burning for cooking	NO	YES	NO
14.	Target to increase green cover	NO	NO	YES
15.	Legislation to protect trees from felling	NO	NO	YES
16.	Conservation of Delhi's forests	NO	YES	YES
17.	Paving road-sides & planting open areas to control dust	NO	YES	YES
18.	Strict norms enforcement for construction & demolition to control dust	NO	NO	NO
19.	Sensors to track & report dust levels	NO	NO	YES
20.	Pedestrian & Walkway Authority to ensure pedestrian-friendly footpaths & road crossings	NO	NO	NO
21.	Inter-state coordination mechanism at Chief Secretary level to address pollution exchange	NO	NO	YES
22.	Emissions compliance of thermal power plants	NO	NO	NO
23.	Fuel switching in industries & small businesses	NO	NO	NO
24.	Preventing air pollution from reaching severe levels from 2020-25	NO	NO	NO
25.	Healthcare for exposed sections of public	NO	YES	NO
	<b>TOTAL DEMANDS ADDRESSED</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>

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CITIZEN DEMANDS	AAM AADMI PARTY (AAP)	BHARTIYA JANTA PARTY (BJP)	INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (INC)
<p><b>Pathway to 100% Clean &amp; 24x7 Electricity for All</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24x7 Electricity for All</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar energy promotion without targets and mention of storage systems</li> <li>• Pursuit of electricity self-sufficiency without clarity on energy source</li> <li>• Promise of reliable &amp; smart electricity grid (will impact use of diesel generators)</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash rebate to households conserving electricity and assured connection to each building</li> <li>• Rooftop solar promotion without targets</li> <li>• Relocation of waste-to-energy plants which will not help reduce their pollution</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No reference to promote solar or clean energy in Delhi despite their Solar Policy missing its targets</li> <li>• No reference to polluting waste-to-energy plants &amp; DG sets</li> <li>• No legislation for all electricity to be from pollution-free sources</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big consumers &amp; government offices left out from mandatory solar electricity generation</li> <li>• No reference to polluting waste-to-energy plants &amp; DG sets</li> <li>• No legislation for all electricity to be from pollution-free sources</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big consumers &amp; government offices left out from mandatory solar electricity generation</li> <li>• No reference to diesel generator sets</li> <li>• No legislation for all electricity to be from pollution-free sources</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Transport for 80% Population</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest and most affordable public transport system</li> <li>• More than 11,000 buses and over 500 km of metro line</li> <li>• Free bus service for female passengers and students</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in buses by 10,000 units, expedited completion of metro lines and new metro/train services in Delhi &amp; NCR</li> <li>• Review of bus routes and increase in all feeder services including e-rickshaws/ auto-rickshaws for connectivity</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public transport will be developed to seamlessly carry 80% of the population</li> <li>• Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority for coordinated planning all modes of transport</li> <li>• Review of bus routes &amp; numbers for easy access to commuters, procuring 15000 buses</li> <li>• Every residential/commercial area to be within walking distance of public transport or on-call e-rickshaws for first/last mile connectivity</li> <li>• Footpaths, lifts, escalators and inter-mode connectivity to public transport</li> <li>• Commuter-government committee to review the quality and utility of public transport and first/last mile connectivity</li> </ul>

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	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority to streamline all modes of transport which was promised in 2015 also</li> <li>Reform in fares and fuel pricing for public transport trips to be cheaper than private vehicles per km</li> <li>Assurance to avoid losses in operating costs of public transport utilities</li> <li>GPS and automated ticketing system in buses to plug revenue leakage</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority to streamline all modes of transport</li> <li>Reform in fares and fuel pricing for public transport trips to be cheaper than private vehicles per km</li> <li>Assurance to avoid losses in operating costs of public transport utilities</li> <li>GPS and automated ticketing system in buses to plug revenue leakage</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reform in fares and fuel pricing for public transport trips to be cheaper than private vehicles per km</li> <li>Assurance to manage subsidies avoiding losses in operating costs of public transport utilities</li> <li>GPS and automated ticketing system in buses to plug revenue leakage</li> </ul>
<p><b>Decongest Delhi - Make the City Move Again</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No promise made</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicated cycle ways that will help 35% cycle-owner population of Delhi</li> <li>Multi-storey parking spaces which is not clarified if it is for public transport or private vehicles. EPCA recommends to reduce private vehicles than increase parking space for them</li> <li>New scheme to build flyovers for de-congestion when Delhi ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the world on congestion index with over 70 existing flyovers</li> <li>Safety of citizens in public areas, public transport and dark areas that will help to reduce private vehicle use</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air-conditioned buses to shift public from private vehicles</li> <li>Cycling tracks designed as per global standards where feasible</li> <li>Adjustment to road design to incentivise public and non-motorised transport over private vehicles and reduce congestion</li> <li>Strengthening of current parking policy and immediate implementation with transparency</li> <li>Roadmap to achieve negative growth rate in private 4-wheeler vehicle ownership by 2025</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No roadmap to reduce private vehicle ownership despite their 2015 promise for the same not being fulfilled</li> <li>No promise to perform annual road design &amp; congestion audits</li> <li>No reference to promoting cycling</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No roadmap to reduce private vehicle ownership by 2025</li> <li>No reference to implementation/ strengthening of current parking policy</li> <li>No promise to perform annual road design &amp; congestion audits</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No demand missed</li> </ul>

<p><b>Clean &amp; Smart 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vehicles</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delhi's Electric Vehicles Policy launched in December 2019 to achieve 25% share for EVs in new registrations by 2023</li> <li>• System of fee and rebate to facilitate transition from conventional vehicles to electric</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentives to electric vehicles &amp; set-up of charging stations without targets</li> <li>• Efforts to reduce use of petrol &amp; diesel vehicles without clear steps &amp; targets</li> <li>• Increase in CNG stations</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entire 1100 crore ECC fund will be spent to make Delhi the EV city of India through Delhi Electric Vehicles Initiative (DEVI)</li> <li>• 15,000 electric zero pollution buses will replace existing buses in phased manner</li> <li>• 1000 or more charging stations in dispersed locations from DISCOMs, vendors, etc</li> <li>• Financial incentives for EVs to compete with conventional vehicles will help 6/10 buyers willing to switch to EVs as per Deloitte survey</li> <li>• All government vehicle procurement from 2021 being electric will lead the transition</li> <li>• Increase in ambition of Delhi's EV policy to 50% for all new vehicle registrations in 2025 in order to reduce pollution</li> <li>• Incentives &amp; dedicated infrastructure to large fleet owners to procure/convert to EVs</li> <li>• Local centres for batteries will be set up</li> <li>• Overhaul of PUC system to test all vehicles on real-world driving emissions for all key pollutants will curtail pollution</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No increase in target for EVs registrations</li> <li>• No promise to include all pollutants in petrol/diesel vehicles PUC test</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No promise for city-wide battery handling and swapping centres to promote electric vehicles</li> <li>• No promise to include all pollutants in petrol/diesel vehicles PUC test</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No demand missed</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Roadmap for Zero-Waste &amp; Biomass Burning in Delhi</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean and shining Delhi – freedom from garbage and debris dumps</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with RWAs to convert biodegradable waste into compost for parks</li> <li>• Wealth and resource creation from landfills of Gazipur, Bhalswa, Okhla and removal of heaps of garbage without mentioning specific technology or end output which determines reduction or addition to pollution</li> <li>• Piped cooking gas to households will avoid burning of biomass</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State government offices to lead the city by generating Zero Waste by 2025</li> <li>• Incentives &amp; guidelines for large institutions &amp; companies to generate Zero Waste by 2025</li> <li>• Campaign to ensure 100% segregation at household level in 2 years</li> <li>• Bio-methanation plants at vegetable &amp; fruit wholesale markets and large institutions</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No aim for Zero Waste to be sent to landfills or existing landfills management despite NGT's order for all wards to comply with waste management rules by March 2020</li> <li>• No commitment to stop biomass or garbage burning</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No aim for Zero Waste to be left unattended or sent to landfills</li> <li>• No mention of zero tolerance to garbage burning</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No mention of zero tolerance to garbage burning</li> <li>• No mention of existing landfills management</li> </ul>
<p><b>A Green, Dust-free, Walkable City</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 2 crore trees will be planted</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green pedestrian walkways, convenient footpaths and foot-over bridges, though FOBs need to be last option amongst all road crossings</li> <li>• Conservation of all forest lands, ridge areas and increase in green cover with fruit-bearing/medicinal trees</li> <li>• Central government policies implementation, mechanized sweeping and water sprinkling which suppress dust temporarily with heavy consumption of diesel &amp; water without solving the problem</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase green cover to 30% of Delhi's area</li> <li>• Legislation amendment to not allow tree-felling for infrastructure projects</li> <li>• 50 lakh trees planted every year with quarterly reporting on survival rates</li> <li>• Build, conserve and rejuvenate urban forests, sanctuaries, greenbelts and parks</li> <li>• Financial incentives for large campuses and farmers to adopt urban agro-forestry</li> <li>• Wide and paved footpaths on roads without them currently and cycling tracks where feasible</li> <li>• Sensor-based technologies for immediate alert when dust levels go high and daily reporting</li> <li>• Digital map of areas in Delhi's air-shed with harmful dust and management work-plan</li> <li>• Enforcement of rule to keep dug-up spaces covered always and avoid repeated digging</li> </ul>

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	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation amendment for no felling of trees for infrastructure projects despite having granted permission to all tree-felling requests since 2015 till data was available</li> <li>• Promise to develop sanctuaries and wetlands that also reduce intensity of sandstorms</li> <li>• Deployment of sensors for immediate alert on dust incidents and reporting on daily dust levels</li> <li>• Promise to implement Open Duct policy to avoid repeated digging of roads</li> <li>• Pedestrian &amp; Walkway Authority to ensure pedestrian-friendly footpaths and road crossings</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation amendment for no felling of trees for infrastructure projects</li> <li>• Promise to develop sanctuaries and wetlands that also reduce intensity of sandstorms</li> <li>• Incentives for public buildings, markets and shopping complexes to have rooftop green cover with solar</li> <li>• Promise to establish Pedestrian &amp; Walkway Authority to ensure pedestrian-friendly footpaths and road crossings</li> <li>• Deployment of sensors for immediate alert on dust incidents and reporting on daily dust levels</li> <li>• Promise to implement Open Duct policy to avoid repeated digging of roads</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promise to establish Pedestrian &amp; Walkway Authority to ensure pedestrian-friendly footpaths and road crossings</li> </ul>
<p><b>Delhi &amp; Neighbours Tackling Pollution Together</b></p>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No promise made</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No promise made</li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-state coordination mechanism at the level of Chief Secretaries of NCT Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, UP, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand for a Regional Common Minimum Air-shed Program on air pollution action plans enforcement</li> <li>• NCRPB to effect convergence in economic, infrastructure and social development for transport, roads, electricity, industries, land use, forests, etc.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No promise to develop an inter-state coordination mechanism at the level of Chief Secretaries of NCT Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, UP, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand for addressing pollution exchange with these states</li> <li>• No commitment for coordination with thermal power plants in the NCR and shared air-shed states to meet timelines for pollution norms compliance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No promise to develop an inter-state coordination mechanism at the level of Chief Secretaries of NCT Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, UP, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand for a Regional Common Minimum Air-shed Program on air pollution action plans enforcement</li> <li>• No commitment for coordination with thermal power plants in the NCR and shared air-shed states to meet timelines for pollution norms compliance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No demand missed</li> </ul>

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<b>Protect Citizens from Pollution and Risks</b>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Pollution-free Delhi with at least 3 times reduction in air pollution</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Healthcare services from government hospitals for environmental illnesses</i></li> <li>• <i>Environmental health courses in schools and colleges will help build awareness</i></li> <li>• <i>Reliance on large-scale and expensive air purification equipment whose effectiveness is not proven</i></li> <li>• <i>Barriers in schools for air pollution which are untested for effectiveness</i></li> <li>• <i>All street light poles to have pollution monitoring equipment</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>PROMISES MADE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Allocated 25% of Delhi's budget to fight pollution</i></li> <li>• <i>Strengthen Delhi Pollution Control Committee with staff, equipment, training and funds for adhering to global best practices in pollution control and reduction</i></li> <li>• <i>Clear and coordinated instructions to local area administration</i></li> <li>• <i>Follow guidelines of EPCA set up by Supreme Court in reducing pollution</i></li> <li>• <i>Students will be encouraged to volunteer as Environment Ambassadors</i></li> </ul>
	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>No assurance to avoid pollution from reaching severe levels in 2020-25</i></li> <li>• <i>No reference to healthcare budget and services for exposed population</i></li> <li>• <i>No provision of personal protection equipment to workers, traffic police, vendors and the homeless in highly polluted areas</i></li> <li>• <i>No public information system at ward-level for mass advisories and casualty data related to air pollution</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>No specific target for reduction in air pollution to meet national air quality standards by 2025</i></li> <li>• <i>No assurance to avoid pollution from reaching severe levels in 2020-25</i></li> <li>• <i>No provision of personal protection equipment to workers, traffic police, vendors and the homeless in highly polluted areas</i></li> <li>• <i>No public information system at ward-level for mass advisories and casualty data related to air pollution</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMANDS MISSED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>No specific target for reduction in air pollution to meet national air quality standards by 2025</i></li> <li>• <i>No assurance to avoid pollution from reaching severe levels in 2020-25</i></li> </ul>