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No. 217/PA/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM, FEROZEPUR ROAD, LAHORE
Dated: 12.02.2025



**ORDERS U/S 6(1)(t) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997
FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE HONORABLE LAHORE HIGH COURT'S
ORDERS REGARDING STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL
REGULATIONS RELATED TO WATER CONSERVATION IN THE PUNJAB**

ORDER

WHEREAS, the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has highlighted that Punjab province has experienced **42% below normal rainfall** from **1st September 2024 to 15th January 2025**;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, the Honorable Lahore High Court has issued multiple orders to take strict measures to conserve water by restricting its non-essential usage, including car wash / service stations, and ensuring compliance with environmental regulations related to water conservation. During a recent hearing in WP No. 227807/2018 (Haroon Farooq Vs GoP), while stressing the water conservation practice, the honorable Lahore High Court Lahore passed an Order dated 07.02.2025 that ***"...It is directed that the entire process will be overseen by EPA. This will include a concerted effort to inspect petrol pumps regarding operation of recycling plants. In case the petrol pumps are found to be lacking in their obligations in this regard, they shall be sealed with no more than one warning. Thereafter, a fine of Rs. 100,000/- shall be imposed on the defaulting petrol pumps. Simultaneously, wide campaign shall be initiated and this shall be directed to be undertaken by the Chief Secretary, Punjab informing general public regarding water conservation as also that the Government had taken a decision imposing of complete ban on the use of water for washing of cars and use of hose pipes in the houses. Anyone found in violation of these directions will be imposed a fine of Rs.10,000/-.***

3. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1)(r) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 mandates specifying safeguards for the prevention of accidents and disasters which may cause pollution, collaborate with the concerned person in the preparation of contingency plans for control of such accidents and disasters, and co-ordinate implementation of such plans;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1)(t) of The Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 empowers the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab to take all necessary measures for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution, and promotion of sustainable development;


5. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh (PAS), Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under Section 6(1)(t) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 and order issued by Lahore High Court in WP No. 227807/2018 (Haroon Farooq Vs GoPb) dated 07-02-2025 do hereby order the following restrictions and measures for water conservation in the territorial jurisdiction of Punjab:

- i) Immediate closure of all illegal / unapproved Car Wash / Service Stations
- ii) Mandatory installation of carwash wastewater recycling system and U-Channels at all Car wash Stations by **28th February, 2025**. In case the petrol pumps are found to be lacking in their obligations in this regard, fine of **Rs. 100,000/-** shall be imposed on the defaulting petrol pumps, in addition to sealing of car wash area;
- iii) Ban on use of oil washing of vehicles;
- iv) Ban on the use of water for washing of cars and use of hose pipes in the houses. Anyone found in violation of these directions will be imposed a fine of **Rs.10,000/-**;
- v) Ban on flood irrigation of lawns, gardens, golf courses and green belts;
- vi) Ban on use of groundwater in construction activities. Only surface water / recycled water can be used.

6. This order shall come into force with **immediate effect** and shall remain in force until modified or withdrawn.

7. Any violation of this order shall be punishable under **Section 188 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC)**, in addition to fines mentioned above.

Issued under my hand and seal on this **13th day of February, 2025**.

o/c M.  13/2/25
DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH (PAS)
DIRECTOR GENERAL
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
PUNJAB

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to:

- 13/2* i. The Secretary, Environment Protection & Climate Change Department, Punjab.
- ii. The Secretary, HUD&PE Department, Lahore.
- iii. The Secretary, Forest, Wildlife and Fisheries Department, Lahore.

- iv. The Secretary, LG&CD Department, Lahore.
- v. The Secretary, Tourism, Archeology & Museums Department, Lahore.
- vi. The Provincial Police Officer/IGP, Punjab, Lahore.
- vii. All the Commissioners, Punjab
- viii. The Director General, Walled City of Lahore Authority, Lahore.
- ix. The Director General, Public Relation, Lahore with request to ensure wide publicity.
- x. All the Deputy Commissioners, Punjab
- xi. The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- xii. The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore.
- xiii. The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.
- xiv. The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore.
- xv. The Additional Director Generals (Ops & Imp.), EPA, Lahore.
- xvi. PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D Board, Punjab.
- xvii. **All the Deputy/Assistant Directors (Field), EPA Punjab for necessary action.**
- xviii. The In-charge, Smog War Room, EPA, Lahore.
- xix. Incharge, Social Media Cell of EPA Punjab.
- xx. PA to Director General EPA Punjab.

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