



To,

All the Commissioners, Government of the Punjab

**Subject: PROHIBITION ON CHARGING FOR PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS EXCEPT FOR REUSABLE OR RECYCLABLE NON-PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS**

This is with reference to this office Order No. 508/PA/DG/EPA/2026 dated 05.07.2026 ([Annex](#)), whereby it has been directed that, with effect from 06.09.2026, no shop, retail center, restaurant, hotel or other commercial establishment shall charge any fee or price for providing plastic shopping bags to customers. However, commercial establishments may charge only for reusable or recyclable shopping bags made from eco-friendly materials other than plastics.

2. The aforesaid directions have been issued to discourage the continued use of plastic shopping bags, promote the adoption of environmentally sustainable alternatives, and ensure effective implementation of the Plastic Management Strategy, Punjab and the Punjab Environmental Protection (Production and Consumption of Single-Use Plastic Products) Regulations, 2023. Effective implementation of the Order requires coordinated support at the divisional and district levels.

3. You are, therefore, requested to issue necessary directions to all Deputy Commissioners within your Division to ensure its effective implementation in coordination with the field formations of the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, please.

(DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH)  
DIRECTOR GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**CC:**

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to the:-

1. All the Deputy Commissioners, Government of the Punjab
2. Secretary  
Environment Protection and Climate Change Department
3. **All Directors, EPA Punjab**
4. **All Deputy/ Assistant Director (Field), EPA Punjab**