



No. 355/PA to DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM, LAHORE

Dated:01.10.2025



ORDER

Subject: ORDER U/S 6(1)(m)(o) & (q) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997, FOR CALCULATION AND DISSEMINATION OF AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) OF DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OF PUNJAB.

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab is striving hard to provide for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution, and promotion of sustainable development;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, Environment Protection and Climate Change Department (EP&CCD), Punjab has established a network of 41 Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMS) in 17 districts of Punjab which are providing continuous data of ambient air quality duly calculated on the basis of criteria pollutants' concentrations;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the said data of Air Quality duly generated through these AQMS can play a vital role in management of different pollutants in the air and subsequent improvement in air quality through mitigation and adaptation measures, adopted by government departments and general public;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, as per Policy and Action Plan for Control, Mitigation, Advisory and Protective Measures in Extreme Weather Conditions of Dense Smog in the Punjab, 2017 read with the Punjab Clean Air Policy (with phased Action Plan), 2023; the Air Quality Index will be calculated based upon 24 hourly/8 hourly average concentration of those ambient air quality criteria pollutants whose measured values are available through Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMSs) namely PM10, PM2.5, SO₂, NO₂, CO and O₃.

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1)(m)(o) and (q) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 empowers EPA Punjab to take all necessary measures to render advice and assistance in environmental matters, provide information and guidance to public on environmental matters and promote public education and awareness of environmental issues;

6. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under Section 6(1)(m)(o) and (q) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 do

hereby order that, henceforth, the Air Quality Index will be calculated based upon 8 hourly average concentrations of the ambient air quality criteria pollutants by the Directorate of Monitoring, Laboratories and Implementation (ML&I), EPA Punjab and disseminated as per the following schedule; for information and necessary action by all concerned.

Time slot selected for AQI reporting	Reporting Time
12: 00 am to 08:00 am	9:00 am
08:00 am to 04:00 pm	5:00 pm
04:00 pm to 11:59 pm	1:00 am

7. This order shall come into force with effect from 03-10-2025 and shall remain in force until modified or withdrawn.

P/c

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

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to:

1. The Secretary, Environment Protection and Climate Change Department, Punjab *02/10/25*
2. The Project Director, SP&IU, EP&CCD Punjab
3. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
4. All the Directors, EPA Punjab *12/10/25*
5. Dr. Nusrat Naz, Director (ML&I) with direction to supervise the mechanism of timely dissemination of AQI on the prescribed format. *02/10/25*
6. The Incharge, Strategy and Analysis Wing, EPA Punjab
7. All Deputy Directors / Assistant Directors/Research Officers (Field/Lab), EPA Punjab
8. In-charge, Social Media Cell, EPA Punjab

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