



No.406/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM FERROZEPUR ROAD, LAHORE
Dated: 21.11.2025



PUBLIC ADVISORY

Subject: ADVICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC U/S 6(1)(o) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997

WHEREAS, Govt. of Punjab is striving hard to combat the devastating impacts of prevailing smog season. Pre-emptive measures against all the sources of air pollution have already started by EPA as well as other concerned departments;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, as per Section 2(xxxiii) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, **pollution** means the contamination of air, land or water by the discharge or emission of effluents or wastes or air pollutants or noise or other matter which either directly or indirectly or in combination with other discharges or substances alters unfavorably the chemical, physical, biological, radiation, thermal or radiological or aesthetic properties of the air, land or water or which may, or is likely to make the air, land or water unclean, noxious or impure or injurious, disagreeable or detrimental to the health, safety, welfare or property of persons or harmful to biodiversity.

3. **AND WHEREAS** various human activities, including vehicular emissions, reliance on private transport, traditional cooking fuels, deforestation, and open burning, significantly contribute to air pollution and environmental degradation. Idling vehicles, excessive fuel consumption, and burning waste and crop residues release harmful pollutants, worsening air quality and climate change. Citizens play a vital role in reducing emissions by adopting sustainable practices. A collective effort towards these actions is essential for a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable environment.

4. **AND WHEREAS**, owing to the sustained cooperation of the general public, including adherence to precautionary measures and reduction in non-essential vehicular movement, the Government has recorded a notable improvement in the smog situation during the current season; such collective public compliance remains crucial for maintaining these gains and further mitigating pollution across the province;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1) (o) of the ibid Act empowers EPA to provide information and guidance to the public on environmental matters;

6. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab in exercise of the powers conferred upon me U/S 6(1)(o) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, do hereby advise the general public during the weekend i.e. Saturday and Sunday that they must:

- i. All residents are advised to remain indoors and avoid unnecessary outdoor movement, especially during peak smog hours.
- ii. Wear protective masks and seek medical attention in case of respiratory distress, coughing, eye irritation, or chest discomfort.
- iii. Keep windows and doors closed during high smog periods.
- iv. Seek immediate medical attention if experiencing breathing difficulties, coughing, or irritation in eyes or throat
- v. Minimize the use of private vehicles, including cars and motorbikes, to reduce emissions. Only essential travel should be undertaken.
- vi. Prefer carpooling and mass transit to reduce traffic congestion and emissions
- vii. Use eco-friendly transport options like bicycles and electric vehicles where possible.
- viii. Turn off vehicle engines while idling at red lights, parking areas, and congested roads.
- ix. Avoid burning garbage, leaves, and crop residues to reduce air pollution and smog formation.

g/c

M. A. S. 21/11/25

DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH (PAS)
Director General
Environmental Protection Agency
Punjab

Copy forwarded for information:

24/11/25

- The Secretary, Environment Protection & Climate Change Department, Punjab
- All Commissioner, Punjab
- All Deputy Commissioner, Punjab
- The Director General Public Relations (DGPR) with a request to ensure wide publicity this advice
- The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore
- The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.
- The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore

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- 24/11/20
- PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D
 - PSO to Provincial Police Office/ IGP, Punjab
 - The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
 - The Deputy/ Assistant Director (Field), Punjab
 - The Deputy Director, Strategy and Analysis Wing EPA Punjab
 - The Incharge Social Media Cell, EPA Punjab
 - PA to Director General EPA Punjab

