



No. 434/PA/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Green Building Gulberg, Lahore
Dated: 30/12/2025



Subject: **ORDER U/S 5(4) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997 FOR MANDATORY USE OF ECO-WATCH BASED STANDARDIZED SITE INSPECTION REPORTS (SIRs) FOR HOSPITAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES ENFORCEMENT**

ORDER

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab is mandated under the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 to provide for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution, and promotion of sustainable development in the Province;

2. **WHEREAS**, hospitals, clinics, diagnostic laboratories, nursing homes, and other healthcare establishments generate infectious, pathological, pharmaceutical, chemical, and general waste which, if not properly segregated, stored, transported, treated, and disposed of, poses grave risks to public health, sanitation, and the environment;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the Punjab Hospital Waste Management Rules, 2014, framed under the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, regulate the segregation, collection, storage, handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hospital waste and require all healthcare facilities to implement prescribed waste management procedures and to facilitate inspection and compliance verification by the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, Rule 23 of the Punjab Hospital Waste Management Rules, 2014 empowers duly authorized officers of the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab to inspect hospitals and healthcare waste facilities to determine compliance and, in case of any violation, to report the matter and initiate legal proceedings in accordance with the Act and the Rules;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, it has been observed that the existing manual inspection and reporting mechanism for hospital waste management lacks standardized formatting, auditability, real-time verification, and system-based evidence, thereby impairing regulatory effectiveness and enforcement integrity;

6. **AND WHEREAS**, in order to ensure uniformity, accountability, and credibility of hospital waste management system, it is necessary that the inspection and reporting system incorporates standardized formats, audit trails, real-time verification, and digital records;

7. **AND WHEREAS**, the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab has established the Eco-Watch digital enforcement system as its official platform for inspection, monitoring, and system-generated regulatory actions, and in order to ensure transparency, traceability, and uniform enforcement of the Punjab Hospital Waste Management Rules, 2014, it is necessary that all hospital inspections and SIRs are conducted through the Eco-Watch system;

8. **NOW, THEREFORE**, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5(4) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh (PAS), Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, do hereby order that, henceforth, all inspections of hospitals and healthcare facilities under the Punjab Hospital Waste Management Rules, 2014 shall be conducted **exclusively** through the Eco-Watch system, and that all SIRs shall be generated, recorded, and issued only in the prescribed digital format on Eco-Watch.

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

Issued under my hand and seal of this office on this 30th day of December, 2025.

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
2. The Secretary Health & Population Department, Punjab
3. The Secretary Specialized Health and Medical Education Department, Punjab
4. The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore.
5. The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.
6. The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore.
7. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
8. The Director EDH, EPA Punjab **with the direction to supervise the implementation of this order.**
9. PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D Board, Punjab
10. All the District In-charges (DDs/ADs), EPA Punjab for effective implementation
11. The In charge Strategy and Analysis wing EPA, Punjab
12. The In charge social media team, EPA Punjab
13. PA to Director General, EPA