



No. 378 /PA to DG/EPA/2025  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM, LAHORE**  
Dated: 18 .10. 2025



**Subject: DEPARTMENTAL ADVISORIES FOR MANAGEMENT OF AIR QUALITY**

**WHEREAS** the Province of Punjab experiences an annual period of severe deterioration in ambient air quality during the winter season, which may elevate the Air Quality Index (AQI) to levels categorized as “Very Unhealthy” or “Hazardous”, thereby constituting an extraordinary and immediate threat to public health and necessitating a critical governmental response.

2. **AND WHEREAS**, to cater for these episodes of the higher air pollution levels in winter, there is a dire need to take *immediate, coordinated, and rigorous actions* for public safety by the government departments.

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the Health Advisory System for Critical Air Pollution Events (HAS-CAPES), particularly its duly notified Schedule II (Actions Plan for Government Departments), clearly demarcates the roles, responsibilities, and specific actions to be undertaken by each concerned department based on the measured severity of the ambient air quality;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, the Air Quality has started deteriorating due to multiple meteorological (temperature inversion, wind speed, wind direction, dryness etc) and anthropogenic (emissions from vehicles, industries etc, dust from under-construction sites etc) factors which warrants an urgent response from all relevant government departments to curtail this trend of rising AQI;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, the Health Advisory System for Critical Air Pollution Events (HAS-CAPES), particularly its duly notified Schedule II (Actions Plan for Government Departments), clearly demarcates the roles, responsibilities, and specific actions to be undertaken by each concerned department based on the measured severity of the ambient air quality

6. **AND WHEREAS**, the Section 6(1)(t) of the Act ibid empowers EPA to take or cause to be taken all necessary measures for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution and promotion of sustainable development;

7. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, in performance of the function assigned to me under Section 6(1)(t) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, do hereby issue the following advisory for the following government departments:

Sr. No.	Department / Entity	Advisory for Management of Elevated AQI Levels
1.	Traffic Police / DRTAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Impound excessive smoke-emitting and without Vehicle Inspection and Certification System (VICS) certified vehicles.</li> <li>ii. Actively regulate and shift traffic peak hours to manage congestion at identified hotspots.</li> </ul>
2.	Metro/Municipal Corporations/ WMCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ensure water sprinkling at least twice a day along main roads, construction sites, and highly dust-prone areas to control fugitive dust generation.</li> <li>ii. Take strict and immediate action against violators of municipal laws, particularly those involved in trash/municipal waste burning.</li> </ul>
3.	Education Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Sensitize students and parents to adopt protective measures, including mandatory use of face masks for outdoor activities.</li> </ul>
4.	Highways, Buildings, Housing Departments (Development Authorities, WASA etc).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ensure all approved construction sites strictly implement environmental conditions to minimize dust and gaseous emissions.</li> </ul>
5.	Agriculture Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Implement Zero-tolerance for crop-residue burning incidents.</li> <li>ii. Deploy surveillance teams for prevention and coordinate with local administration for immediate reporting and action against violators.</li> </ul>
6.	Mines and Minerals Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Strict action against transportation of construction material (sand and soil), sludge (desilted</li> </ul>

		material) or demolished material (debris) from uncovered/overloaded vehicles.
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Issued under my hand and seal this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

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

**Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to:**

- i. The Secretary, Environment Protection and Climate Change Department, Punjab
- ii. All the concerned Administrative Secretaries, Government of the Punjab
- iii. All the Divisional Commissioners, Government of the Punjab
- iv. All the Deputy Commissioners, Government of the Punjab
- v. The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore.
- vi. The Additional Secretary (Staff) to Chief Secretary, Lahore.
- vii. The Additional Secretary (In-charge Environmental Affairs) to Chief Minister, Lahore.
- viii. The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- ix. PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D
- x. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
- xi. All the Directors EPA Punjab
- xii. All the Deputy / Assistant Directors (Field / Labs.), EPA, Punjab
- xiii. The In-charge, Strategy and Analysis Wing (SAW) EPA Headquarters, Lahore.
- xiv. In-charge, Social Media Cell of EPA Punjab for compliance in letter and spirit.