



## **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

**Subject: STREAMLINING THE ISSUANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ORDERS (EPOs) AFTER SITE MONITORING REPORTS (SMRs) BY THE LABORATORIES OF EPA PUNJAB**

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, is committed to prevent pollution-causing activities, implement effective mitigation measures, and ensuring sustainable development across the province;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, untreated industrial and municipal wastewater discharges have been identified as significant sources of pollution, leading to widespread contamination of aquifers and water bodies, resulting in adverse health and economic impacts;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 16(1) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 empowers the Environmental Protection Agency to direct persons responsible for any discharge, emission, handling, act, or omission that violates the Act, rules, or regulations, or causes an adverse environmental effect, to take necessary measures within a specified period, after providing an opportunity of being heard;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, the existing procedure for issuance of Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) necessitates Site Inspection Report (SIR) by Field Staff of EPA even after the establishment of the violation of the Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS) through the Site Monitoring Report (SMR), duly generated by the EPA Laboratories. This practice not only causes unnecessary delays in the issuance of Environmental Protection Orders (EPOs) but also a nullity in the eyes of law because, under Rule 12(1) of the Environmental Samples Rules, 2001, the violation of Section 11(1) of the Act *ibid*, established through Form-D of the Rules *ibid* provide sufficient and solid ground for filing of complaint before Environmental Tribunal and initiation of prosecution against the violators;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 further empowers the Environmental Protection Agency to establish systems and procedures for surveys, surveillance, monitoring, measurement, examination, investigation, research, inspection, and audit to prevent and control pollution, and to

estimate the costs of cleaning up pollution and rehabilitating the environment in various sectors;

6. **AND WHEREAS**, under Order No. 398/PA/DG/EPA/2025 dated 31.10.2025 duly issued from the Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, mechanism has already been established to gather necessary information covered for filing of complaints in the Punjab Environmental Tribunal, if needed, against all the Unique Identification Numbers, duly issued to all the industrial units of Punjab;

7. **NOW, THEREFORE**, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 5(4) and 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, do hereby order that, henceforth, the Site Inspection Report (SIR) by the Field Staff of EPA after the establishment of the violation of the Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS) through the Site Monitoring Report (SMR), duly generated by the EPA Laboratories shall not be required for initiation of the proceeding under Section 16(1) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act. However, it shall be mandatory for the EPA laboratories staff to pen down **Unique Identification Number (UID) of each industry on the Form-B and Form-D of Environmental Samples Rules, 2001 while issuing SMRs.**

8. This order shall come into force with immediate effect until modified or withdrawn.

Issued under my hand and seal on this 31<sup>st</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 & Climate Change Department, Punjab
- ii. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
- iii. The Director (ML&I) with the direction to circulate this order amongst Deputy Director / In-charge (Labs).
- iv. The Director (P&C), EPA Punjab for implementation of this order in true letter and spirit.
- v. All the Directors EPA Punjab.
- vi. PSO to the Senior Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D Punjab
- vii. The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- viii. All the Deputy / Assistant Director (Field), EPA Punjab

- ix. The In-charge, Strategy and Analysis Wing (SAW), EPA HQs
- x. PA to Director General EPA Punjab