



No. 359/PA/DG/EPA/2025  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM, FEROZEPUR ROAD, LAHORE  
Dated: 03/10/2025



To

1. All the Deputy Directors (Environment / Tech), EPA Punjab
2. All the Assistant Directors (Field), EPA Punjab

**Subject: EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL**

Kindly refer to the subject noted above.

2. It is apprised that the Provincial Cabinet, in its meeting held on 05.08.2025, has approved exemption of 30 categories of small businesses, having negligible environmental and social impacts, from obtaining Environmental Approval under Section 12 of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 for ease of doing business. The list of said exempted projects may be perused at **Annex-A**.

3. Apropos, it is hereby ordered that, henceforth, no application pertaining to the Environmental Approvals of the said exempted projects shall be entertained by any officer of EPA. In addition, if any proponent requires "Exemption Certificate", he/she may be guided to obtain the same from EPA Headquarters. Furthermore, all the under-process cases pertaining to the said exempted categories be returned immediately to the proponents and report to this effect be submitted to the Director (EIA) within 3 days.

4. However, the Environmental Protection Agency Punjab shall keep on performing its regulatory responsibilities of periodic monitoring, inspection and compliance checks entrusted under Punjab Environment Protection Act 1997 and Rules, Regulations, Standards, Orders, Instructions etc. made thereunder.

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

**No. & Date even:**

Copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Secretary, Environment Protection and Climate Change Department, Punjab
2. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
3. All the Directors, EPA Punjab
4. PA to Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab

## ANNEX-A

### PROJECTS EXEMPTED FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL

1. Hydroelectric power generation *from 1 MW to 50MW*
2. Renewable Energy projects (including *wind and solar*) *greater than 05 MW upto 100MW and biogas plants for commercial purposes*)
3. Apparel (including garments and leather stitching units), cotton, spinning mills, woolen mills, weaving mills and manual carpet weaving units;
4. Water supply schemes and treatment plants with total cost less than Rs. 50 million
5. Non-hazardous scrap yard / warehouse.
6. Multistoried buildings, residential apartments, educational institutions, restaurants and hotels with height more than 70 feet and area more than 02 kanals.
7. Medical colleges and universities, research institutes
8. Hospitals less than 50 beds
9. Flour mills, oil mills
10. Cottage industry units with project cost less than rupees ten million unless otherwise specified by the environmental protection agency,
11. Restaurants and hotels below three-star category;
12. Marriage halls and event centers;
13. Bakeries, sweet manufacturing units and other similar concerns;
14. Bus and wagon stands of category 'C' with area up to eight kanals;
15. Cement block manufacturing factories.
16. Auto-repair Workshops
17. Basic Health Units, Rural Health Centers, Hospitals up to 50 beds
18. Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Towers
19. Canal cleaning and de-siltation
20. Cold Storage and Warehouses
21. Commercial buildings including Apartments, Shopping Malls, Office Complexes, etc. costing more than Rs.50.000 million but up to Rs.1,000.000 million (including cost of land)
22. Construction and lining of water courses
23. Construction of roads falling within the jurisdiction of a district, excepting highways, expressways, and motorways.
24. Educational institutions
25. Establishment and operation of Petrol and CNG Stations
26. Fish Farms
27. Petrol and CNG Stations
28. Solid Waste Management, excepting landfills
29. Water supply schemes/ Water Purification Plants costing up to Rs.20.000 million.
30. Wood product manufacturing costs up to Rs.50.000 million (including cost of land)