



No. 429/PA/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREEN BUILDING, GULBERG LAHORE
Dated:23/12/2025



ORDER

Subject: **MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF SUCTION HOODS IN MARRIAGE HALLS, BANQUET HALLS, AND MARQUEES TO CONTROL SMOKE, FUMES AND GREASE EMISSIONS FROM COMMERCIAL COOKING STATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Punjab, is mandated under the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, to take all necessary measures for the protection, conservation, and improvement of the environment, and for the prevention and control of pollution;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 2(xxxiii) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 defines "pollution" as 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, radiational, 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**, the Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, vide Order No. 373/PA/DG/EPA/2025 dated 14.10.2025, mandated installation of Type-I suction hoods in commercial restaurants and barbecue operations; however, similar large-scale cooking activities in marriage halls and banquet venues remain inadequately regulated despite comparable emission loads;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, marriage halls, banquet halls, marquees, and similar event venues operate large-scale commercial kitchens and live cooking arrangements often involving high-intensity cooking, grilling, and barbecue activities using solid fuels or high-heat processes which generate substantial quantities of smoke, grease-laden fumes, particulate matter, and volatile organic compounds. Such uncontrolled emissions, especially during peak wedding season and winter months, have been identified as significant contributors to localized air pollution and smog, adversely affecting nearby residential areas and the general public;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1) (t) of the ibid Act 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;

6. **NOW, THEREFORE**, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 6(1)(t) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab do hereby order that all marriage halls, banquet halls, marquees, and similar event venues operating commercial kitchens, live cooking stations, or barbecue facilities shall install and maintain properly designed and functional suction hoods / exhaust ventilation systems over all cooking units, and ensure completion of such installation by **31st January 2026**.

7. Any contravention to this order shall be punished under the Environmental Protection Smog (Prevention and Control) Rules 2023.

8. This order shall come into force with immediate effect within territorial jurisdiction of entire Punjab and shall remain in force until withdrawn or modified.

Issued under my hand & seal on this 23rd day of December, 2025.



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

Copy forwarded for information:

- The Secretary, Environment Protection & Climate Change Department, Punjab
- All the Divisional Commissioners, Punjab
- All the Deputy Commissioners, 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
- 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
- All the Presidents, Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Punjab
- PA to Director General EPA Punjab