



No. 352/PA/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM FERROZPUR ROAD, LAHC
Dated: 29/09/2025



Subject: **GUIDELINES UNDER SECTION 6(1)(i) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997 REGARDING DEPLOYMENT, OPERATION & DATA DISSEMINATION OF NON-REFERENCE MONITORS (LOW-COST SENSORS) OF AIR QUALITY MONITORING IN PUNJAB**

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

2. **AND WHEREAS**, the Non-Reference Monitors, also known as Low-Cost Sensors (LCS), may become important sources of information for real-time monitoring of air quality, if properly deployed and integrated with the reference Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMS) in a mutualistic relationship;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, reference Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMS) are the only legally admissible sources of regulatory air quality data, while Non-reference Monitors are limited to indicative monitoring and awareness purposes, subject to proper installation, validation, and disclaimers as per the Guidelines notified by EPA Punjab;

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

5. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh (PAS), Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under Section 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, do hereby issue the guidelines for the Non-Reference Monitors, also known as Low-Cost Sensors (LCS), so that their deployment, operation and data dissemination may take place in line with internationally acclaimed protocols and local legal framework.

These guidelines shall be applicable with immediate effect.

Issued under my hand & seal on this 29th day of September 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. The Secretary Planning and Development Board, Punjab
- iii. The Chief Executive Officer, The Urban Unit, Punjab
- iv. The Managing Director, Punjab Safe City Authority, Lahore
- v. The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- vi. The Project Director (SP&IU), Punjab Green Development Program, Punjab
- vii. The DG Public Relations (DGPR) with a request to ensure wide publicity
- viii. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
- ix. All the Directors, EPA Punjab.
- x. All Deputy Director (Field) / Assistant Director (Field/Lab), EPA Punjab
- xi. The Deputy Director (Strategy and Analysis Wing), EPA HQs, Lahore
- xii. The Incharge, Social Media Cell of EPA Punjab.
- xiii. PA to Director General EPA Punjab.