



BOARD OF REVENUE, PUNJAB
PROVINCIAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Lahore, the 7th December, 2022

ORDER

No.Smog-2022/315/Coord-II. WHEREAS, there is evidence of persistent deterioration in Air Quality Index of the city of Lahore, fluctuating from satisfactory to poor levels, which is likely to cause breathing discomfort, respiratory tract diseases and heart diseases amongst people of all age brackets;

2. AND WHEREAS, people in the Punjab, with high ratio in Lahore, continue to be infected by Covid-19 and further overlap of conducive conditions for respiratory tract diseases due to smog could exacerbate the situation;

3. AND WHEREAS, the Provincial Cabinet of Punjab, in its 36th meeting has declared smog as calamity under section 3 of "The Punjab National Calamities (Prevention & Relief), Act 1958" which has been notified vide Relief Commissioner's Order No.Smog-2020/10/Coord-I dated 14.10.2020, and all possible measures to contain and arrest the deterioration of ambient Air Quality Index, especially in territorial limits of the city of Lahore and Punjab in general are required to be taken;

4. AND WHEREAS, in my opinion there are sufficient grounds to proceed under section 4 (2) (h) of "The Punjab National Calamities (Prevention & Relief) Act 1958", as an immediate preventive and speedy remedy and the directions hereinafter appearing are necessary to ensure public safety, conserve lives and preempt and mitigate imminent threat of smog in the province of Punjab.

5. AND WHEREAS, the Lahore High Court in the writ petition number 227807/2018 has ordered on 02nd December 2022, to issue notification to the effect that all private offices shall ensure two days a week 'work from home' schedules for their personnel and employees.

6. NOW THEREFORE, I Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Relief Commissioner, Government of the Punjab, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 4(2)(h) of "The Punjab National Calamities (Prevention & Relief) Act, 1958", hereby order as under:

All private offices being operated by companies, private sector entities and other individuals, within the territorial limits of Lahore Metropolitan Corporation, shall remain closed on every Friday, and Saturday, with effect from 07.12.2022 until 15.1.2023. However, their staff may work from home.

7. The order shall be given wide publicity in official Gazette, Newspapers and broadcasting through Radio Pakistan, Pakistan Television and other TV Channels as news item as well as on social media for information of the general public.


(ZAHID AKHTAR ZAMAN)
RELIEF COMMISSIONER
PUNJAB

NO. & DATED EVEN

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to the:-

1. Chief Secretary, Punjab
2. Joint Commission, Judicial Environmental Water Commission, Lahore
3. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab
4. Secretary Higher Education Department with the request to implement the order
5. Secretary School Education Department with the request to implement the order
6. Secretary Information Department, Punjab with request for wide publicity of this order in print and electronic media as news items.
7. Provincial Police Officer/IGP, Punjab
8. Commissioner Lahore Division, Lahore, with the request to implement the order
9. Capital City Police Officer, Lahore, with the request to implement the order
10. Director General, Public Relations, Punjab
11. Deputy Commissioner, Lahore
12. The Superintendent, Punjab Printing Press for Gazette Notification


(TAUQIR MEHMOOD WATTOO)
DIRECTOR (COORDINATION)
Provincial Disaster Management Authority