

The Punjab Smog Crisis: A Failure of Urban Governance or a Challenge of Transboundary Diplomacy?

Outline

I. Introduction

II. How is Punjab Smog Crisis a Failure of Urban Governance?

(A) Less implementation of already existing laws

case in point: Provincial Environment Protection Act 1997.

(B) Excessive usage of fuel based transportation

case in point: Report of the Excise Department

(C) Widespread usage of air conditioners

(D) Lack of Political will

case in point: Quote ~~from~~ ^{by}

David Keeshner

(E) Wastage of food remnants

case in point: Report of World Bank 2025.

It Manifests that the Punjab
Smog Crisis is a challenge of
Transboundary Diplomacy:

- (A). More traffic congestion in
New Delhi
- (B). Industrial output without
recycling in China.

IV. Way forward to Tackle
The Punjab smog crisis:

- (A). Ensure electrification of
the vehicles
- (B). Encourage the use of nature
based cooling systems
- (C). Build healthy diplomatic
channels with the neigh-
bouring countries
- (D) Promote the use of public
transport for inter city travel.

V. Conclusion:

"Smog crisis is rooted in the urban mismanagement and the urban people should take responsibility to mitigate this crisis" - David Kenner. This insight resonates with the smog crisis spearheaded in the Punjab province of Pakistan. Not only the urban people but also the government seems to be involved in the crisis. Governance failure is reflected in the negligence of implementing the already existing laws and the excessive use of fuel based transportation system. Despite the above mentioned failures, widespread use of air conditioners and the lack of political will added fuel to the fire. In addition to the locally induced failures, neighbouring countries are also transferring this borderless crisis. However, there is a dire need to take some progressive measures. Important measures to tackle this crisis are the electrification of transport vehicles

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and encouraging the use of nature
based cooling systems.

In a nutshell, the Punjab
Smog Crisis is more because of
urban governance failures and less
because of ineffective transboundary
diplomacy. Lack of political will
and the wastage of the food
wastages are some of the urban
governance failures. In spite of
these urban governance negligence,
Lack of proper diplomatic channels,
is a step which adds up in this
menace. Therefore, it is essential to
take pragmatic steps to mitigate the
crisis. Promoting the use of public
transport and building healthy
diplomatic channels will prove effec-
tive in tackling this crisis.