



NO.E&A(HEALTH)2-114/2012(P-I)
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SPECIALIZED HEALTHCARE & MEDICAL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Dated Lahore, the 27th September, 2024

To

1. Vice Chancellor, Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad
2. Vice Chancellor, Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore
3. Vice Chancellor, King Edward Medical University, Lahore
4. Vice Chancellor, Children's Hospital, the University of Child Health Sciences, Lahore
5. Vice Chancellor, University of Health Sciences, Lahore
6. Vice Chancellor, Nishtar Medical University, Multan
7. Vice Chancellor, Rawalpindi Medical University, Rawalpindi
8. Principal, Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur
9. Principal, Sheikh Zayed Medical College, Rahim Yar Khan
10. Principal, D.G Khan Medical Dera Ghazi Khan
11. Principal, Gujranwala Medical College, Gujranwala
12. Principal, Khawaja Muhammad Safdar Medical College, Sialkot
13. Principal, Nawaz Sharif Medical College, Gujrat
14. Principal, Allama Iqbal Medical College, Lahore
15. Principal, Postgraduate Medical Institute / Ameer-ud-Din Medical College, Lahore
16. Principal, College of Ophthalmology and Allied Vision Sciences, Lahore
17. Principal, De-Montmorency College of Dentistry, Lahore
18. Principal, Services Institute of Medical Sciences, Lahore
19. Principal, Nishtar Medical College, Multan
20. Principal, Nishtar Institute of Dentistry, Dental College, Multan Sadar, Multan
21. Principal, Sahiwal Medical College, Sahiwal
22. Principal, Sargodha Medical College, Sargodha
23. Principal, Punjab Medical College, Faisalabad
24. Principal, Rawalpindi Medical College, Rawalpindi
25. Medical Superintendent, Bahawal Victoria Hospital, Bahawalpur
26. Medical Superintendent, Jubilee Female Hospital, attached Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur
27. Medical Superintendent, Nawab Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan Abbasi Hospital, Bahawalpur,
28. Medical Superintendent, Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Bahawalpur
29. Medical Superintendent, Sheikh Zayed Hospital, Rahim Yar Khan
30. Medical Superintendent, Sardar Fateh Muhammad Khan Buzdar, Institute of Cardiology, Dera Ghazi Khan
31. Medical Superintendent, Allama Iqbal Teaching Hospital, D.G Khan
32. Medical Superintendent, Allied Hospital, Faisalabad City, Faisalabad
33. Medical Superintendent, Children's Hospital, Faisalabad
34. Medical Superintendent, Dental Section, PMC and Allied Hospital, Faisalabad
35. Medical Superintendent, Allied Hospital-II, Faisalabad
36. Medical Superintendent, Faisalabad Institute of Cardiology, Faisalabad
37. Medical Superintendent, Faisalabad Teaching Hospital, Faisalabad
38. Medical Superintendent, Allama Iqbal Memorial Hospital, Sialkot

39. Medical Superintendent, Ch. Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Wazirabad
40. Medical Superintendent, Gujranwala Teaching Hospital, Gujranwala
41. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Sardar Begum Teaching Hospital, Sialkot
42. Medical Superintendent, Provision of Missing Specialties for up-gradation of DHQ Hospital to Teaching Hospital, Gujranwala.
43. Medical Superintendent, Aziz Bhatti Shaheed Hospital, Gujrat.
44. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Teaching Hospital, Shahdara, Lahore
45. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Kot Khawaja Saeed Teaching Hospital, Lahore
46. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Mozang Teaching Hospital, Lahore
47. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Teaching Hospital, Yakki Gate, Lahore
48. Medical Superintendent, Jinnah Burn and Reconstructive Surgery Center, Allama Iqbal Medical College, Lahore
49. Medical Superintendent, Jinnah Hospital, Lahore
50. Medical Superintendent, Lady Aitchison Hospital, Lahore
51. Medical Superintendent, Lady Wallingdon Hospital, Lahore.
52. Medical Superintendent, Lahore General Hospital, Lahore
53. Medical Superintendent, Mayo Hospital, Lahore
54. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Mian Munshi Hospital, DHQ-I, Teaching Hospital, Lahore
55. Medical Superintendent, Punjab Dental Hospital, Lahore
56. Medical Superintendent, Punjab Institute of Cardiology, Lahore
57. Medical Superintendent, Punjab Institute of Neurosciences, Lahore
58. Medical Superintendent, Govt. Said Mitha Hospital, Lahore
59. Medical Superintendent, Services Hospital, Lahore
60. Medical Superintendent, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Lahore
61. Medical Superintendent, Ch. Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Multan
62. Medical Superintendent, Nishtar Hospital, Multan
63. Medical Superintendent, Nishtar Institute of Dentistry, Dental Hospital, Multan Sadar, Multan
64. Medical Superintendent, The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Multan
65. Medical Superintendent, Cardiac, Center, QAMC, Bahawalpur
66. Medical Superintendent, Benazir Bhutto Hospital, Rawalpindi
67. Medical Superintendent, Rawalpindi Teaching Hospital, Rawalpindi
68. Medical Superintendent, Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi
69. Medical Superintendent, Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology, Rawalpindi
70. Medical Superintendent, Rawalpindi Institute of Urology & Transplantation, Rawalpindi
71. Medical Superintendent, Syed Muhammad Hussain Govt. T.B. Sanatorium Samli, Murree, Rawalpindi
72. Medical Superintendent, Sahiwal Teaching Hospital, Sahiwal
73. Medical Superintendent, Dr. Faisal Masood Teaching Hospital, Sargodha
74. MS, Institute of Ophthalmology & Allied Vision Sciences, Nishtar Multan
75. MS, Gujranwala Medical College Teaching Hospital, Gujranwala
76. Executive Director, Sardar Fateh Muhammad Khan Buzdar Institute of Cardiology, Dera Ghazi Khan
77. Executive Director, Faisalabad Institute of Cardiology, Faisalabad
78. Executive Director, Ch. Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Wazirabad
79. Executive Director, Punjab Institute of Cardiology, Lahore
80. Executive Director, Punjab Institute of Mental Health, Lahore
81. Executive Director, Punjab Institute of Neurosciences, Lahore

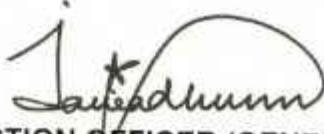
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82. Executive Director, Ch. Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Multan
83. Executive Director, Pak Italian Burn Centre, Multan
84. Executive Director, Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology, Rawalpindi
85. Dean, Institute of Public Health, Lahore
86. Dean, The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Multan
87. Medical Director, The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Lahore.
88. Director, Institute of Blood Transfusion Service Punjab, Lahore
89. Project Director, Punjab Thalassaemia and other Genetic Disorders Prevention and Research Institute attached with FJMU, Lahore
90. Director General, Director General, Nursing Punjab, Lahore
91. The Surgeon Medico Legal, Punjab, Lahore
92. The CEO, Punjab Healthcare Commission, Lahore
93. All the Section Officers, SHC & ME Department

Subject:- **USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS BY GOVERNMENT SERVANTS**

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to **enclose** herewith a copy of letter No.SO(C-III)12-71/2021 dated 11.09.2024, received from Additional Secretary (Confidential), S&GAD, Government of the Punjab alongwith a copy of letter No.14/3/2022-D-II dated 02.09.2024, issued by Deputy Secretary (Discipline), Government of Pakistan, Cabinet Secretariat, Establishment Division, Islamabad, regarding the usage of social media platforms by the Government Servants.

2. Foregoing in view, it is directed that strict compliance must be made in true letter and spirit by all the Government Servants regarding usage of Social Media Platform as directed in the above referred letter of Establishment Division.


SECTION OFFICER (GENERAL)

No. & Even date:

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

- i. Director IT, ICT Cell, SHC & ME Department with the request to upload this directions on the official website of this department.
- ii. Additional Secretary (Confidential), S&GAD, Government of the Punjab


SECTION OFFICER (GENERAL)

CC:-

- i. PSO to Secretary SHC & ME Department.
- ii. PS to Special Secretary (Operations), SHC & ME Department.
- iii. PS to Special Secretary (Development & Reforms), SHC & ME Department.
- iv. PSs to all Additional Secretaries, SHC & ME Department.
- v. PAs to all Deputy Secretaries, SHC & ME Department.

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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
CABINET SECRETARIAT
ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION

F. No. 14/3/2022-D-II

Islamabad, the 2nd September, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM BY GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

Kindly refer to this Division's Circular No. 1/20/1976-D:3 dated 23rd July, 2020 and O.M F.No. 14/04/2021-D-II dated 25-08-2021 whereby detailed instructions under Government Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1964, governing participation of government servants in different media forums including social media platforms were issued for compliance.

2. Under the Rules *ibid*, no government servant can participate in any media platform except with the express permission of the Government. Rule 18 of the Rules *ibid* bars a government servant from sharing official information or document with a government servant unauthorized to receive it or a private person or press. Further, Rule 22 of the Rules *ibid* refrains a government servant from making any statement of fact or opinion which is capable of embarrassing the Government in any document published or in any communication made to the press or in any public utterance or television programme or radio broadcast delivered by him or her. Furthermore, Rules 21, 25, 25-A and 25-B of the Rules *ibid* bar a government servant from expressing views against ideology and integrity of Pakistan or any government policy or decision. Besides, they also bar a government servant from offering views on any media platform which may either harm the national security or friendly relations with foreign states; or offend public order, decency or morality; or amount to contempt of court or defamation or incitement to an offence; or, propagate sectarian creeds.

ACS (S&GAB)
Sug Services
Sug Information
Sug etc

Despite the aforementioned instructions and the guiding legal frame-work, it has been observed that government servants often engage themselves with social media i.e. websites and applications that enable users to create and share contents or participate in social networking / virtual communities / online groups. They, while using different social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Instagram, Microblogging etc. to air their views on a host of subjects, sometimes indulge in actions or behaviour that does not conform to the required standards of official conduct, as well as to abstain from following trends, affiliating with political parties participating in press conferences/media talk or engaging in business promotions without prior permission as envisaged in the Rules *ibid*. Such actions range from unauthorized relaying-of the official information to disseminating the wrong or misleading information to airing of political or sectarian views or propagate comments based upon cast and creed etc

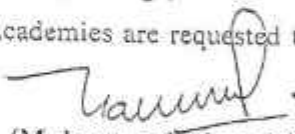
4. In view of the foregoing, it is expedient to issue the following instructions for governing use of social media platforms by government servants:-

- i. The same instructions as are applicable to government servants while speaking at public fora or publishing articles in print media, shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to the use of social media by them.
- ii. As provided in Rule 18 of the Rules *ibid*, they shall not indulge in unauthorized disclosure of the official information or sharing of the official documents they come across during the course of performing their duties, via social media.
- iii. In order to maintain their impartiality and objectivity in performance, they shall not partake in any discussion on social media or exchange or forward information or messages that express their opinion on political issues.
- iv. They shall not participate in furthering of any information especially pertaining to government matters that, *prima facie*, appears to be unauthentic and misleading.
- v. They shall not make any disparaging remarks aimed at any individual or group or sect or faith and shall uphold values guiding the Civil Service at all times. They are advised to observe discretion and moderation in use of the Social Media and uphold high standards of propriety.

5. It is, however, clarified that the instructions contained at para 4 are not intended to discourage any constructive and positive use of social media by a government organization for engaging with the public to solicit feedback on a government policy, suggestions for improvement in service delivery and resolution of their complaints. However, such an organization shall edit their social media platforms continuously or frequently to remove offensive, inappropriate and objectionable remarks.

6. All government servants are required to comply with the above instructions in letter and spirit; These may, therefore, be circulated to all government servants belonging to all the occupational cadres falling in the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Violation of one or more of these instructions will tantamount to misconduct and shall invite disciplinary action against the delinquent government servant under Civil Servants (Efficiency and Discipline) Rules, 2020. Further, in case of a violation committed on a group platform, the Administrators or the 'Admin', if they are serving government servants, shall also be liable to the disciplinary proceedings.

7. All Federal Secretaries/Additional Secretaries (Incharge)/Service or Cadre Administrators/Chief Secretaries/Incharge Civil Services Academies are requested to ensure implementation of above instructions.


(Muhammad Ahmad Usmani)
Deputy Secretary (Discipline)

All Federal Secretaries / Additional Secretaries (incharge) / Cadre Administrators/
Chief Secretaries / Incharge Civil Service Academy