



**No. PASSD-2019/ELP/
Government of Pakistan
Cabinet Secretariat
Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division**

Islamabad, October 7th 2019

EHSAAS LANGAR POLICY 2019

1. Short title, Extent and Commencement.

- a. This policy may be called the Ehsaas Langar Policy – 2019
- b. It extends to all of Pakistan
- c. It shall come into force w.e.f. 7th October 2019

2. Context and broad parameters

Langars lessen despair among the homeless. They restore dignity and self-reliance to those that will otherwise go hungry and contribute to grass-roots activism and social cohesion with food security and nutrition aims. They also provide jobs to those involved in operations. The Prime Minister is personally committed to ensuring that no one goes to bed hungry in Pakistan—and the government will work hard to realize that vision.

The Langar Policy is one of several policies under the Ehsaas umbrella, in its Safety Net category. This Policy is being implemented in the public private partnership mode, as part of which private charities and trusts will be supported to operate Langars (meal centers) at designated government land/premises.

The Policy is predicated in the understanding that many welfare organizations in the country, already providing meals to the destitute at some scale, have capacity to upscale further significantly, if strategic support is provided by the government.

Pakistan scores very high in philanthropic giving. According to estimates, more than 300 billion PKR is channeled to welfare, annually. However, up until now, the government and welfare organizations have been siloed. There has been no strategic approach to collaboration. Ehsaas

aims to change that, so that the expertise and resources of reputed welfare organizations can amplify with government support.

Three areas have been identified with regard to government's support towards Langars:

- The first is logistic support because currently, welfare organizations often face severe resistance to setting up Langars where needed most, because of market dynamics and reluctance of local administration due to fear of encroachment on prime public lands.
- The second way in which the government can play its role is by setting safety and quality standards
- The third is by disseminating information, widely.

It has therefore been decided to support selected reputable organizations that have proven track record of providing meals at scale and facilitate their access to government land/premises in a predictable manner. Areas where this will be applicable includes bus stands, industrial areas, railway stations, and places where labourers tend to congregate. The Langars established will be tagged in the Ehsaas App (to be launched soon). This will allow the government to create awareness about their locations enabling millions of destitute to benefit daily. And this would be at zero cost to the government.

3. The Ehsaas Langar Policy will operate in the following broad parameters.

a) **Responsibility of the Public Sector. Facilitate Ehsaas Langars across the Country.**

The Government of Pakistan in partnership with Private Sector will open 'Ehsaas Langars' and scale it up to ensure that these Langars are established in the vicinity of all major hospitals, Railway stations and industrial areas for the wayfarer, traveller poor and destitute. For this purpose,

- i. **The Federal and Provincial relevant stake holders** will earmark an existing spot or land for the Ehsaas Langar. The details of the arrangements will be worked out specific to each site.
- ii. **PASSD will assist in securing land to run the langar facilities.** Under the public private partnership arrangement for the said 'Langar', the federal government will assist in securing permission for land to establish the langar kitchen and premises for partaking the food.
- iii. **Ehsaas will lend its brand to the langars developed under this Policy.** The norms of use of the brand are outlined in the Ehsaas Brand Book
- iv. Details relating to Conflict of Interest safeguards outlined in the overarching **Ehsaas Public-Private Engagement Policy** will also be applicable to this Policy.

b) **The Responsibility of the Private Sector:**

The entity partnering with Ehsaas are required to be registered and be a tax payer.

- i. **Construct a facility** to serve langar in a respectable manner, if not already constructed through its own system to provide cooked food to feed the needy on a daily basis. The template of the Ehsaas Saylani Model G-9 Langar (50X30) will be followed for this purpose.
- ii. **Quality of Food**. The Ehsaas Langar will maintain the quality and standard of the food. It will voluntarily have its food cooking facilities inspected on a monthly basis.
- iii. **Cleanliness of premises. The** Ehsaas langar will make special arrangements to keep the kitchen and eating areas swept and washed.
- iv. **Assure proper hygiene** during serving of food. As in the Model Ehsaas Saylani-G/9 Langars facility to wash hands before and after meals would be provided.
- v. **Assure that the partakers are provided food with dignity**. The servers will be directed to serve the food with utmost respect and forbearance.

4. **The Template of the Ehsaas Agreement of Action vetted by Law Division.**

Ehsaas Agreement of Action
between
The Federal Government through
Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division
21, Mauve Area, G-9/1, Islamabad
And

This Ehsaas Agreement of Action (EAOA) is made between the Federal Government through the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division (PASSD) hereinafter referred to as “the Government” and the----- hereinafter referred to as “Private Party -----”, a not-for-profit organization having its Head Office/Office at -----.

The PASSD and private party are (Hereinafter also referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”)

Whereas the Poverty Alleviation and Social safety Division and Private Party----- desires to undertake establishment of Ehsaas----- Langars in locations that will

enable the poor and the destitute, especially the most vulnerable such as laborers and daily wage workers to access healthy and nutritious meals, and for this purpose this EAOA is concluded between the parties.

And **Whereas the Government** is willing to grant permission to SWIT to establish Ehsaas- ----- Langars at locations to be agreed on the terms and conditions contained herein.

Now, therefore, it is hereby agreed as follow:

1. EAOA Jurisdiction

1.1 This EAOA shall be governed by relevant laws and policies of the Government.

1.2 It shall extend to all of Pakistan

2. Obligations of the Government

The Government (PASSD Division) shall:

2.1 Facilitate private party to establish Langars for the poor and the destitute, especially the most vulnerable such as laborers and daily wage workers at appropriate locations, subject to vacation at twelve months notice.

2.2 Establish ----- Ehsaas -----Langars partnering with private party over the next two years to maintain and operate food cooking/distributing facilities at the designated government land subject to the applicable law and rules of the concerned Division/Department on whose land/premises the Langar will be established

2.3 In case of each new Langar, the PASSD will facilitate the private party to get written approval of the relevant Government division/department subject to the concurrence of the Federal/Provincial Government/Local Government and compliance with applicable law/rules.

3. Obligations of the Private Party

The Private Party shall:

3.1 Use its own resources, moneys, goods and services obtained from donors, charities, philanthropists for its specified activities, vis-a-vis establishment of Langars, nationwide, after fulfillment of all requisite formalities to be facilitated by PASSD;

- 3.2 Obtain prior concurrence of the Government for any additional Langar related activity other than that specified by PASSD.
The private party will open an office to manage Langar operations and to collect donations; appoint and employ a Focal Person or other senior management personnel as appropriate to manage and implement the Ehsaas----- Langars and supervise the staff on behalf of the private party to ensure quality and standard of the food served and cleanliness of the premises and maintain contact with the officials of the Federal Government and the Provincial Governments/local governments.
- 3.3 The private party will ensure that:
- 3.3.1 People are provided food with dignity;
 - 3.3.2 Servers are directed to serve food with utmost respect;
 - 3.3.3 Quantity of food is adequate;
 - 3.3.4 Food quality is maintained;
 - 3.3.5 Cleanliness is ensured at all times at the premises;
 - 3.3.6 Hand washing is promoted, and soap is always available;
 - 3.3.7 Trans-fats are not used in cooking, salt is kept to a minimum, and that nutrition guidelines adopted by PASSD are adhered to for healthy eating and to prevent chronic diseases.
- 3.4 The private party will commit to voluntarily having its food cooking facilities inspected on a monthly basis;
- 3.5 The private party will employ those tandoor-walas whose business is displaced/disrupted due to the free Langar, if possible, in 10% of the total staff positions, and generally give preference to those who are displaced;
- 3.6 Obtain prior written permission for initiating new Langars;
- 3.7 Submit short written reports covering its activities including number of meals served on a monthly basis for record of PASSD;
- 3.8 Review annually the effectiveness of the Langars and submit short report of improvement possibilities;
- 3.9 Ensure that all its projects/programmes and activities are undertaken in accordance with the relevant laws;

- 3.10 Not transfer or rent/lease out its possessions or allow their use for purposes other than those specified and agreed upon between the Parties in this EAoA;
- 3.11 Submit, on yearly basis, independent or third-party evaluation including quantitative and qualitative assessment of its work;
- 3.12 Not indulge in any other activity distribution of any material or pamphlet causing or likely to cause religious resentment in the area of its activities;
- 3.13 Inform respective Provincial Governments and concerned local governments / District authorities regarding its programmes / projects in their area;
- 3.14 Comply with the overall fiduciary requirements as enforced by the Government of Pakistan from time to time

4. Obligations of the Parties:

- 4.1 The Parties agree not to use each other's name/acronym/emblem without each other's consent, and to keep this collaboration confined strictly to the Langar scheme, until mutually agreed upon otherwise

5. Termination of the EAoA

- 5.1 The Government (PASSD) reserves the right to immediately terminate this EAoA and cancel it in case of non-adherence to any provision of this EAoA;
- 5.2 The Government may also terminate this EAoA on the following grounds:-
 - 5.2.1 The activities of the private party are considered detrimental to national interest, sovereignty and integrity of Pakistan or dubious in nature or is in violation of cultural and religious sentiments of the people;
 - 5.2.2 False information is furnished to the Government;
 - 5.2.3 No reasonable activity is undertaken by private party for a period of one year after signing of this EAoA;
 - 5.2.4 The private party ceases to exist
- 5.3 Decision regarding termination or otherwise of the EAoA under clause 5 shall be taken after providing private party an opportunity of being heard

6. Settlement of disputes.

All differences or disputes arising from or concerning with the application or the interpretation of this Agreement shall be amicably settled through mutual consultation and negotiations between the parties.

7. Entry into Force and Duration of AOA

7.1 This EAoA shall enter into force from the date of signatures and shall remain valid for a period of two years, extendable for further periods by mutual written consent of the Parties

7.2 This EAoA may be amended at any time through mutual written consent of the Parties. The Party wishing to amend the EAoA must give the other Party a written notice of not less than three months

7.3 This EAoA may be terminated at any time by either Party by giving notice of three months to the other Party of its intention to terminate this EAoA.
