

No. 1/2012/SEM/OGA/2521-24

Government of Punjab  
Directorate of Governance Reforms  
SCO 193-195, Sector 34 A, Chandigarh

Dated 29/8/13

To

1. All Financial Commissioners
2. All Principal Secretaries
3. All Administrative Secretaries / Secretaries to Government of Punjab
4. All Head of Departments / Directors

**Subject: Regarding Windows XP end of Support.**

Microsoft has announced end of support for Windows XP Operating System w.e.f. 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Microsoft initially released Windows XP Operating System in August 2001. The current version of Windows XP is Windows XP Service Pack 3. Thereafter three successor versions of client based Operating Systems namely Windows Vista in November 2006, Windows 7 in July 2009 and Windows 8 in August 2012 were released by Microsoft. The latest client based Operating System available from Microsoft Windows 8.

Due to the end of support of Windows XP Operating System below mentioned important updates will not be available:-

1. Security update
2. Non-Security Hot-Fixes
3. Free or Paid assisted support and any online technical support for Windows XP

In the absence of above, the computer systems would be at greater risks and can cause below mentioned vulnerabilities:-

1. Computer Systems could be easily compromised by the hackers.

2. There would also be compliance issues due to un-patched components in the IT infrastructure of the Departments which may result in non-compliance and suspension of certifications by the certifying and Auditing organisations.
3. The software vendors and hardware manufacturers will also stop support for Windows XP on their new versions and models.

Therefore in the view of the above it is highly recommended that any hardware using Window XP in your environment should immediately be up-graded to the latest available Operating Systems and test their software applications as well before April 2014.

  
Director  
Governance Reforms

Endst. No. 1/2012/SeMT/DGR/2525

Dated 29/8/13

A copy of the above is forwarded to following for information please:

1. PS/Principal Secretary, Governance Reforms for kind information of Principal Secretary, Governance Reforms.

  
Director  
Governance Reforms