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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

PRESS RELEASE

Today, i.e. 3rd September, 2020, meeting of the Provincial Justice Committee-Balochistan (PJC) has been held at High Court of Balochistan building, Quetta under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Chief Justice High Court of Balochistan/Chairman, PJC-Balochistan. The meeting was convened by Dr. Muhammad Raheem Awan, Secretary Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan (LJCP)/National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee (NJPMC) (Member/Secretary to the PJC).

The meeting was also attended on special invitation by Honorable Mr. Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan, Senior Puisne Judge, High Court of Balochistan besides by Mr. Arbab Muhammad Tahir, Advocate General Balochistan, Mr. Rashid Mehmood, Registrar, High Court of Balochistan, Mr. Dawood Khan Nasir, District & Sessions Judge Quetta, Mr. Aftab Ahmed Lone, Member Inspection Team, High Court of Balochistan, the Additional Secretary, Home & Tribal Affairs Department, Govt. of Balochistan, Mr. Afzal Harifal Secretary Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department, Govt. of Balochistan, Mr. Abdul Rehman Cheema, Additional Inspector General of Police, Balochistan, Dr. Umar Babar, Secretary Prosecution Department, Mr. Naimatullah Khan, Prosecutor General Balochistan, Mr. Lal Jan Jaffar, Special Secretary Finance Department and Malik Yousaf, Inspector General of Prisons.

The meeting commenced with the recitation of Holy Quran. The Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Balochistan/Chairman, PJC-Balochistan welcomed the participants and remarked that the PJC is unique forum in which all the justice sector stake holders participate for addressing provincial law, justice and security challenges within their jurisdiction and has a pivotal role in provincial inter-organizational coordination and cooperation.

In the meeting, as per mandate, steps for the improvement in the investigation and prosecution service, training of investigating officers of police and levies, timely submission of challans, establishment of Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Balochistan, release of deserving persons on probation and parole, infrastructure requirements and provincial offices of Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan came into consideration and were deliberated upon.

As regards improvement in investigation and prosecution, it was deliberated that there is urgent need for removing flaws in the said processes as due to which the accused persons take benefits moreover it was also deliberated that the Levies Act, 2011 may be examined for removing bottlenecks in the investigation process and other related issues. During the meeting it was also discussed that the investigation and prosecution processes under NAB Law, Narcotics Law, Anti-Corruption Law and Drug Law may also be examined for effective implementation, moreover qualified instructors may be employed for imparting trainings. It was resolved that a committee may be formed consisting of senior officers of the home department, law department, police department and Levies Force in order to make recommendations for improvement in the aforesaid processes.

As regards establishment of FSL in Balochistan the Secretary Prosecution informed that the work on the physical structure of the lab is complete and after completion experts would be hired for the said laboratory. The Hon'ble chair observed that relevant experts should be consulted for initiating a modern lab with all required facilities.


With respect to the condition of jails in Balochistan it was deliberated by the committee that there are certain prisons which are overcrowded while others have a low number of inmates. The chair observed that the provincial government may devise a policy under which areas may be identified where new prisons could be constructed and existing prisons renovated. It was also deliberated that in certain judicial lockups there are no food/rationing provision for the inmates and the prisons department may make arrangements with the provincial government for the provision of food to the inmates. Furthermore the committee deliberated about the blood screening of the prison inmates and segregation of inmates suffering from diseases like HIV and TB etc. The Hon'ble chair observed that the prison authorities may request the district health authorities for provision of health facilities to the inmates.

The committee also deliberated upon the process serving through modern means and it was observed that there is no effective mechanism for the said purpose. It was resolved that the provincial government including Home department, Police department and IT department should evolve a mechanism for ensuring process serving through modern means.

The committee also deliberates upon the issue of submission of challans and deliberated that challans should be submitted within the situated period and since the Levies are also involved in the said process therefore the police department should sit with the Levies for formulation of a uniform mechanism. The Secretary LJCP remarked that the committee could co-opt the DG, Levies as member of the committee and which proposition was approved by the committee. The committee observed that there are a large number of untraced cases and resolved that the police department should submit a report regarding resolution of the untraced cases. With respect to the recommendations of the High Court against delinquent investigation officers regarding non-submission of challans, Hon'ble chair directed that the IG police should submit report regarding progress report on the aforesaid recommendations.

While reviewing the data of police complaint redressal centers, it was observed that monthwise data should be submitted in order to better appreciate the performance of the said centers. The committee also deliberated upon the data regarding release of convicts on probation/parole and the vacancies position in the Directorate of Reclamation and Probation. The Hon'ble chair remarked that the probation and parole laws should be effectively utilized and the appointment of probation and parole officers may be considered vis-à-vis prison population in the districts.

This press release can be downloaded from website, i.e. www.ljcp.gov.pk


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for (Jawad Khan)
Joint Secretary (NJPMC)