

Ref: PILAP/HO/2020/395

August 17, 2020

**The Secretary,  
National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee,  
Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan,  
Supreme Court of Pakistan Building,  
Constitution Avenue,  
Islamabad**

**APPLICATION UNDER THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT, 2017**

Dear Sir,

The Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan (PILAP) is a public interest association concerned with the primary objective of enabling the citizens of Pakistan to attain the realization of their civil, human, economic, social and political rights, as guaranteed by the Fundamental Rights laid down in the Constitution of Pakistan. PILAP addresses matters of public interest by means of advocacy and by seeking redress for the people of Pakistan through the justice system. It respectfully submits as under:

1. That the details of the authorized person on behalf of PILAP are as under:

Name of the Applicant: Pervez Said  
CNIC No.: 42301-0954324-1  
Father's Name: Muhammad Said  
Address: 51-I, Khayaban-e-Hilal, Phase-6, DHA, Karachi  
Phone No.: 0300-8235570

2. That PILAP seeks information on the operation of the model courts established on the orders of the former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Justice Asif Saeed Khosa, which were aimed at administering speedy trials and to reduce the massive backlog of pending cases.
3. That the objective behind the establishment of Pakistan's model courts, i.e. swift disposal of justice, is laudable, especially in a country where it is the norm for cases to last for many years, sometimes a couple of decades.
4. That notwithstanding the good work done by the model courts since their inception in terms expeditious disposal of cases, there are concerns regarding the quality of justice dispensed. This concern arises due to the fact that in the regular court system, a vast majority of death sentences ordered by the lower courts are eventually overturned by the Supreme Court for reasons of procedural error and faulty evidence, amongst others. Therefore, the question arises as to whether there is a risk of miscarriage of justice in such swift disposal of cases,

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**PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN**

Plot # 18-C, 2nd Floor, Office # 202, Zamzama Lane # 2, Phase-5, DHA, Karachi.  
Phone: +9221 32417049, +9221 32417087, +9221-35304110 Email: info@pilap.pk

especially within a justice system that does not routinely handle cases in such an expeditious manner and in certain matters that may be complex enough to require more time to be heard.

5. That in view of the above, PILAP respectfully submits this application under the right granted by the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 and Article 19A of the Constitution as under:
- i) What mechanisms have been put in place by the National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee to ensure that there is no miscarriage of justice in disposal of cases that are brought before the model courts?
  - ii) What monitoring processes have been adopted by the NJPMC to ensure that the swift disposal of cases by the model courts does not compromise the quality of justice dispensed?
  - iii) What are the circumstances that led to the creation of model courts, including the total number of cases, and their break-up in terms of civil and criminal matters, pending before the Civil and District Courts throughout the country and the average time for the disposal of the same on an annual basis?
  - iv) What are the mechanisms for dealing with decisions of the model courts that go for appeal before the High Courts? Are the appeals dealt with as expeditiously as they are before the model courts?
  - v) What measures are being taken by the NJPMC to replicate the model court system into the regular court system for the sake of judicial disposal of cases on a wider scale?
6. That in the circumstances, PILAP would be grateful for a reply at the earliest.

Thank you.

Best regards,



Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan (PILAP)  
Through its Chief Executive Officer  
Pervez Said

Address for reply:

Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan (PILAP),  
Office No.202, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Zamzama Commercial Lane # 2,  
Defence Housing Authority, Phase-5,  
Karachi.

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