

MOST URGENT

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THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI

No.: 1150 /MIT-II/C.P. No. S-728/2016 (Larkana)

Dated: 05-05-2021

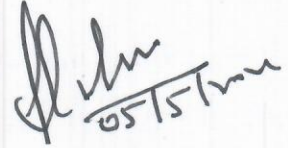
THROUGH EMAIL

To,

All the Judicial Magistrates,
Through learned District and Sessions Judges in all districts of Sindh.

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTIONAL PETITION NO. S-728/2016 (LARKANA)
(Order dated 03-05-2021)

I am directed to enclose herewith copy of order dated 03-05-2021 and 12-10-2020 passed by this Hon'ble Court in the subject case along with copy of Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013, for compliance in *stricto sensu*.



(Suhail Muhammad Laghari)
Member Inspection Team-II

Enclosed as above.

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI
CP.No.S-728 of 2016.

Date Order with signature of Judge

Hearing of case.

1. For orders on office objection as at "A".
 2. For orders on CMA No. 4871 of 2018.
 3. For hearing of main case.
-

12th October 2020

Ms. Sara Malkani, advocate/ Amicus Curiae.
Mr. Ali Ahmed Phull advocate/ Amicus Curiae.
Mr. Pervez Ahmed Mastoi, Asst. A.G. Sindh a/w SI. Aftab Ahmed.
Mr. Nisar Ahmed Solangi, D.G. Social Welfare Department.
Mr. Abdul Khaliq Qureshi, Addl. Director, Social Welfare Department.
Mr. Tahir Mehmood, Deputy Director, Child Protection Authority.
Ms Nuzhat Shireen Chairperson Sindh Commission on the Status of Women, Government of Sindh.

Pursuant to earlier order of this Court committee, formed with regard to Women Protection as provided under Domestic Violence Act, has submitted its recommendations as well as recommendations of Status of Women Commission and Social Welfare Department; taken on record.

2. At this juncture, it would be conducive to refer recommendations, which are that:-

"RECOMMENDATIONS

The following steps should be taken by relevant departments in Sindh Government in order to establish the One Stop Protection Centers and make them effective:

- i. Develop the budget required to enhance the facilities at women police stations serving as the One Stop Protection Centers, including building temporary shelters, required office space for staff and transportation, which must include at a minimum two vehicles for the rescue and transportation of women.
- ii. Women Police Stations shall remain under the administrative and operational control of Police



Department. Those Police Stations which would be declared as One Stop Protection Centers shall work under supervision of District SSP/SP in collaboration with Women Development and other concerned departments.

- iii. Appointments against sanctioned and proposed positions of Protection Officers and other district staff in the WDD be made within 6 months. **Note:** The WDD has already initiated the procedure and moved the authorities for requisite approval and the Chief Minister of Sindh has already approved recruitment of contract staff under ADP project "Establishment of complaint cells" in 15 districts of Sindh.
- iv. Appointments against sanctioned positions of women police officers be made on an urgent basis.
- v. Safe houses and Dar-ul-Aman be shifted to the WDD to provide for a consolidated ecosystem of protection and rehabilitation. The facility specific recruitment of female staff of Dar-ul-Amans should be made to make these Dar-ul-Amans full operational.
- vi. All cases coming to the One Stop Protection Centers must be recorded and their progress must be monitored. The database of all the cases coming in the One Stop Protection Centers shall be collated through the Coordinator Office at WDD secretariat. This coordinator office is part of the ADP scheme mentioned above.
- vii. The Sindh Commission on the Status of Women (SCSW) shall monitor the operation of the One Stop Protection Centers. Details of cases recorded at the One Stop Protection Center shall be reviewed and analyzed by the SCSW, and it shall make recommendations regarding gaps and weakness in service delivery on a periodic basis as required.
- viii. The SCSW, NGOs and civil society to support and create strong linkages with the One Stop Protection Center.
- ix. Sindh Judicial Academy should prioritize the sensitization of judges to the widespread patriarchal values that perpetuate violence against women and prevent them from accessing justice. Court proceedings in these cases must take into account the specific challenges faced by women. Courts should issue protection orders under the Sindh Domestic Violence Act 2013 on an urgent basis and *ex parte* where needed to ensure the safety of women.

- x. The Sindh Domestic Violence Act 2013 must be implemented fully in line with the orders of the Sindh High Court in CP. No. S-2658 of 2018 (Maya Ashfaq v. Province of Sindh & Others)."

Accordingly, above recommendations shall be communicated to Secretary Social Welfare, Secretary Women Development Department and Chief Secretary Sindh for compliance.

To come up on 17th December 2020.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH KARACHI

Constitutional Petition No.S-728 of 2016 (LARKANA)

Mst. Nageena and another.....Petitioners
 SHO P.S. Dokri & Others.....Respondents

1. For order on MIT report dated 24.03.2021.
2. For order on office objection.
3. For order on CMA No.4871/2018
4. For hearing of main case.

03.05.2021

Ms. Sara Malkani advocate, learned amicus curia.

Mr. Fahem Hussain Panhwar, DPG.

Mr. Sikandar Hassan, Deputy Secretary (Legal), Finance Department,
 Govt. of Sindh.

Tahir Mehmood, Director, PMC and Nisar A. Solangi, Director Admin,
 Social Welfare Department.

SALAHUDDIN PANHWAR, J: At the outset learned amicus curia

has referred clause 9 of order dated 12.10.2020, she further contends that Magistrates are bound to issue protection order at once, even exparte as enshrined in section 11 of Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013. Contention raised carries weight. Accordingly learned MIT-II shall circulate order dated 12.10.2020 to all Magistrates as well as Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013 for compliance in *stricto sensu*.

Through earlier order directions were issued with regard to action against delinquent in commission of offence of rape in darul-aman by darul-aman official as contained in paragraphs No.4, 5 and 6 which are that :-

4. It would be germane to reproduce here enquiry conducted pursuant to order dated 25.02.2020 in referred CP, as under:-

"To verify the allegations against clerk Muhammad Sharif with the assistance of learned female magistrate it was inquired from the inmates



*Put up provisions
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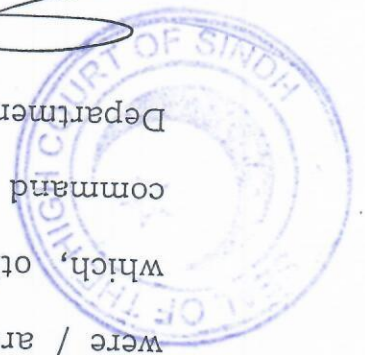
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separately, there was no excess of any staff member of darul aman at that time as they were directed to leave the room, during enquiry out of 32, 8 inmates namely Mst. Shahreen (petitioner) Shazi, Pari, Shahida, Iram, Shabana, Shazia and Fozia pointed out that they had seen said clerk by committing such immoral act with inmate Veenjhar, while rest of the inmates stated that they did not see such activity of clerk. I recorded separate statement of inmates named above through leaned magistrate as per their verbatim, they all fully corroborated such version and alleged that several times they seen the clerk while committing such immoral act with inmate Veenjhar and further alleged that such complaint was made by them to I/C of darul aman who did not take any action and also alleged that clerk had threatened them that they should not disclose such fact to anyone else, even one of the inmate namely Fozia while recording her statement pointed out old bad habit of said clerk that prior to this he had committed zina with inmate Malookan who has been released from darul aman. It is pertinent to mention here that inmate /victim Veenjhar was appearing to be abnormal, as despite repeated questions of undersigned she did not reply hence it was impossible to record her statement and I/C daru aman pointed out that medical board has been constituted to examine her, such correspondence has been made with competent authority, however from statements of inmates, it is crystal clear that said clerk is prima facie connected/involved in such immoral activities and despite complaint of the inmates named above I/C darul aman did not care to take it serious and also to take legal action against said clerk, no enquiry the I/C darul aman denied any complaint form part of inmates. However the I/C darul aman pointed out that said clerk was ordered to be reported to original place of posting by Deputy Director Headquarter Sukkur on 25.02.2020, means on the day of order passed by honourable High Court in the CP discussed above, mere transfer of clerk from one place to other is nothing instead of taking appropriate action against him in accordance with law, it seems that said clerk being subordinate is more powerful from his superiors. (Copy of transfer order and original statements of inmates recorded by undersigned are enclosed herewith for kind perusal)."

5. The referred report not only shows the misery of women, nested in Darul-Aman, but the failure of authorities (superiors) of such like 'institution' in such



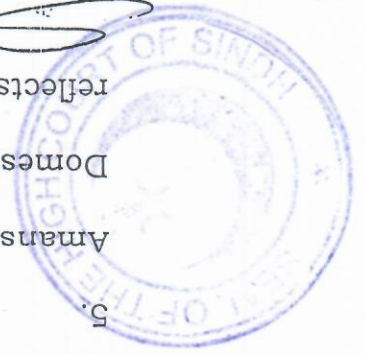


like grave and serious complaints. The 'Darul-Aman' is aimed to be a place of 'safety' for women but if such is to be happened with inmates of such place then where to claim 'safety' and where to shift such 'women'? The concept of 'safety', I shall insist, was / is to be ensured by the authorities (superiors) at any cost which (cost) is not limited to be bold enough to lodge a complaint / FIR against one's *himself* but departmental action, too, against such complained person. No such action / dare has been shown in said matter which, *even*, exposes the authority concerned upto Secretary level to face legal consequences of its own failure.

6. Needless to add attempt to *hide* an offence is *itself* an 'OFFENCE'. Accordingly, the Secretary Social Welfare Department, shall *itself* examine the said report and necessary legal action shall be taken which be placed before this court on next date of hearing. Such position, however, does not allow continuity of availability / involvement of 'male-staff' within / inside the 'Darul-Amans' therefore, it is hereby ordered that all male staff shall be removed from inside the Darul-Amans within one month."

3. In pursuance thereof, Director Administration, Social Welfare Department, present submits order dated 30.04.2021 with regard to action taken against Muhammad Sharif Senior Clerk who was working in Darul Aman Sukkur; in enquiry conducted by learned District and Sessions Judge, he (learned D&S.J) found him involved in commission of offence of rapes with inmates which includes one unsound girl Keenjhar. The order shows that on being found involved he (Muhammad Sharif, Sr. Clerk) has been demoted and transferred.

The directions by this Court, as reflected in paragraphs No.5 and 6, were / are very categorical regarding removal of male-staff from 'Darul-Amans' as well action against the delinquent officials. These were / are aimed to shoulder the trembling image of Darul-Aman which, otherwise, was / is to be a **safest-place** being under command of government. Action taken by D.G. Social Welfare Department is not showing that any FIR was/is registered by their



5. Further, it has also come on record that now Darul Aman are under the domain of Women Development Department. Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013 which reflects appointment of women protection officers and psychologist in

4. Accordingly, this Court is left with no option but to direct for lodgment of FIR against Muhammad Sharif, senior clerk, in view of enquiry of learned District and Sessions Judge. The investigating officer shall also examine the acts and omissions of the then Director Social Welfare Sukkur and the then Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of Sindh if constituting **abatement** shall be tried as such. DIGP Sukkur shall ensure compliance. Learned District and Sessions Judge Sukkur shall also ensure compliance.

unavoidable.

Department against delinquent official(s) though they, *prima facie*, found to be involved in such offence (s). The department must dare to own mistakes / failures and if such mistakes / failures result in happening of such **criminal offences** then the department should not hesitate in bringing the law into motion i.e lodgment of FIR (s). Time to remind all that FIR (s) does not prove one guilty but only allows an investigation onto such charge / allegation which course must be allowed particularly when one, in course of an inquiry, is found involved in a **'penal offence'**. The coercive action (s) should not be avoided, if are permissible by law because if such action succeeds in creating deterrence for others such action served its purpose. Happening of such like incidents at such a place (*Darul Aman*) which meaning is that **'House of Safety'** needed to be viewed differently and lodgment of FIR against all concerned was / is unavoidable.

every district separately and those psychologists shall be at the disposal of concerned Magistrate and officers of Women Development Department and SSP. Needless to mention that any psychologists appointed and posted in Civil Hospitals would not be considered, as having been appointed under the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013 therefore, directions were issued for approval of SNES.

6. Deputy Secretary (Legal) Finance Department present contends that yet Women Development Department and Home Department have not approached them and they have not received any proposal to comply with the order of this court. Such statement is quite surprising because the department (s), once directed, were / are to move for compliance. The MIT-II report also reflects that these authorities were directed repeatedly but they have not paid any heed. Accordingly issue show cause notice to Secretaries, Women Development Department and Home Department and they shall also appear in person with proposals of SNES and compliance. It is expected that learned MIT-II will also appear alongwith record so as to assist this Court regarding compliance of its orders / directions.

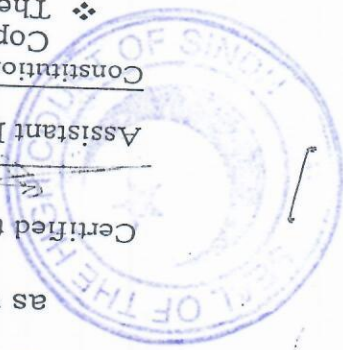
7. At this juncture it would be conducive to appoint Mr. Abadul-Hasnain advocate as amicus curiae though Ms. Sara Malkani is assisting this court as amicus.

To come up on 06.05.2021 at 11.30 a.m. This order shall be communicated through all modes as well through whatsapp as well A.G. Sindh.

Certified to be true copy,

Sd/- SALAHUDDIN PANHWAR
JUDGE

Assistant Registrar (Civil / writ SB)



Constitutional Petition No.S-728/2016(Larkana) Karachi dated the May 4, 2021

- ❖ The Learned Member for Information and compliance to:
- ❖ The Learned District & Sessions Judge SUKKUR.
- ❖ The Advocate General Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Prosecutor General Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Chief Secretary, Government of Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Inspector General, Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Secretary, Finance Department, Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Secretary, Home Department, Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Secretary, Women Development Department, Sindh, KARACHI.
- ❖ The Deputy Inspector General of Police, SUKKUR.
- ❖ The Director General, Social Welfare Department, SUKKUR.

(ABDUL KASHIF KALACH)
Assistant Registrar (Civil / writ SB)

**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH
NOTIFICATION
KARACHI, THE 19TH MARCH, 2013.**

NO.PAS/Legis-B-19/2013- The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2013 having been passed by the Provincial Assembly of Sindh on 8th March, 2013 and assented to by the Governor of Sindh on 12th March, 2013 is hereby published as an Act of the Legislature of Sindh.

THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (PREVENTION AND PROTECTION) ACT, 2013

SINDH ACT NO. XX OF 2013.

**AN
ACT**

to make provisions for protection against domestic violence.

WHEREAS it is expedient to institutionalize measures which prevent and protect women, children and any vulnerable person from domestic violence and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2013. **Short title, extent and commencement.**
- (2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Sindh.
- (3) It shall come into force at once.

2.(1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,- **Definitions.**

- (a) "aggrieved person" means any woman, child or any vulnerable person who is or has been in a domestic relationship with the respondent and who alleges to have been subjected to any act of domestic violence by the respondent;
- (b) "child" means any person under the age of eighteen years living in a domestic relationship with the respondent and includes any adopted, step or foster child;
- (c) "Code" means the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898);
- (d) "court" means the court of Judicial Magistrate of first class;
- (e) "domestic relationship" means a relationship between persons who live, or have at any point of time lived together in a household when they are related by Consanguinity, marriage, kinship, adoption, or are family members living together;

- (f) "domestic violence" has the same meaning as assigned to it in section 5;
- (g) "Government" means the Government of Sindh;
- (h) "household" means a household where the aggrieved person lives or at any stage has lived in a domestic relationship either singly or along with the respondent and includes such a household whether owned or tenanted either jointly by the aggrieved person and the respondent or owned and tenanted by either of them, any such household in respect of which either the aggrieved person or the respondent or both jointly or singly have any right, title, interest or equity and includes such a household which may belong to the joint family of which the respondent is a member, irrespective of whether the respondent or the aggrieved person has right, title, interest in such a shared household;
- (i) "informer" means a person who has credible information that an offence is being committed under this Act and who has no interest adverse to the aggrieved person or to the accused;
- (j) "monetary relief" means a monetary relief which a court may order under section 12;
- (k) "notification" means a notification published in the Official Gazette;
- (l) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules made under this Act;
- (m) "Protection Committee" means a Committee constituted under section 17;
- (n) "Protection Officer" means an officer appointed by Government under section 21;
- (o) "Protection order" means an order passed in terms of section 11;
- (p) "respondent" means a person who is or has been in a domestic relationship with the aggrieved person and against whom relief has been sought under this Act;
- (q) "residence order" means an order granted in terms of section 11;
- (r) "service provider" means any such government facility or registered voluntary organization established for the protection of aggrieved person providing legal, medical, financial or any other assistance;
- (s) "vulnerable person" means a person who is vulnerable due to old age, mental illness or handicap or physical disability

or for other special reason.

(2) Words and phrases not defined in this Act shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Pakistan Penal Code, 1898 (Act XLV of 1898) and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1860, (Act V of 1860).

3. Government shall ensure that -

- (a) this Act and the contents thereof receive wide publicity through electronic and print media in Urdu and local languages;
- (b) the Government officers, the police and the members of the judicial service are given periodic sensitization and awareness training on the issues addressed by this Act; and
- (c) effective protocols are formulated by the concerned Ministries and Departments dealing with health, education, employment, law and social welfare to address the issue of domestic violence and that the same are periodically revised.

Government to ensure effective implementation of the Act.

4. (1) Government shall constitute a Commission which shall consist of a Chairperson and such number of members as may be prescribed.

Constitution of Commission.

(2) The Commission shall –

- (a) review from time to time the existing provisions of the law on domestic violence and suggest amendments therein, if any;
- (b) call for specific studies or investigation into specific incidence of domestic violence;
- (c) look into complaints and take *suomoto* notice of matters relating to domestic violence and the non-implementation of the law; and
- (d) participate and advise on the planning process for securing a safe environment free of domestic violence.

5. Domestic Violence includes but is not limited to, all acts of gender based and other physical or psychological abuse committed by a respondent against women, children or other vulnerable persons, with whom the respondent is or has been in a domestic relationship including but not limited to -

Domestic Violence.

- (a) "abet" as defined in Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860) hereinafter referred to in this section as the said Code;
- (b) "assault" as defined in section 351 of the said Code;
- (c) "attempt" as defined in section 511 of the said Code to

commit any of the offenses enumerated in this section;

- (d) "criminal force" as defined in section 350 of the said Code;
- (e) "criminal intimidation" as defined in section 503 of the said Code;
- (f) "Emotional, psychological and verbal abuse" means a pattern of degrading or humiliating conduct towards the victim, including but not limited to –
 - (i) obsessive possessiveness or jealousy constituting serious invasion of the victim's privacy, liberty, integrity and security;
 - (ii) insults or ridicule;
 - (iii) threat to cause physical pain;
 - (iv) threat of malicious prosecution;
 - (v) blaming a spouse of immorality;
 - (vi) threats of divorce;
 - (vii) baselessly blaming or imputing insanity, or citing barrenness of a spouse with the intention to marry again;
 - (viii) bringing false allegation upon the character of a female member by any member of the shared household; and
 - (ix) willful or negligent abandonment of the aggrieved person;
- (g) "harassment" as defined in section 509 of the said Code;
- (h) "hurt" as defined in sections 332, 333, 335, 336A, 337, 337B, 337C, 337E, 337J, 337K, 337L of the said Code;
- (i) "mischief" as defined in section 425 of the said Code against the property of the aggrieved person;
- (j) "physical abuse" means any hurt caused by any act or

conduct as defined in section 5(f) of this Act;

- (k) "stalking" includes, but is not limited to –
 - (i) accosting the aggrieved person against his or her wishes; and
 - (ii) watching or loitering outside or near the building or place where the-aggrieved person resides or works or visits frequently;
- (l) "sexual abuse" includes any conduct of a sexual nature that abuses, humiliates, degrades or otherwise violates the dignity of the aggrieved person which may include –
 - (i) compelling the wife to cohabit with anybody other than the husband;
 - (ii) any kind of sexual abuse including sexual harassment of a member of the family;
- (m) "trespass" means entry into aggrieved person's residence either temporary or permanent without his or her consent, and includes workplace or frequently other place where the parties do not share the same residence;
- (n) "wrongful confinement" as defined in section 340 of the said Code; and
- (o) "economic abuse" includes deprivation of economic or financial resources or prohibition or restriction to continue access to such resources which the aggrieved person is ordinarily entitled to.

6. (1) The offences under section 5 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (g), (h) (i) and (n) shall be punishable as provided under the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860. **Punishment.**

(2) The offences under section 5(f) shall be punishable with imprisonment of minimum six months or with fine to be paid as compensation to the aggrieved person which shall not be less than ten thousand rupees or with both.

(3) Whosoever stalks a person under section 5(k) shall be punished with simple imprisonment of not less than one year or with fine to be paid as compensation to the aggrieved party which shall not be less than twenty thousand rupees or with both.

(4) The offences under section 5(l) shall be punishable with imprisonment of either description not less than two years or with compensation to the aggrieved party which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees or with both.

(5) The offences under section 5(m) shall be punishable with

imprisonment for either description for a term not less than one month or with fine or with both.

(6) Any person who commits the offences under section 5(o) shall be liable to pay compensation under section 12(1)(a).

7. (1) An aggrieved person or other person authorized by the aggrieved person in this behalf or informer may present a petition to the Court within whose jurisdiction -

Petition to the Court.

- (i) the aggrieved person resides or carries on business; and
- (ii) the last place where the respondent and aggrieved person last resided together.

(2) The court shall fix the first date of hearing, which shall not exceed seven days from the date of the receipt of the petition by the court.

(3) On receipt of petition from an aggrieved party, the court shall, with or without issuing an interim order, issue a notice upon the person complained against calling upon him to show cause within seven days of receipt of notice as to why a protection order shall not be made against him for committing an act or acts of domestic violence as alleged in the petition.

(4) The petition made under sub-section (1) shall be disposed of within a period of ninety days and any adjournment given during the hearing of the petition shall be granted for reasons to be recorded in writing by the Court.

8. (1) The court, at any stage of the proceedings under this Act, may direct the respondent or as the case may be, aggrieved person to undergo mandatory counseling with an appropriate service provider.

Counseling.

(2) Where the court has issued any direction under sub-section (1), it shall fix the next date of hearing of the case within a period not exceeding thirty days.

9. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the aggrieved person shall not be evicted from the household without consent, whether or not he or she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same.

Right to reside in a household.

(2) The aggrieved person shall not be evicted from the household or any part of it by the respondent save in accordance with law.

10. (1) In any proceeding under this Act, the court may pass such interim order at any time and stage of the petition as it deems just and proper.

Power to grant interim order.

(2) If the court is satisfied that a petition *prima facie* discloses that the respondent has committed an act of domestic violence or that there is a likelihood that the respondent may commit an act of domestic violence, it may issue order on the basis of an affidavit of

the aggrieved person or any other evidence or material, before the court as prescribed under sections 11, 12 and 13 against the respondent.

11. (1) The court on being satisfied that domestic violence has *prima facie* taken place may pass a protection order in favour of the aggrieved person and prohibit the respondent from –

Passing of protection orders and residence orders.

- (a) committing any act of domestic violence;
- (b) aiding or abetting in the commission of acts of domestic violence;
- (c) entering the place of employment of the aggrieved person or, if the aggrieved person is a child, his or her educational institution or any other place frequented by the aggrieved person;
- (d) attempting to communicate in any form, whatsoever with the aggrieved person, including personal, oral or written, electronic or telephonic or mobile phone contact;
- (e) causing violence to the dependants, other relatives or any person who gives the aggrieved person assistance against domestic violence; and
- (f) committing any other act as specified in the protection order;

(2) In addition to the order under sub-section (1), or otherwise, the court on being satisfied that domestic violence has taken place may pass a residence order to –

- (a) restrain the respondent from dispossessing or in any other manner disturbing the possession of the aggrieved person from the household;
- (b) restrain the respondent or any of his relatives from entering the household; and
- (c) direct the respondent to secure alternative accommodation for the aggrieved person or if the circumstances so require to pay rent for the same.

(3) The court may impose any additional conditions or pass any other direction which it may deem reasonably necessary to protect and provide for the safety of the aggrieved person or any child of such aggrieved person.

(4) The court may require from the respondent to execute a bond, with or without sureties, for preventing the commission of domestic violence.

(5) While making an order under sub-sections (1), (2) or (3), the court may also pass an order directing the officer in charge of the nearest police station to give protection to the aggrieved person or to assist the aggrieved person or the person making an application on his or her behalf in the implementation of the order.

(6) While making an order under sub-section (2), the court may impose on the respondent obligations relating to the discharge of rent or other payments, having regard to the financial needs and resources of the parties.

(7) The court may direct the officer in charge of the police station in whose jurisdiction the court has been approached to assist in the implementation of the protection order.

(8) The court may direct the respondent to return the possession to the aggrieved person of any property, valuables or documents to which the aggrieved person is entitled.

(9) The court shall in all cases where it has passed any order under this section, order that a copy of such order, shall be given to the parties to the application, the officer in charge of the police station in the jurisdiction of which the court has been approached as well as to the service provider located within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the court.

12. (1) The court may, at any stage of the trial of a petition filed by the aggrieved person, pass interim order directing the respondent to pay monetary relief to meet the expenses incurred and losses suffered by the aggrieved person and such relief may include, but is not limited to – **Monetary relief.**

- (a) compensation to the aggrieved person for suffering as a consequence of economic abuse to be determined by the court;
- (b) loss of earning;
- (c) medical expense;
- (d) the loss caused due to the destruction, damage or removal of any property from the control of the aggrieved person; and
- (e) the maintenance for the aggrieved person as well her children, if any, including an order under or in addition to an order of maintenance under family laws.

(2) The respondent shall pay monetary relief to the person aggrieved within the period specified in the order made in terms of sub-section (1) and in accordance with terms thereof.

(3) The court may, upon failure on part of the respondent to make payment in terms of the order under sub-section (2) direct an employer or debtor, of the respondent, to directly pay the aggrieved person or to deposit with the court a portion of the wages or salaries or debt due to or accrued to the credit of the respondent, which amount may be adjusted towards the monetary relief payable by the respondent.

13. The court may, at any stage of the petition for protection order or for any other relief under this Act grant temporary custody of an aggrieved person who is – **Custody orders.**

- (a) a child to a person under the Guardians and Wards Act 1890 (VIII of 1890); and
- (b) an adult to a service provider or some other person in accordance with the will of the aggrieved person:

Provided that in any case where a complaint of sexual abuse of a child has been made and the court is prima facie satisfied that such allegation is true, the court shall grant custody of the aggrieved child to the non-respondent parent or guardian or the person making an application on his or her behalf.

14. (1) The interim order made under section 10 and the protection order made under section 11 shall remain in force until the aggrieved person applies for discharge of such order.

Duration and alteration of interim, protection and residence orders.

(2) If the court on receipt of an application at any stage from the aggrieved person or the respondent is satisfied that there is a change in the circumstances requiring alteration, modification or recalling of any order made under this Act, it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing pass such order, as it may deem appropriate.

(3) The residence order shall remain in force until such time it is altered.

(4) Nothing contained in sub-sections (1) and (2) shall prevent an aggrieved person from making a fresh application after the previous order has been discharged.

15. (1) A breach of protection order, or of the interim protection order, by the respondent shall be an offence and shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees, or with both.

Penalty for breach of an interim or protection order by the respondent.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code the offence under this section shall be cognizable, bailable and compoundable.

16. Any person convicted by a court under sub-section (1) of section 15, may file an appeal to the court of Sessions within thirty days of the passing of the order of sentence and the court of sessions shall decide the appeal within sixty days.

Appeal.

17. (1) Government shall, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute Protection Committees for the purposes of this Act.

Protection Committee.

(2) A Protection Committee shall comprise a Social Welfare Officer who shall be the convener, medical practitioner, a psychologist, psycho-social worker and an official appointed by the court, a female police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector and two women members from civil society and the Protection Officer who shall also act as the Secretary of the Protection Committee.

18. The Protection Committee may –

- (a) inform the aggrieved person of her or his rights provided under this Act or any other law for the time being in force and the remedies and the help that may be provided;

Duties and functions of Protection Committee.

- (b) assist the aggrieved person in obtaining any medical treatment necessitated due to the domestic violence;
- (c) if necessary, and with the consent of the aggrieved person, assist the aggrieved person in relocating to a safer place acceptable to the aggrieved person, which may include the house of any relative or family friend or other safe place or if any, established by a service provider;
- (d) assist the aggrieved person in the preparation of and filing of any petition or report under this Act, the Code or any other law for the time being in force;
- (e) keep official record of the incidents of domestic violence in its area of jurisdiction, whether on the basis of information received or *suomoto* inquiry, irrespective of whether or not action is taken under this Act. Such record shall include –
 - (i) the first information received about the incident of domestic violence;
 - (ii) the assistance, if any, offered or provided by the Protection Committee to the aggrieved person;
 - (iii) where applicable the reason for not taking action under this Act when an incident was brought to the notice of the Protection Committee;
 - (iv) where applicable, the reason for the aggrieved person's refusal to take assistance from the Protection Committee;
 - (v) the names and contact details of the service provider, if any, from whom the aggrieved person sought help;
 - (vi) maintenance of the record of applications, protection orders and the service providers operating in the area of jurisdiction; and
 - (vii) perform any other duties that may be assigned to the Protection Committee under this Act or the rules made there under.

19.(1) Members of the Protection Committee shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860).

(2) The Protection Committee may file an application for obtaining a protection order under section 11, if so desired by the aggrieved person.

(3) The Protection Committee may procure the assistance of any person or authority, and any person or authority so requested by the

**Powers,
privileges and
immunities of
Protection
Committee.**

Protection Committee, shall be under legal obligation to provide the desired assistance to the Protection Committee.

20. The Protection Committee may delegate any of its functions and powers to any of its member or members.

Delegation of functions and powers.

21.(1) Government shall, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint a gazetted officer to act as Protection Officer, for the purposes of this Act.

Protection Officer.

(2) The Protection Officer shall possess such qualifications and experience as may be prescribed under the rules.

22. It shall be the duty of the Protection Officer –

Duties of Protection Officer.

- (a) to make a domestic incident report to the Protection Committee, in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed, upon receipt of a complaint of domestic violence and forward copies thereof to the Protection Committee within the local limits of whose jurisdiction domestic violence is alleged to have been committed and to the service providers in that area;
- (b) to make an application in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed to the court, if the aggrieved person so desires, claiming relief for issuance of a protection order;
- (c) to ensure that the aggrieved person is provided legal aid;
- (d) to maintain a list of all service providers providing legal aid or counseling, shelter homes and medical facilities in a local area within the jurisdiction of the court;
- (e) to make available a safe place of residence, if the aggrieved person so requires and forward a copy of his report of having lodged the aggrieved person in a shelter home to the Protection Committee;
- (f) to get the aggrieved person medically examined, if he or she has sustained bodily injuries and forward a copy of the medical report to the Protection Committee having jurisdiction in the area where the domestic violence is alleged to have been taken place;
- (g) to ensure that the order for monetary relief under section 12 is complied with and executed in accordance with the procedure prescribed; and
- (h) to perform such other duties as may be prescribed.

23.(1) In any proceeding under this Act, the court may secure the services of a service provider.

Assistance of service provider.

(2) Service provider shall have all the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the Protection Committee.

24. A service provider shall have the power to –

**Powers of
service provider.**

- (a) record the domestic incident in a prescribed form if the aggrieved person so desires, and forward a copy thereof to the Protection Officer having jurisdiction in the area where the domestic violence took place;
- (b) get the aggrieved person medically examined and forward a copy of the medical report to the Protection Officer within the local limits of which the domestic violence took place;
- (c) ensure that the aggrieved person is provided shelter in a safe place of residence, if he or she so requires and forward a report of the lodging of the aggrieved person in a safe place of residence to the Protection Committee within the local limits of the place where the domestic violence took place; and
- (d) provide the aggrieved person with any aid or assistance if he or she may so require.

25. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, all proceedings taken and offences committed under the provisions of this Act, shall be governed by the Code.

Procedure.

26. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any Protection Committee, Protection Officer or service provider for anything which is done in good faith or purported to be done under this Act.

**Protection of
actions taken in
good faith.**

27. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other law for the time being in force.

**Act not in
derogation of
any other law.**

28. Chapter XXXII of the Code shall apply to an order passed under sections 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Revision.

29. Government may by notification in the Official Gazette make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

**Power to make
rules.**

30. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any provision of this Act, Government may make an order not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act to remove the said difficulty.

**Removal of
difficulties.**

**BY ORDER OF THE SPEAKER
PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH**

**G.M.UMAR FAROOQ
ACTING SECRETARY
PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH**