

Five-Year Strategic Plan (2025–2030) District Judiciary Peshawar High Court

1. **Foreword:** Building upon progress and achievements of the past five years (2020–2025), this Strategic Plan for 2025–2030 sets forth a forward-looking roadmap for the District Judiciary under the supervision of the Peshawar High Court. The plan encompasses strategic objectives, initiatives and targets.
2. **Introduction:** The Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973 (**the Constitution**) entrusts the State with the responsibility to ensure inexpensive and expeditious justice.¹ It establishes High Courts for each Province as well as the Federal Capital, alongside the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Peshawar High Court as per Constitution is to oversee, regulate and control all Courts Subordinate to it². The Peshawar High Court is having the mandate to formulate Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Policy for the District Judiciary to meet its constitutional responsibility. Additionally, a number of statutes provide for time-bound adjudication of cases. Adherence to statutory time-frames would always remain a key feature in any policy for judicial performance. Further, National Judicial Policy Making Committee (**NJPMC**) has got the mandate to co-ordinate and harmonize judicial policy within the court system, ensure its implementation, improve the capacity and performance of the administration of justice and set performance standards for judicial officers,³ thus, any policy for the District Judiciary relating to its performance, needs to be aligned with the National Judicial Policy, laid down by the NJPMC.

¹ Article 37(d), the Constitution

² Article 203, *ibid*

³ Section 4, the National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee Ordinance, 2002

3. Background: The Peshawar High Court has chalked out a number of policies from time to time for dealing with ever increasing institution, delays in disposal and backlog of cases. These include Time Bound Delay Reduction Policy (**TBDR**), Unit Policy, Disposal Performance Evaluation Policy (**DPEP**), launch of Judicial Performance Years 2018 and 2019 besides District Judiciary Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, 2020 – 2025. The District Judiciary Performance Monitoring Policy 2020-2025 (**Policy-2020**), aimed at the following objectives:

- a. Meritorious and expeditious disposal of cases within statutory/policy timelines.
- b. Systematic reduction in backlog, resulting into 100% backlog clearance at the end of fifth year.
- c. 100% disposal against institution.

Key Performance Indicators of Policy 2020-25: The following were key performance indicators (KPIs) which were to link with the career progression of judicial officers

1. **Quantity:** Keeping in view institution trends, the disposal of each court was to be over and above 100% of the institution. In addition, a gradual reduction of backlog is prescribed in the policy-2020;
2. **Quality:** The same was to be evaluated by Appellate and Courts Revisions in accordance with “judgment/Order assessment form devised with reference to Rule 4, Chapter 1-A, Vol-IV, of the High Court Rules and Order, circulated vide PHC Letter No 9557-81/Admin dated Peshawar 24th May, 2010;
3. **Time:** Disposal of cases was required to be within the stipulated statutory time frame and where the time frame for a particular category of case was not provided then in accordance with the directions of Competent Authority issued from time to time;
4. **Cost of litigation:** In order to achieve the constitutional objective of inexpensive justice delivery all efforts was to be made to decrease cost of litigation by avoiding unnecessary adjournments, streamlining processes, curbing frivolous litigation, elimination of corrupt practices and awarding costs of litigation and compensations;
5. **Public Perception:** Public confidence in the system of administration of justice was intended to be enhanced by minimizing delays and irradiation of corrupt practices, prompt grievance redressal at district level as well as by the Peshawar High Court and through simplification of processes and swift service delivery.

Review of Performance achievements

1. The review of last five years in terms of disposal of cases shows a positive trend. District Judiciary has remained responsive and its performance of disposal of cases shows an upward trend. Further, there is substantial reduction in backlog cases. The achievements can be summarized as under:

Pendency on Oct 2021	Institution during Oct 2021- June 2025	Disposal during Oct 2021- June 2025	Disposal Rate/ %age	Pendency as on 30.06.25	Backlog on Oct 2021	Backlog on 30.06.25	% Age
2, 57, 879	19,95,468	20,42,841	102.4 %	2,27,520	90, 162	12, 361	73 %

Detailed Review of the Achievements During Policy Period (October 2021 – June, 2025)

Nature-Wise Institution, Disposal, Disposal Rate, & Pendency at the End of each Year from the Commencement of PQSP (Oct-21) up to June 2025

Year/Period	Nature of Cases	Criminal Cases	Case Suits	Appeals	Applications/ Misc. Applications/ Petitions	Bail Matters	Execution Petitions and Periodic Payments	Revisions	Security Proceedings	GRAND TOTAL
2021 (from Oct-21 to Dec-21)	Pendency from Last month	89497	112464	9772	23753	5084	15306	1886	117	257879
	Total Institution	56322	27456	4733	21959	22028	2444	1581	6477	143000
	Total Disposal	50073	27847	4132	21596	23603	2175	1456	6565	137447
	Disposal vs Institution ratio	88.90%	101.42%	87.30%	98.35%	107.15%	88.99%	92.09%	101.36%	96.12%
	Pendency at the end of the year	93178	112279	9901	23803	3259	15556	2014	170	260160
2022	Total Institution	185178	85676	16445	86874	93199	9302	5621	30518	512813
	Total Disposal	186014	89151	15043	83945	93668	9623	5379	30667	513490
	Disposal vs Institution ratio	100.45%	104.06%	91.47%	96.63%	100.50%	103.45%	95.69%	100.49%	100.13%
	Pendency at the end of the year	94077	109926	12124	27581	2160	15364	2330	77	263639
2023	Total Institution	190345	91343	18378	89540	101783	10870	6186	32289	540734
	Total Disposal	187025	91949	15859	87591	101733	9872	5876	32500	532405
	Disposal vs Institution ratio	98.26%	100.66%	86.29%	97.82%	99.95%	90.82%	94.99%	100.65%	98.46%
	Pendency at the end of the year	99654	109997	15267	30040	2892	16826	2884	68	277628
2024	Total Institution	189635	91295	19183	86223	101251	11966	6303	32354	538210
	Total Disposal	207752	96548	19422	88405	103183	11944	6670	32309	566233
	Disposal vs Institution ratio	109.55%	105.75%	101.25%	102.53%	101.91%	99.82%	105.82%	99.86%	105.21%
	Pendency at the end of the year	83455	106405	15700	28519	2050	17515	2680	159	256483
2025 (from Jan-25 to Jun-25)	Total Institution	90159	43226	11188	45312	47200	7771	3556	12578	260990
	Total Disposal	109256	50903	12043	48856	47680	8115	3920	12678	293451
	Disposal vs Institution ratio	121.18%	117.76%	107.64%	107.82%	101.02%	104.43%	110.24%	100.80%	112.44%
	Pendency at the end of the year	64840	99475	15144	25890	2246	17425	2412	88	227520

Disposal vs Institution: Disposal of cases and proceedings as against Institution surpassed annually except for the year 2023, where it remained 98.5% while in the year 2022 it was 100.1%. In the year 2024 it was 105.2%, and during the year 2025 (up to June) it is 112.4%. Overall performance during the policy period remained 102.4%.

Backlog Reduction: Backlog of cases is reduced by 73% during policy period.

Reduction in Criminal Cases: Pendency reduced from 99,654 (2023) to 64, 840 (**June 2025**)

Increased Disposal: Civil Suits Disposal rate increased to 117.8% in 2025 (up to June)

Consistency: Bail matters, Misc. Petitions, Security proceedings maintained over 100% disposal consistently.

Past five judicial years looks encouraging with improved efficiency, accountability, and compliance. These achievements provide a strong foundation for launching the next Five Years Plan 2025–2030.

Strategic Goal of the ensuing 5-Year Plan 2025–2030:

4. The aim is to strengthen and sustain a performance-oriented judicial system by closely monitoring outputs and outcomes, evaluating quality and timelines, and implementing evidence-based interventions to ensure continuous improvement in justice delivery. The following objectives are set for this plan:
 - a) Achieve **Zero backlog** of cases by the end of the plan period, ensuring that all pending cases as of 2025 (particularly those older than 3 years) are disposed of through targeted initiatives and effective case management.
 - b) Maintain **disposal vs institution ratio** of 100% or higher for all major case categories annually, ensuring consistency across all districts so that no new backlog accumulates.
 - c) Improve **timelines** of case disposal in line with with Statutory requirements or National Judicial Policy guidelines – ensuring that cases are concluded within prescribed statutory or NJPMC timeline standards.

- d) Enhance the **quality** of judicial output by integrating qualitative assessments (such as appellate court feedback and reversal rates) into performance evaluations, and addressing identified training and capacity-building needs through evaluations.
- e) Strengthen the Monitoring & Inspection infrastructure (MIT offices) with better tools, manpower, and analytical capabilities thus to provide real-time performance dashboards to decision-makers.
- f) A realization that concerted and coordinated effort with all the key stakeholders of the system is required to achieve the deserved objectives.

Key Initiatives (2025–2030): Backlog Clearance Campaigns:

An aggressive action plan is formulated to clear backlog cases at the initial phase of this five-year plan. As of mid-2025, a finite number of ~12,361 oldest cases (instituted on or before 1st September 2020) were pending. To address this special backlog clearance Courts herein referred as, “Model Civil & Criminal Courts” will be established at the district level to hear these old cases on a fast-track basis.

Progress will be monitored by the High Court by focusing on disposing of all pre-2020 cases in the initial phase (2025–26).

The goal is that by the later years of the plan, district judiciary will deal with current cases only, maintaining a rolling target to ensure no case exceed the statutory or NJPMC- prescribed shelf life.

Performance Quantification and New Benchmarks

We shall continue with a refined version of Performance Quantification Scheme (PQS) introduced in the last policy. While the previous policy emphasized disposals exceeding 100% of fillings, this policy makes this requirement to be assessed on quarterly basis. Thus, average of the four-month disposal ought to be greater to the average of the 4-month institution.

This new plan aligns performance indicators with case “shelf-life” timelines. Using NJPMC’s revised timelines as benchmark (e.g. 24 months for land dispute suits, 6 months for rent and family cases) individual judicial performance will be evaluated based on conclusion of cases within those prescribed timeframes.

Dynamic Dashboard fed on real-time data and Data Analytics:

Upgrade the existing data analysis systems into a real-time data fed **Judicial Performance Dashboard**. This will involve full operationalization of the Case Flow Management Information System (CFMIS) across all districts. Key performance data (fillings, disposals, clearance rates, age of pending cases, etc.) will be available at a glance for each court. The Data Analysis Wing will use business intelligence analytics to flag under-performing courts or with abnormal delays. The system will also generate automated alerts (for example, if a case exceeds its timeline or if a judge’s monthly disposal falls below a threshold), the prompter shall caution.

Inspection Reforms: We aim to reform evaluations and Strengthen the annual (and surprise) inspection regimes. Inspection criteria will continue to be communicated in advance, but inspection teams will now use digital tools (tablets preloaded with checklists and case data) to conduct evaluations more efficiently. The inspection proformas will be updated to incorporate feedback from the last five years. For instance, qualitative assessment of judgments by appellate courts will be given weight in scoring.

Each judicial officer will receive a confidential annual performance report compiled by the MIT, with quantifiable scores and qualitative comments. Those falling behind benchmarks will be counseled or directed to training. High performers may receive commendations.

Issue-Specific Monitoring Committees: We shall Deploy specialized monitoring committees at the High Court level to address persistent problem areas. For example, a **Civil Adjudication Coordination Committee (CACC)** has been notified to identify causes of delay in civil litigation – especially in rent and family cases – and to suggest strategies for reducing those delays. This committee (operational at district level as per Annex-II) will

regularly review civil case flow and coordinate with revenue authorities and process-servers to eliminate bottlenecks.

Similarly, an **Oversight Committee on Criminal Justice**, the Provincial Justice Committee will review criminal case processing, police and prosecutors, to improve investigation-to-trial timelines.

Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Outcomes Monitoring:

As the judiciary increasingly promotes ADR mechanisms to reduce court workload, the outcomes of ADR processes will be formally monitored. The High Court's newly formed **ADR Committee** (headed by a High Court judge) will oversee the implementation of ADR across the province. Data on mediations conducted, success rates, and compliance with mediated agreements will be gathered. The committee will liaise with district judges (ADR focal persons) to ensure ADR is yielding quality resolutions. Regular reports on ADR usage and success will be integrated into the overall performance review of districts.

ADR success rate – e.g. percentage of cases referred to ADR that result in settlement – with a target to increase it annually; number of cases resolved through ADR as a percentage of total disposals.

5. Features of Performance Monitoring & Evaluation Policy 2025-2030: The lynchpin of the policy is integration of different regimes intending to enhance quantitative and qualitative adjudication. Thus, the policy aims to embed, the guidelines of the National Judicial Policy Making Committee pertaining the timelines prescribed for different category of litigation. The monitoring and inspections coordinated by the Member Inspection Team's office towards the quantitative and qualitative assessment employed to gauge the performance. The graded training of the Judicial Officers is also an integral component besides the advancement and complete operationalization of the Case Flow Management Information system, the core computer application employed for the case and court management is also augmented in the policy.

The National Judicial Policy Making Committee, in its meeting held on 18th August, 2025 has revisited timelines for different categories of civil cases. These are as under:

SR #	CATEGORIES	TIMELINES
1.	Declaratory Suit (Land Disputes)	24 Months
2.	Declaratory Suit (Inheritance Disputes)	12 Months
3.	Injunction Suit (Land Disputes)	06 Months
4.	Recovery Suit (Public Revenue/Money Matters)	12 Months
5.	Specific Performance (Contract Enforcement)	18 Months
6.	Rent Cases	06 Months
7.	Family Suit (Dissolution/Dower/Maintenance/Guardianship)	06 Months
8.	Succession Cases (Uncontested)	02 Months
9.	Execution Petitions/Family Court Decree	06 Months
	Execution Petitions/Banking Court Decree	12 Months
	Execution Petitions/Civil Court Decree	12 Months
	Execution Petitions/Rent Matters	03 Months
10.	Criminal Trial (Juvenile Offenders-JJSA, 2018)	06 Months
	Criminal Trial (Punishment up to seven years)	12 Months
	Criminal Trial (Punishment above seven years)	18 Months
	Criminal Trial (Murder)	24 Months
11.	Labour Cases	06 Months

Clearance of backlog is one of the key objectives of the first phase of five-year plan for the year 2025 – 2023. During this period (commencing from September to December, 2025) the policy 2020 – 2025 will be implemented with following key features:

**Continuation of Performance, Monitoring & Evaluation Policy and
Performance Quantification Scheme (PQS)**

6. Continuation of the District Judiciary Five Years Performance, Monitoring and Evaluation Policy 2020-2025 for the time being. The performance parameters and expectations in terms of pendency zones, contested and uncontested disposal requirements, percentage of

disposal would remain the same⁴. PQS⁵ is performance quantification toolkit for the District Judiciary Performance, Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. It is, however, highlighted that the evaluation of monthly disposal on basis of the bench mark of over and above 100% of institution has in the past attracted considerable criticism. There is indeed considerable force in it for the reasons that each category of case has a prescribed shelf life. A case falls in the backlog, if at the expiry of the prescribed shelf life the matter remains on the dairy of the court. The length of the shelf life of very few categories of cases is less than a month. Thus, to expect that all the cases that comes in the system is decided in the very month is in conflict with the prescribed time line provided by a statute or National Judicial policy.

7. In second phase of the action plan the disposal requirements shall be attempted to be aligned with the statutory timelines or the Judicial Policy's framework.

Action Plan for Clearance of Backlog Cases in first phase of the Five Years Plan

- a. The action plan for first phase of next five years plan has a clear objective, viz, disposal of backlog cases of previous Five-Year Plan, so that the future phases of the plan are rationally and objectively manageable. There are a total 12361 cases which are instituted on or before 1st September 2020. Initially, our focus will be on all these cases. On achieving the objective, we will be moving on to ensure the case are decided as per statutory timeframe or within NJPMC's timelines as laid down in its meeting dated: 18th August, 2025. Thus, as a first leg of the action plan during judicial performance year commencing from 8th September 2025 to December, 2025 our highest priority would be disposal of backlog cases.

Tier wise break-up of backlog cases is as under:

Sessions Courts		Civil Courts	
Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases
650	154	11400	157

⁴The policy can be found at https://peshawarhighcourt.gov.pk/image_bank/Orders/16772-805-admn-sdj.pdf

⁵The scheme can be accessed at

https://peshawarhighcourt.gov.pk/image_bank/Downloads/PQS%20toolKit%2031072021.pdf

- b. The break-up of the backlog cases in the Civil Courts (Courts of Senior Civil Judges, Civil Judges, Judge Family Courts, Rent Controllers, Judicial Magistrates) and the Sessions Courts (Additional District & Sessions Judges and District & Sessions Judges) is as under:

Sessions Courts (Civil cases/ Appeals etc)	Civil Courts (Civil, Family, Rent, etc)
804	11557

District wise distribution of the backlog Civil-Courts cases with workforce is as under:

Backlog Cases
Civil Courts

Districts	Judges	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases
Peshawar	34	2492	47
DIKhan	12	1422	11
Abbottabad	16	1105	15
Swabi	12	945	7
Mardan	22	746	3
Kohat	11	733	4
Haripur	16	707	9
Swat	21	463	17
Mansehra	16	375	14
Nowshera	13	315	0
Khyber	5	303	0
Malakand	5	290	0
Karak	8	244	10
Charsadda	12	232	0
Bannu	10	194	1
Dir Lower	9	141	4
Dir Upper	4	127	7
Lakki Marwat	6	117	1
Chitral Lower	3	109	7
Buner	5	62	0
Mohmand	2	61	0
North Waziristan	3	57	0
Hangu	2	34	0
Kurram	2	32	0
Tank	2	31	0
South Waziristan	1	22	0
Bajaur	2	18	0
Shangla	3	11	0
Chitral Upper	1	8	0
Batagram	1	3	0
Torghar	1	1	0
Grand Total	260	11400	157

- c. The target assigned to the Civil Courts is disposal of above backlog of cases in first phase (four months). To illustrate, at District Abbottabad there are 1120 old cases pending before the civil courts. Judge to case ratio is 85 cases per civil court and per month target is 21 cases. This target is manageable, as the target period assigned to the courts for disposing of the old cases is four (04) months. However, the Civil Courts with lesser pendency of cases are expected to achieve targets as soon as possible without waiting for the deadlines.
- d. A total of 650 old cases are pending before District Courts & Additional District Judges, while, before the Courts of Sessions throughout the province there are 154 old cases and its break-up is as under:

Backlog Cases
Sessions Courts

Districts	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases
Abbottabad	234	30
Haripur	137	17
Peshawar	72	31
Nowshera	65	3
Mansehra	39	2
Swat	29	18
DIKhan	16	7
Dir Upper	16	4
Mardan	11	0
Chitral Lower	10	6
Charsadda	5	10
Dir Lower	5	1
Swabi	4	1
Chitral Upper	2	0
Karak	2	16
Malakand	2	1
Hangu	1	1
Khyber	0	2
Lakki Marwat	0	3
Torghar	0	1
Grand Total	650	154

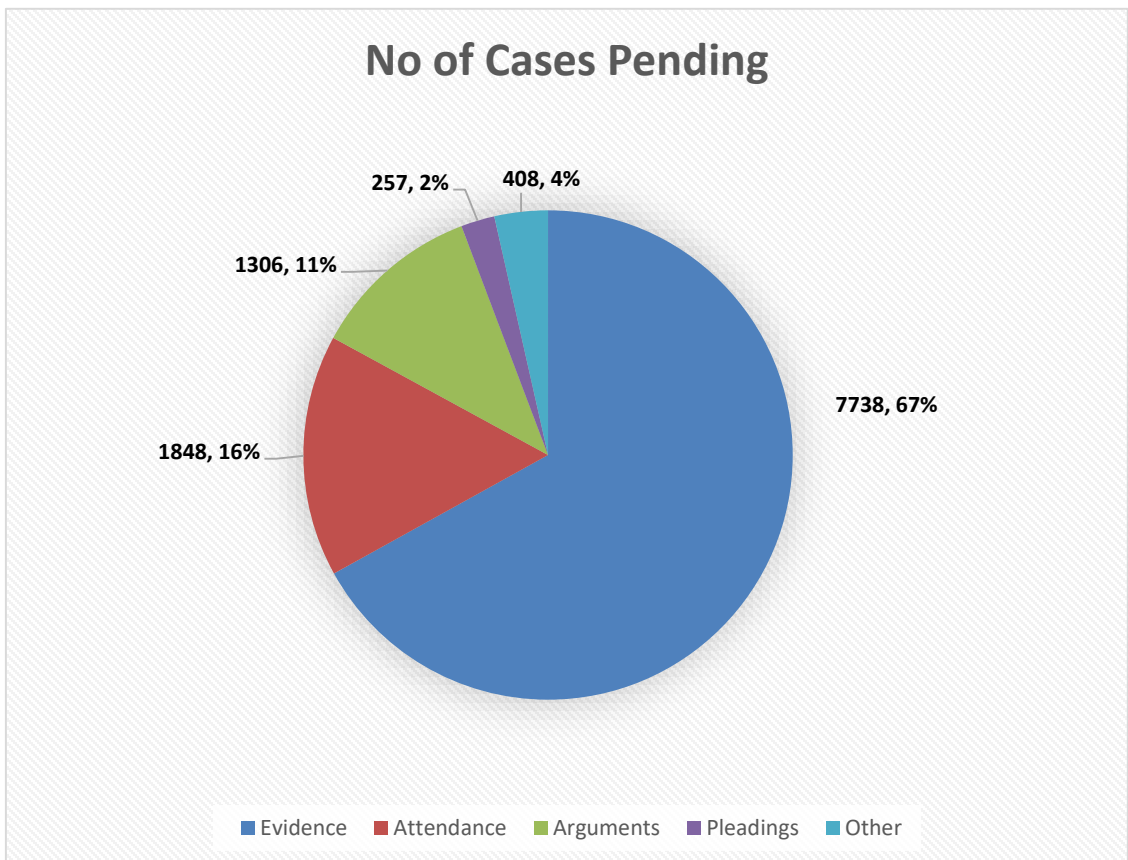
- e. The pendency of old cases especially before the Sessions Courts is not alarming. The Sessions Courts with pendency of less than 30 cases are expected to conclude the same within one month, with higher number of older cases are expected to dispose of the backlog within three months.

Civil Courts' Cases – Break up and Approach

- f. Tentative stage-wise break-up of these cases is as under:

**Backlog Cases
Civil Courts**

Case Stage	No of Cases Pending
Evidence	7738
Attendance	1848
Arguments	1306
Pleadings	257
Other	408
Total	11557



- g. This break-up indicates that majority of cases are stuck due in recording of evidence. Evidence can either be of formal witnesses which are called through process of the court or of private witnesses.
- h. In order to ensure attendance of official witnesses, district level civil coordination committee can through a WhatsApp group headed by the Senior Civil Judge (Admn) remove bottlenecks. The courts which are struggling in procuring attendance of official witnesses need to inform name and credential of witnesses required and the Senior Civil Judge, through the representatives of the District Government and other allied Offices, would procure attendance of the witnesses before the courts. This shall however not imply that the Court may not invoke coercive processes to procure the attendance of these witness. The intent is to facilitate the court so that its precious time is not consumed in pure administrative matters.
- i. The District & Sessions Judges shall constitute a Civil Cases Coordination committee comprising of the President and General Secretary of the District Bar Association concerned, senior lawyers , District Attorney and the Senior Civil Judge (Admn) to facilitate earlier disposal of the cases. Before constitution of the Committee lists of cases are to be prepared and the lawyers need to sensitized as to the target assigned and the way forward.

Evaluation at Provincial and District levels

- j. PQS requires judicial officers to decide respective percentage of backlog cases over and above 100% of the institution, on month monthly basis. During the first phase the policy is to be monitored quarterly, thus the condition of achieving disposal of backlog over and above institution, is to be gauged on conclusion of first phase (four months), unless it is otherwise, directed by the Hon'ble administrative Judge of the High Court.

- k. At the district and provincial levels, the graphical representation of assigned targets is made and progress of disposal of cases are tracked, so that the monitoring and evaluation of the progress is visible not only to the Peshawar High Court but to the District Judiciary as well.
- l. The District and Sessions Judges will ensure that targets are achieved. They may make strategies for the same at local level and may conduct progress review at intervals they deem proper.

Liaison with Justice Sector Institutions – Organizations

Effective administration of Justice requires smooth liaison amongst all relevant institutions and organizations. Forums have been established at provincial and district levels to achieve the objective. These include:

- Provincial Justice Committee
- High Court Bench Bar Liaison Committee at Principal Seat and Benches of the Peshawar High Court
- Provincial Civil Justice Committee
- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy
- Judicial Officers Meetings
- Criminal Justice Coordination Committees
- Bench Bar Liaison Committees
- Citizen Court Liaison Committees
- District Legal Empowerment Committee

The District and Sessions Judges are to convene regular meetings in their respective districts, to ensure timely delivery of services. High Court will address any challenges faced by the district courts, through the provincial committees.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) offers win-win solution to parties in litigation. Further, it lessens burden on courts and provides these with opportunity to focus on complicated issues. ADR would remain a priority area during the policy period. High Court has notified ADR Courts for court Annexed-Mediation. SOPs

of the ADR Courts would be notified shortly. The District and Sessions Judges and notified Courts to ensure disposal of cases through ADR. Further, notified courts would perform the responsibilities, in addition to their own judicial work.

Quarterly Assessments & Inspections

District Judiciary and each Court is to prepare strategy for backlog clearance. This assessment Policy requires assessment of backlog disposal in each District and at court level on quarterly basis.

Further, High Court has directed quarterly inspection of all the Courts of Senior Civil Judges and Civil Judges by the District and Sessions Judges. The DSJs would be required to submit their reports regularly. Achievement of targets of backlog clearance will be assessed by the District and Sessions Judges and forwarded with quarterly inspection reports conducted by them.

Supervision of hon'ble Administrative Judges

The hon'ble Judges of Peshawar High Court would continue to supervise timely disposal of family, rent, civil, criminal and special court cases. The hon'ble judges would facilitate district judiciary in overcoming challenges being faced by it. The distribution of work *inter se* the hon'ble Judges is as under:

Sr.#	Hon'ble Incharge Judge	Activity/ Administrative Judge	Focal Person
1.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ijaz Anwar	ATC Administrative Judge	MIT
		Liaison condition of Prisoners in Jail	---
		Rule Committee u/s 123 of the CPC 1908	PSO to HCJ
		Committee for the revamping, strengthening and review of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of the Secretariat of District Judiciary	Director (Regulation) SDJ
		Chairman Enrolment Committee of KP Bar Council for the areas coming under the Jurisdiction of the Principal Seat	---
2.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arshad Ali	Narcotics Cases registered under Federal or Provincial Statues.	AMIT
		Administrative Judge of Accountability Courts	AR (Admn)
		Administrative Judge of Consumers Courts	AR (Admn)
		Administrative Judge of Special Courts i.e. Offences in Banks, Custom, Taxation &	MIT

		Anti-Smuggling, CNS, Drug Court, Anti-Corruption & Labour Courts	
		New Rule Making Committee to submit its proposals for amendments to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Alternate Dispute Resolution Act, 2020	Registrar (Secretary of the Committee)
3.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sahibzada Asadullah	Criminal Cases	Director (Regulation) SDJ
		Oversighting Committee to review the existing Criminal Justice System and proposed improvements	Director (Regulation) SDJ
4.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muhammad Naeem Anwar	Administrative Judge of Family Courts & Rent Controller Courts throughout the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa District Judiciary	Director (Inspections) SDJ
5.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Wiqar Ahmad	Special IT Committee	DR (Legal) (Secretary of the Committee)
		Chairman KP Bar Council Tribunal u/s 42(2)	---
6.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muhammad Ijaz Khan	Civil Cases, including appeals and revisions pertaining to inheritance matters	AR(Legal)
7.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muhammad Faheem Wali	Civil Suits, Appeals, and Revisions concerning declaratory reliefs, permanent injunctions, pre-emption matters etc.	Director HR&W (SDJ)
8.	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Farah Jamshed	Administrative Judge of Dar-ul-Aman and Orphanages	Director NJPIC

Recognition of Role of Special Courts

In order to deal with increasing pendency of criminal cases and ensure adequate human resource management, Anti-Terrorism / special courts in the Province were entrusted with criminal cases under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Control of Narcotics Substances Act, 2021 (amended in 2025). Performance of the courts during period of two months is encouraging and it suggests sustainability of the initiative.

In the recent past, the Provincial legislature has introduced two key amendments in the Code of Criminal Procedure (the Code)⁶ and the West Pakistan Civil Court Ordinance, 1962⁷. Implications of these enactments are massive. It is expected that 30% of the civil litigations to have a conservative estimate, would shift to the Tehsils. Similarly, on the force of the changes made in Cr.P.C, now special courts can also be entrusted with cases pertaining to the courts of sessions. The High Court has already invoked the amendment and entrusted cases

⁶The Code of Criminal Procedure (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) (Amendment) Act, 2025

⁷ The West Pakistan Civil Courts (Amendment) Act, 2025

registered under KP CNS to Anti-Terrorism Courts throughout the Province. The figures show the disposal trend:

S.No	District/Designation	Cases Transferred from 15.5.2025	Cases decided till 16.08.2025	Balance
1	Judge on Special Task, Peshawar	178	32	146
2	ATC-I Peshawar	197	88	109
3	ATC-II Peshawar	184	47	137
4	ATC-III Peshawar	198	27	171
5	ATC-Abbottabad	195	21	174
6	ATC-Mardan	175	57	118
7	ATC-Swat Matta at Mardan	173	29	144
8	ATC-Buner	185	47	138
9	ATC-Kohat	184	52	132
10	ATC-Bannu	194	68	126
11	ATC-Dera Imail Khan	135	27	108
12	ATC-Swat-I	270	174	96
13	ATC-Swat-II	146	16	130
Total		2414	685	1729

The prime considerations before High Court are twofold, that is, to rationalize burden amongst the courts and to ensure that the precious court time is smartly utilized.

Integrating Human Resource Development with Judicial Performance

Continuous judicial education is a must for effective and speedy judicial service delivery. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy will conduct Training Needs Assessment (TNA) of all the Civil Courts on regional basis with in two months (Sept – Oct, 2025). Based on outcomes of the TNA, training modules would be developed by the Academy in next two months (Nov – Dec, 2025). Crash trainings would be imparted to all the judicial officers to bridge capacity gaps of the judicial officers, during next phases of the policy.