

JUNE EDITION 2021



**Legal Awareness
Watch Pakistan**

**Juvenile Justice
NEWSLETTER**

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An initiative by Legal Awareness Watch Pakistan (L.A.W)

Dear Recipient (s),

This is the sixth edition of this monthly newsletter. In this edition you'll find reflection of research survey (**Volume II**) that we conducted this

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year in continuation of **(Volume I)** that we conducted last year. The research survey **Volume I** and **Volume II** are available online at www.legalawarenesswatch.com. Moreover, this edition will lay information & news that we collected and found out during our visits to prisons, and field operations across Pakistan in the month of May, 2021.

We wish to receive your feedback as well as comment (s) or constructive criticism on content (s) of this edition *via* email or simply giving us a telephone call so as to make this initiative better in future. Contact details can be found on the title page of this newsletter. *Previous editions of this newsletter available at:* <https://legalawarenesswatch.com/newsletter/>

(Sarmad Ali)
Executive Director L.A.W
Dated: 1st June, 2021.

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RESEARCH SURVEY

Among the most salient features of the data that we collected in **Volume I**, and **Volume II** (2020-2021) are:

- Altogether we identified **129** minors those possibly facing DP, or LI across Punjab, and Sindh (**87 in 2020, and 42 in 2021**) owing to inadequate age determination procedure in the criminal justice system.
- Most juveniles across Punjab, and Sindh facing charges of murder and rape out of total **129** juveniles **14** facing murder charges and **04** facing rape charges in Punjab however, **11** facing murder charges in Sindh, and **02** facing rape charges. In Sindh we identified total **04** juveniles those facing terrorism related charges unlike Punjab. To the contrary, in Punjab we identified a minor having 16-year-old at the time of our visit to that prison where he was then detained at facing blasphemy charges under section 295 of Pakistan Penal Code 1860.
- It is striking that we identified only **01** case- where probation officer was involved during the judicial proceedings in Punjab. However, in Sindh we identified not a single case where the concerned probation officer was involved and/or considered in the judicial proceedings.
- We noted those who have been facing DP or LI charged/convicted of murder and/or rape offences falling in the age scale of 14-year-old to 17/18-year-old. *Note: For further reading visit www.legalawarenesswatch.com or send us e-mail for having a copy.*

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NEWS FROM RECENT PAST

- **Judicial Magistrate of Jacobabad District of Sindh on 21st April, 2021** had directed the Investigation Officer/police that produced a minor in its court for seeking physical custody/remand under section 167 of CRPC 1898 for determination of age under section 8 of Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018 (JJSA). The court directed the Investigation officer after taking into consideration the physical appearance of the minor. **L.A.W** & **MRDO** applauded this decision of the court, and appreciated that key pillar of the juvenile justice system started acting vigilantly. **Reported to us by the Deputy Director Probation & Reclamation Department, Sukkur & Khairpur, Sindh.**
- On **3rd May, 2021**, it transpired to our volunteers that a minor having 14-year of age whose arrest had already been reported in **January Edition, 2021** implicated in another blind murder case by the police. It appeared to us that his confession in second murder occurrence was secured by the police through enhanced interrogation techniques and/or by way of third-degree torture. **“F”** is now standing trial in connection with alleged two murder occurrences. **L.A.W** has been providing pro-bono legal assistance to that vulnerable minor. ***This information is reported to us by “N” the grandfather of minor. Donate us for saving this vulnerable minor from inhumane punishment.***
- **“R”** student of class ten from **Daska city of Punjab** has been charged with alleged murder of his cousin **“F”** aged 4-year. His uncle/father of deceased implicated him through supplementary statement that he recorded after 15 days from the day of occurrence. **News reported on 28th April 2021 at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/7newshdofficial/>**
- In **February, 2021** edition we reported **652 prisoners** had been behind **41** prisons of Punjab including **02** prisons of Lahore city despite completing their sentence (s) owing to their inability to settle their fine (s) or *Diyat/* blood money they were sentenced to. Further, it is brought to our notice that the philanthropists had paid **20 million** to prison authorities that approved the release of

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35 prisoners. Pursuant to report that printed in local Urdu newspaper “*Awaz*” dated **05-02-2021** **50** prisoners still behind prisons those who required to settle their *Diyat*/ blood money to victims families’ amounting to **60 million**. **19** prisoners required to pay **30 million** for their release from the prison who’ve completed their sentence (s). The authorities calling on the philanthropists, and rights groups to offer funds for those prisoners. *Support us for taking these prisoners out of notorious prisons of Pakistan.*

- **On 16th May, 2021**, **02** juveniles had been arrested allegedly on charges of raping a minor girl. **Gender Base Violence** (GBV) itself circulated a photo below of those minors on social media in sheer violation of section 13 of JJSA 2018 that demanded that the identity of minors in conflict with law not required to be disclosed. In comparison to Pakistan’s despicable juvenile justice consider recent development in India where the Child Rights Body directed *Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajal* to take-action against **Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam** for disclosing the identity of minors in a social media post. How strong their juvenile justice system is and how weak and despicable is ours! (<https://www.ndtv.com/delhi-news/child-rights-body-seeks-action-against-delhi-minister-for-violating-juvenile-justice-act-2442518>)



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- **L.A.W** gave *Eid* gifts to juveniles those that had been interviewed in connection with its research survey (**Volume II**) in solidarity and sharing their grief on account of false implication.
- On the day of *Eid-ul- Filtr* **LAW** distributed clothes and food to street-connected children.



- It had been reported on numerous occasions in Pakistan that police had either killed people in custody or abused sexually or physically people in custody. However, this time not police instead The Frontier Corps (reporting name: **FC**), is a paramilitary force of Pakistan now said to have sexually assaulted a child of 13-year of age in **Hoshab** area near China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Highway. **L.A.W** strongly condemned this incidence and demanded those FC officials/constables to be brought to justice in accordance with law. (<https://www.dawn.com/news/1619843>)

EVENTS

- **L.A.W** in collaboration with stakeholders planned two days “**National Training Workshop**” on the subject of Juvenile Justice at Lahore from 26th May to 27th May, 2021 having participants

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from all across Pakistan subject to government of Pakistan's Covid-19 SOPs.

END

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