

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

Date	Order with signature of Judge
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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.

J U D G E

Sajid