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LHC REFORM JUDGE TAKES ASSIGNMENT SERIOUSLY

LAHORE, JULY 09, 2014:

The Hon'ble Reform Judge appointed by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Lahore High Court, Mr. Justice Khawaja Imtiaz Ahmad in order to ensure quick dispensation of justice and provide succor to litigant public has taken its assignment seriously. The aim of the reform exercise is to ameliorate the lot of litigants by deciding their cases speedily on merit.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, the Reform Judge is holding hours long thought provoking sessions daily with all the stakeholders. All the departments at the Lahore High Court as well as District Judiciary, Bar Associations even Bar Clerks and Munshis have been taken on board by obtaining their valuable suggestions. Working in the Courts of the Country and the abroad will also be studied at length before initiating the reform process. There are two main areas -- Lahore High Court and the District Judiciary.

At Lahore High Court, discussions with the heads of all the departments will be made and their ideas and opinions will be shared in order to spruce up their working. Besides, departments of Internal Audit as well as Human Resource Development will be added in the establishment of Lahore High Court in order to make optimum use of the available financial recourses and the work force.

Courts must be a place of shelter, solace and peace for the litigant public. Keeping this end in view, viable security measures will be adopted for the protection of lawyers and people approaching courts for justice. Entry & exit points of the Lahore High Court will be reduced from 7 to 3 or 4. An exclusive gate will be for lawyers and another for litigants. Secure rooms and walk through gates will be added at the entry points. An idea will be floated to raise a separate judicial force in addition to the Police personnel deployed at LHC for the protection of public at large. Latest effective and intelligent cameras will be installed in the Lahore High Court to replace the CCTV cameras functioning since 1997.

Special emphasis will be laid on the recruitment process in the Judiciary. There will be no room for induction on kinship basis. Lahore High Court as well as District Judiciary is not proper recruiting agencies. Personnel at every level will be hired through the Constitutional Government bodies i.e. Punjab Public Service Commission etc. meant for recruitment of staff.

Punjab Judicial Academy will be re-invented and made a specialized institution for imparting rigorous training covering all judicial as well as managerial aspects. The Judicial Officers like Sessions Judges as well as Senior Civil Judges and holding other Administrative posts will get training in Finance and Public Administration as well. Each and every Judicial Officer of the Province will have to undergo training at least once in a year. Training marks obtained at the Academy will be part of their service record. All the District Courts will be provided video link connectivity for delivering lectures. **(MEDIA CELL)**