Media Update
25 February 2020

UNODC
MEDIA ADVISORY

Launch of Pakistan’s Action to Counter Terrorism (PACT) - Sindh

At Avari Towers Karachi on Wednesday 26 February 2020 @ 10:45 hrs

Pakistan’s Action to Counter Terrorism (PACT) with a specific reference to Sindh is jointly developed by the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to empower the criminal justice institutions to proactively prevent and counter terrorism.

PACT Sindh is designed to strengthen the capacities and coordination mechanisms of federal, and provincial, counter-terrorism and criminal justice institutions. PACT Sindh will focus on improving the quality of the investigation, prosecution and adjudication process of Sindh’s criminal justice system. It will strengthen the capacity of police, prosecution and judiciary in cooperation with other departments.

The event will include a presentation focusing on the findings of case analysis exercise by UNODC. Mr. Asif Saifullah Paracha, Member NACTA, H.E. Ms Androulla Kaminara, Ambassador of the EU, Dr. Muhammad Usman Chachar, Home Secretary, Sindh and Mr Danilo Campisi Officer-in-charge Country Office Pakistan will deliver remarks. Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest for the occasion. The event will be attended by diplomatic community, civil society and High Officials from Government of Pakistan.

We cordially invite you to attend the launch of the Pakistan’s Action to Counter Terrorism (PACT) Sindh at Avari Towers Karachi on Wednesday 26 February 10:45 hrs followed by lunch.

For further details please contact:

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UNODC PRESS RELEASE

43 prison facilities in Punjab automated by UNODC with INL funding

Handing over ceremony of PMIS to Punjab Prison Department

25 February 2020, Lahore – The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) jointly handed over the formal control and implementation of the Prison Management Information System (PMIS) to the Punjab Prisons Department, Government of the Punjab through a special ceremony in Lahore.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Zawar Hussain Warraich, Minister for Prisons, Punjab hailed the automation of prison records as a breakthrough in prison administration across the entire chain of prisons in Punjab. He appreciated the support from UNODC and INL that went beyond the provision of funds and equipment to offering hands-on soft training to a cadre of more than 200 master trainers from a cross-section of prisons in Punjab. This would ensure adaptability to technological change for efficient implementation of the system.

The PMIS has been intuitively designed to replace the redundant manual file system with a Central Data Centre to drive functionality and interoperability across the prisons in Punjab. It envisages automation of the entire prison records through an information management system developed in collaboration with the Prisons Department in Punjab. The purpose is to deliver efficiency, transparency and accountability in the management of prison affairs.

The event was also attended by Ms. Lauren A. Meehling, the INL representative; Mr. Momin Ali Agha, Additional Chief Secretary Home Department, Punjab; Mr. Mirza Shahid Saleem Baig, Inspector General, Prisons Punjab, Mr. Nusrat Hussain Mangan, IG Prisons Sindh; Mr. Masood ur Rehman, IG Prisons KP; Mr. Malik Muhammad Yousaf, IG Prisons Balochistan and Mr. Masood ur Rehman, IG Prison/Additional Secretary Home, AJK along with other distinguished guests from the law enforcement and criminal justice system. The initiative was unanimously acclaimed as a groundbreaking innovation to leverage technology and enhance productivity in prison management.

Ms. Jouhaida Hanano, Criminal Justice Advisor, UNODC appreciated the functionality of PMIS and its linkages to the broader reform agenda in the criminal justice system. She stressed on the availability of objective and transparent data that can help in reforming the prison system through effective decision-making. Ms. Hanano thanked the Chief Minister, Punjab and all stakeholders for their support in making the event a success and the
Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) for their generous support.

The Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) will replicate the Prison Management Information System (PMIS) across the prisons in Punjab, proactively engaging as a technology partner to support implementation and sustainability of the PMIS. UNODC has also supplemented the PMIS with the necessary equipment, including more than 200 computers and UPS, biometric systems, networking and fingerprint devices for the automation of prisons, Inspectorate General Prisons and Prisons Training Academy in Sahiwal.

This Project is supported by Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement, Govt of United States of America.

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25 February 2020
Islamabad

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