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THE SINDH CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE ON COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM ACT, 2025.

SINDH ACT NO. XII OF 2025.

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[02ND June, 2025.]

AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Sindh Centre for Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism in the Province of Sindh.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the establishment of the Sindh Centre for Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism in the Province of Sindh to counter the violent extremism, scourge of terrorism, militancy and subversive activities in Province of Sindh against the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, springing up through narratives of hatred, extremism, radicalization, intolerance, misuse of charities, fund generation for entities of concern, glorification of terrorism and terrorist organizations and also to diagnose the root causes and for matters connected therewith or ancillary thereto;

Preamble.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sindh Center for Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism Act, 2025.

**Short title,
extent and
commencement**

(2) It shall extend to the whole of Sindh Province.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context –

Definitions.

(a) “Board” means the Board of Governors constituted under section 5;

(b) "Center" means the Sindh Center for Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism established under section 3;

(c) “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Board;

(d) "Chief Executive Officer" means the Secretary of the Department;

(e) "countering violent extremism" means to prohibit the commission of violent acts, activities and beliefs to achieve ideological, religious, economic, social or political goals that lead to terrorism activities;

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- (f) “Department” means the Home Department, Government of Sindh;
 - (g) "Fund" means the Fund established under section 10;
 - (h) "Government" means the Government of Sindh;
 - (i) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules or regulations;
 - (j) "regulations" means the regulations made under this Act; and
 - (k) “rules" means the rules made under this Act.
3. (1) As soon as after the commencement of this Act, Government shall establish a Center to be known as the Sindh Center for Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism for carrying out purposes of this Act. **Establishment of the Center.**
- (2) The Center shall be headed by the Chief Executive Officer.
4. The Center shall have the following powers and functions :- **Powers and functions of the Center.**
- (a) to carry out research activities for countering violent extremism;
 - (b) to coordinate and prepare comprehensive strategies for countering violent extremism and review them on periodical basis;
 - (c) to develop action plans for countering violent extremism and along with their implications to be reported on periodical basis to Board of governors; develop and suggest policy with regard to Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) and to review it from time to time;
 - (d) to engage groups of experts from Government and non-governmental organizations for deliberations in areas related to counter violent extremism;

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- (e) to provide technical and analytical support to Financial Action Task Force (FATF) working groups and other organizations or departments of Government in relation to crimes, investigation of various cases and suggested policies recommendations based on best practices;
- (f) to establish operational procedures for information gathering, processes and disseminations;
- (g) to provide training, develop modules and other programs for socio-economic mainstreaming of youth, women, minorities and rural communities;
- (h) to institute fellowship for of research in the fields of preventing and countering, violent extremism, online radicalization, hate speech, disinformation, cyber propaganda and youth delinquencies;
- (i) to establish an information network to counter violent extremism and combat terrorism;
- (j) to organize workshops, seminars, symposia and other program for enhancing the capacity of various institutions in the prevention and combating terrorism in the Province of Sindh;
- (k) to receive and collect data or information or intelligence and disseminate and coordinate between all relevant stakeholders to analyze threat assessments with periodical reviews to be presented to all relevant authorities for making adequate and timely efforts to counter violent extremism and combat terrorism;
- (l) to work with faith-based organizations and religious leaders to counter the abuse of religion by +violent extremists;

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- (m) to work with the media to promote human rights and tolerance;
- (n) to liaise with international entities for facilitating cooperation in areas relating to terrorism, extremism and terrorist financing issues and challenges;
- (o) to analyze by ensuring a better understanding of the contextual drivers that have tipped disaffection and radicalization into violent extremist behavior and inform more effective conflict sensitive planning on the ground;
- (p) to organize conferences and to conduct research on the basis of case studies and its material available with the office of the Prosecutor General Sindh with reference to cases of terrorism, terror financing, combating financing for terrorism (CFT);
- (q) to establish data bank with regard to individual terrorist(s) and organization(s) involving terror financing through the case studies, judgments and material of the District Intelligence Committee available with the CTDs and material of 4th schedulers available with the Department and the Ministry of Interior of Federal Government of Pakistan; and
- (r) to perform such functions as may be assigned to it by the Board of Governors.

5. (1) There shall be a Board of Governors for the Center to administer and manage the affairs of the Center. The general directions and administration of the Centre and its affairs shall vest in the Board which may exercise all powers, perform all functions and do all acts and things which may be exercised, performed or done by the Centre.
- Board of
Governors.**

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(2) The Board shall consist of –

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| (a) | Home Minister, Sindh or any other Minister of the Cabinet when there is no Home Minister to be nominated by the Chief Minister | Chairperson |
| (b) | Secretary of the Department | Vice-Chairperson |
| (c) | Secretary to Government of Sindh, Finance Department; | Member |
| (d) | Secretary to Government of Sindh, Law, Parliamentary Affairs Department & Criminal Prosecution; | Member |
| (e) | Prosecutor General, Sindh | Member |
| (f) | Inspector General of Police Sindh | Member |
| (g) | A Vice-Chancellor from any public sector University in Sindh, to be nominated by the Universities & Boards, Department; | Member |
| (h) | Two private members from civil society nominated by the Home Minister | Member |
| (i) | Additional Inspector General of Police, Counter Terrorism Department | Member/
Secretary |

(3) The Chairperson may co-opt any person, as he may deem fit and such a member shall have no right to cast vote.

6. (1) The meetings of the Board shall be regulated by the regulations; provided that until such regulations are framed, the Board shall meet atleast once in a quarter. **Meeting of the Board.**

(2) Subject to the approval of the Chairperson, the Secretary of the Board may convene meetings of the Board at such time and place as the Chairperson may deem necessary.

(3) The Chairperson shall preside over the meetings of the Board and, in his absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside over the meeting.

(4) The decisions of the Board shall be taken by majority of votes of its members present.

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(5) The Secretary of the Board shall prepare the agenda and minutes of the meeting.

(6) The half members of the total membership shall constitute quorum for the meeting.

(7) Subject to the approval of the Board, the Secretary of the Board shall –

- (a) ensure initiation, proceeding and completion of MoUs in collaboration with the donors and other stakeholders for the launch of any seminar, symposium, project, research, summit, conference;
- (b) plan, contract and activate the database for the achievement of the aim of the center; and
- (c) any other task assigned to it by the Board of Governors.

(8) The Secretary, while acting with reference to conducting meeting of the Board, shall be responsible for –

- (a) convening meeting of the Board with the approval of Chairperson;
- (b) the preparation of the agenda, working paper and its distribution among the members;
- (c) recording the minutes of each meeting of the Board and its prompt dispatch to the concerned quarters;
- (d) implement decisions of the Board; and
- (e) proper follow-up of all matters connected with or raising out of a meeting of the Board.

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7. The Board shall have the following powers and functions:- **Powers and functions of the Board.**
- (a) to approve the mission statement of the Center;
 - (b) to provide strategic direction while ensuring that objectives of the center are achieved;
 - (c) to approve the annual research priorities and programs;
 - (d) to review and approve the annual research report;
 - (e) to approve the financial plans and annual budget of the Center;
 - (f) to monitor the performance of the Center; and
 - (g) to prescribe procedure for appointment, terms and conditions of service, disciplinary matters.
- (2) The Board shall submit research based proposed policies for approval to Government and shall, after the approval, be communicated to the relevant authorities for compliance.
8. (1) The Chief Executive Officer shall run day to day affairs of the Centre and shall perform such functions and exercise such powers as may be prescribed by rules or regulations or as may be assigned to him by the Board. **Chief Executive Officer.**
- (2) The Chief Executive Officer shall act as the Principal Accounting Officer of the Center.
- (3) The Chief Executive Officer shall advise the Board on major issues of policies related to prevention of extremism and subversive activities.
- (4) The Chief Executive Officer shall determine organizational Organogram of the Center with the approval of Board of Governors.

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9. (1) The Center may employ such officers and staff, advisors, consultants and other employees as may be necessary for efficient performance of its functions on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed: **Officers, advisors, consultants and other employees of the Center.**

Provided that till the regular appointment of the employees, the Board shall, on the request of Chief Executive Officers, provide by transfer of existing staff of the Department or hire such number of technical support staff to the Center.

(2) In performance of their duties, officers, advisors, consultants and employees of the center shall abide by directions of the Chief Executive Officer.

10. (1) There shall be established a Fund to be vested in the Center, which shall be utilized by the Center to meet all such costs and charges incurred in connection with its functions and affairs. **Fund.**

(2) The fund shall consist of –

- (a) grants made by Federal Government or Finance Department, Government of Sindh from time to time to manage daily functions;
- (b) contributions and donations from individuals, local bodies corporations, institutions, organization and agencies; and
- (c) grants and income from any other source.

11. (1) The fund shall be kept in scheduled banks and shall be operated in accordance with the directions of the Board. **Accounts and Audit.**

(2) The accounts of the Fund shall be maintained in such form and in such manners as may be prescribed.

(3) The chief Executive Officer shall prepare Annual Account Statements of the Fund within thirty days of closing of each financial year.

(4) Accounts of the fund shall be audited by the Auditor General of Pakistan.

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12. All employees of the Center shall, when acting or purporting to act in pursuance of this Act, be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 (XLV of 1 860). **Employees of the Center.**
13. (1) The Chief Executive Officer within three months of the close of a financial year, submit to the Board of Governors an annual performance report of the Center provided that the first report of the center shall be submitted to board of governors within the timeline approved by it. **Annual Report.**
- (2) The Board of Governors shall, within two months of receiving the annual report from the Chief Executive Officer, shall present the report before Provincial Cabinet for discussion, consideration and approval for its dissemination.