

Press Release

CPDI Urges Immediate Appointment of Members to Balochistan Information Commission

Islamabad, Pakistan – The Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) extends warm greetings to Mr. Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, Chief Minister of Balochistan, on his recent assumption of office. While congratulating Mr. Bugti, CPDI emphasizes the imperative need for him to ensure the implementation of the Balochistan Right to Information Act, 2021.

CPDI recognizes the paramount importance of transparency and accountability in governance, essential pillars for a thriving democracy. In light of this, CPDI underscores the urgency of fulfilling the legal mandate set forth in the Balochistan Right to Information Act, 2021.

Passed by the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on February 1, 2021, and subsequently receiving the assent of the Governor of Balochistan on February 15, 2021, the Act mandates the appointment of members to the Balochistan Information Commission within 180 days of its commencement, as outlined in Section 18(1).

"Regrettably, more than three years have elapsed since the enactment of this crucial legislation, yet the appointment of members to the Balochistan Information Commission remains pending," says Mukhtar Ahmad Ali, Executive Director of CPDI. "This delay not only contravenes the law but also undermines the fundamental principles of transparency and accountability envisaged by the Balochistan Right to Information Act."

Access to information is an inalienable right enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan. Recognizing its paramount importance in fostering good governance, combating corruption, and ensuring public institutions' accountability, CPDI urges the prompt establishment of the Balochistan Information Commission.

Mr. Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti is respectfully urged to take immediate action to ensure the expeditious appointment of members to the Balochistan Information Commission, thus fulfilling the legal obligation and upholding the principles of transparency and accountability in governance.

CPDI remains committed to collaborating with the government of Balochistan in promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance for the betterment of the province and the nation as a whole.

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