

THE NEWS

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■ MUSALIHAT ANJUMANS

Courts support resolution of disputes

Islamabad

Dispute resolution at grassroots level through 'Musalihat Anjumans' (MAs) by using the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism is supported by courts.

This was stated by Muhammad Amir Munir, Additional Director Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad, while opening the Orientation Session of newly recruited Civil-Judges-cum-Judicial Magistrates on Gender Justice Through Musalihat Anjuman Project (GJTMAP) here Sunday.

The judges can refer cases to Musalihat Anjumans as stipulated in Section 104 of Local Government Ordinance, 2001, he said. He also appreciated the efforts being made by Gender Justice.

Through Musalihat Anjumans Project (GJTMAP) in alleviating the problems of the common people by resolving their disputes.

Later, Hamid Raza Afridi, National Project Manager, GJTMAP gave the orientation lecture. He briefed the participants about the background, objectives, institutional arrangements, working and achievements of the project.

He said the project is being implemented by Ministry of Local Government & Rural Development, in collaboration with UNDP, in 20 different districts (five in each Province) all over Pakistan.

Out of total 1,051 Union Councils, 991 Musalihat Anjumans have been formed (94%) with a sizeable representation of women, which presently stands at 77 per cent.

He said that out of total 4,537 cases received by MAs, 2,893 (64 per cent) cases had been amicably resolved.

He explained that partnership between judiciary, police and MAs for accountable, fair and equitable dispensation of justice is one of the project outputs.

During the question answer session, the role of union nazims and involvement of political elements was discussed.

Afridi said political involvement is minimised through neutral members of MAs and Insaaf Committees. He cited the example of Tehsil Hasilpur from where 38 cases have been referred by judiciary, in the current quarter. Similarly, 19 cases have been referred by police in district Bahawalpur. — APP