F. No. 3(39)/2026-FJA
Federal Judicial Academy
Islamabad

Subject: Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the National Judicial Education Coordination Committee (NJECC) (18 February 2026)

The 2nd meeting of the National Judicial Education Coordination Committee (NJECC) was held on 18 February 2026 in the Conference Room of the Federal Judicial Academy (FJA), under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Advisor to the Board of Governors (BoG), and Chairman, NJECC.

The meeting was attended by the Directors General of the FJA, the Provincial Judicial Academies, and the Gilgit-Baltistan Judicial Academy. The Registrars of the Provincial High Courts and the Azad Jammu & Kashmir High Court were also invited to attend the meeting.

Participants:

- Justice (R) Sardar Ahmed Naeem, Director General, Punjab Judicial Academy
- Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, Director General, FJA
- Mr. Jehanzeb Shinwari, Director General, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy
- Mr. Jan Muhammad Gohar, Director General, Balochistan Judicial Academy
- Mr. Naveed Ahmed Soomro, representing Director General, Sindh Judicial Academy
- Mr. Asif Majeed, Registrar, High Court of Sindh
- Raja Athar Ali Khan, Registrar, Azad Jammu & Kashmir High Court
- Mr. Nasir Khan Yousafzai, Registrar, High Court of Balochistan
- Raja Jawad Abbas Hassan, District & Sessions Judge, Islamabad High Court
- Mr. Muhammad Shabbir, District & Sessions Judge, Lahore High Court

The meeting commenced in the name of Allah. The Hon'ble Chair welcomed the participants and observed that the Ramadan was due to commence the following day and the meeting would be kept brief to facilitate participants' travel arrangements.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The Committee reviewed and confirmed the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 October 2025.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Compliance Report on previous decisions

The Director General, FJA, updated the Committee on the implementation of the following decisions taken at the previous meeting.

Nomination of Focal Persons:

Focal persons for the NJECC have been officially nominated by the Judicial Academies.

Circulation of mandate:

The NJECC mandate has been communicated to all the Provincial Judicial Academies.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3: Development of Unified National Judicial Education Strategy

Pre- Service Training Framework (sub item 3.2)

The Committee deliberated upon the agenda item regarding the training framework for newly inducted judges at FJA and the Provincial Judicial Academies. The Committee also discussed the development of a unified National Judicial Education Strategy.

The Director General FJA informed the Chair of the decision of the National Judicial Policy Making Committee (NJPMC) approving:

a) Two months of joint training at the FJA for newly appointed judges from across Pakistan, focusing on language skills, technology, stress management, emerging jurisprudence, and creative writing; and

b) Four months of specialized training at their respective Provincial Judicial Academies.

The Director General, FJA, further apprised the Chair that on the first day (17 February 2026) of the National Judicial Educators Conference, an outline of the framework of Joint Training was presented by FJA team and the same was endorsed by all the participants

(The said outline is attached at Annex-A). The Hon'ble Chair directed FJA to develop a comprehensive training programme accordingly.

The Chair was also informed that during the two-day National Judicial Educators Conference (17–18 February 2026) Provincial Judicial Academies presented their respective four-month specialized training modules and after detailed deliberations, a consensus was reached to work towards a harmonized course structure.

The Dean Faculty, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy (KPJA), Mr. Ahmed Iftikhar, briefed the Chair on KPJA's curriculum, which was developed following comprehensive Training Needs Assessments (TNAs). Subsequently, Mr. Naveed Ahmed Soomro, Senior Faculty Member, Sindh Judicial Academy (SJA), presented SJA's training manual and curriculum. He explained that SJA follows a two-tier approach: an overview of substantive and procedural laws, followed by mock exercises and court attachments.

The Chair raised pertinent queries regarding the methodology of training delivery, including the number of lectures per subject and the selection of resource persons, particularly in relation to applied law. While appreciating the depth and comprehensiveness of the training manuals, the Chair expressed concern about the feasibility of covering such extensive content within four months.

Justice (R) Sardar Muhammad Naeem, Director General, Punjab Judicial Academy (PJA), informed the Chair that, in Punjab, newly appointed judges undergo six months of training followed by two months of court attachment. All the Provincial Academies concurred that four months may be insufficient for intensive specialized training.

The Chair inquired about the grading and assessment mechanisms currently in place at the Provincial Judicial Academies.

The Dean Faculty, KPJA, informed the Chair that all trainings at KPJA are graded pursuant to a decision of the Peshawar High Court. The Senior Faculty member, SJA added that trainings at SJA are also graded and judges who fail to achieve the requisite grade undergo an additional three weeks of training. The Registrar, High Court of Sindh, Mr. Asif Majeed, informed the Chair that High Court of Sindh intends to post judges in the field after four months of initial training, followed by further training based on their assessment by the Senior Judges, making a total duration of six months. The Director General, KPJA, added that a similar model is being implemented in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

where judges undergo 12 weeks of initial training followed by one month of additional training after serving in the field.

The Chair referred to the training model in Türkiye and the training structure of Civil Services in Pakistan, emphasizing the need for an extended training period for newly appointed judicial officers.

The Committee unanimously agreed that the duration of Specialized Training at the Provincial Judicial Academies should be extended to a minimum of six months instead of four months. The committee also agreed that both the joint and specialized training programmes should be graded.

The sub-agenda items no.3.1 and 3.3 were deferred until the next meeting due to paucity of time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Performance Evaluation Reform

This agenda item concerning the revision of PER/ACR forms and the integration of KPIs was not discussed and was deferred due to paucity of time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Common Training Programmes at FJA and participation in International Trainings and Conferences

In view of the approval already accorded by the NJPMC of two months of joint training for the newly inducted judges from all over Pakistan at FJA, the agenda item to the extent it related to common training at FJA, was dropped.

The discussion on the sub-agenda item relating to the identification of international opportunities for judges was deferred till the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Institutional Strengthening and Resources

While deliberating upon the agenda regarding institutional strengthening and resources, the Chair inquired about the composition of faculty at the Provincial Judicial Academies.

Justice (R) Sardar Muhammad Naeem informed the Chair that PJA has a permanent faculty comprising retired and serving judges of the District Judiciary, while visiting (adjunct) faculty includes resource persons from educational institutions and government departments. Mr. Jehanzeb Shinwari, Director General, KPJA informed the Chair that

KPJA has an internal faculty of serving judges, while serving and retired judges of the Peshawar High Court and the Supreme Court of Pakistan also visit for experience-sharing sessions.

The Chair sought information regarding judicial education exchange programmes among the academies upon which the Director General, KPJA, informed the Chair that KPJA maintains exchange programmes with FJA, PJA and SJA. The Senior Faculty Member, SJA, stated that SJA has conducted three national-level trainings for judges from across Pakistan, promoting cultural exchange and peer learning. The Director General, FJA, informed the Committee that judges from Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan regularly attend trainings at FJA under exchange programmes. The Director General, PJA, emphasized the need to upscale such programmes. The Chair directed that judicial education exchange programmes be conducted under the umbrella of NJECC.

The Senior Faculty Member, SJA, proposed that FJA should conduct a structured training to develop Master Trainers and create a national pool of certified trainers which can be utilized for trainings in their respective Provinces. The Director General, FJA, informed the Committee that Training of Trainers (ToT) programmes are already being conducted at FJA.

The discussion on the sub-agenda item relating to academic collaboration of academies with academia and curriculum designers and the submission of data regarding the actual versus sanctioned strength of judges across Pakistan was deferred until the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Any Other Business

NJECC Logo:

The Director General, FJA, sought permission of the Hon'ble chair to introduce an additional agenda item regarding approval of a logo for NJECC. Upon permission of the Chair, the proposed logo was displayed and reviewed. After incorporating modifications as suggested by the Chair, the Committee unanimously approved the following logo.

Costs of Litigation:

The Chair informed the Committee that he had been invited to the last NJPMC meeting by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan to speak on the importance of imposing realistic costs in light of the growing backlog of cases. Referring to the promulgation of the Costs of Litigation Act in the Islamabad Capital Territory in 2017, the Chair stressed the need for provinces to consider enacting similar legislation.

At the end of the meeting, the Chair appreciated the initiative of the Gilgit-Baltistan High Court in establishing its own Judicial Academy. Mr. Ghulam Abbas Chopa, Director General, Gilgit-Baltistan Judicial Academy, updated the Chair that the Academy was scheduled for formal inauguration in March. The Chair encouraged the Registrar, Azad Jammu & Kashmir High Court, to initiate the establishment of a Judicial Academy for AJ&K and assured full support.

The Chair emphasized that NJECC should function as an effective implementing forum for advancing innovative ideas to enhance judicial education in Pakistan.

Decisions and Resolutions

After detailed deliberations, the following decisions / resolutions were unanimously adopted:

No	Decision / Resolution	Action to be taken	Remarks
1	The Joint and Specialized Pre-Service Trainings Programmes shall be graded.	Federal Judicial Academy & Provincial Judicial Academies	
2	The curriculum for Specialized Pre-Service Training Programme shall be harmonized and standardized.	Federal Judicial Academy & Provincial Judicial Academies	
3	The Proposal for enhancement of the Specialized Pre-service training programme from four (4) months to six (6) months shall be placed before the National Judicial Policy Making Committee(NJPMC) through the forum of NJECC	Federal Judicial Academy & Provincial Judicial Academies	
4	NJECC shall be strengthened as an effective forum and implementing mechanism for advancing productive ideas aimed at enhancing the quality of judicial education.	All the Judicial Academies	
5	The scope of judicial education exchange programmes among academies shall be expanded and institutionalized.	All the Judicial Academies	

The meeting concluded with the Chair expressing appreciation for the constructive participation of all members and reaffirming the collective commitment to strengthening judicial education across Pakistan.

Drafted by:

Hayat Ali Shah
Director General

Authenticated by:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb
Chairperson, NJECC