

BALOCHISTA PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT.

Dated: Quetta, the 15th April, 2026.

NOTIFICATION.

No.PAB/Legis: V (40)/2025/9604. The Balochistan Prevention of Beggary Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 40 of 2025), having been passed by the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on 13th April, 2026 and assented to by the Governor Balochistan on 14th April 2026, is hereby published as an Act of the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan.

THE BALOCHISTAN PREVENTION OF BEGGARY ACT, 2025.

(Bill No. II of 2026).

AN

ACT

to provide for the prevention of begging, detention, training and employment of beggars and their dependents in Welfare Homes and the custody, trial and punishment of beggar offenders.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, it is expedient to prohibit the tradition of beggary in order to maintain good conduct and morality of general public, for preventing beggary and making beggars good citizens;

AND WHEREAS, it is expedient to make uniform and better provision for the prevention of begging in Balochistan; for the detention, training and employment of beggars and their dependents in certain institutions; for the custody, trial and punishment of beggar offenders; and for these and other purposes to consolidate and enact/ amend the law relating to beggars.

CHAPTER-I

Short title, extent 1. (1) This Act may be called the Balochistan Prevention of Beggary Act, 2025.

and

commencement.

- (2) It shall extend to the whole of the Balochistan Province.
- (3) It shall come into force at once.

Definitions.

- 2. (1) In this Act unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,
 - (a) **“Act”** means The Balochistan Prevention of Beggary Act, 2025.
 - (b) **“Adult”** means a person who is eighteen (18) years old or above;
 - (c) **“Beggar”** means a person who:
 - (i) solicits or receives alms in a public place;
 - (ii) exposes or exhibits any sore, wound, injury, deformity or disease in a public place for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms;
 - (iii) allows himself or his child to be used as an exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms; or
 - (iv) enters on any private premises without the invitation / Permission of the occupier for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms;
 - (d) **“Begging”** means:
 - (i) soliciting alms in a public places;
 - (ii) entering on any private premises for the purpose of soliciting alms;
 - (iii) exposing or exhibiting with the object of obtaining or extorting alms, any sore, wound, injury, deformity or disease whether of human being, child or an animal;
 - (iv) having no visible means of subsistence and wandering about or remaining in any public place in such condition or manner as makes that clear the person doing so exists by soliciting alms;
and
 - (v) allowing himself to be used as an exhibit for the purpose of soliciting alms, but does not include soliciting money or fee or gift for a purpose authorized by law or authorized in the prescribed manner;

- (e) **“Child”** means a person who has not attained the age of eighteen years;
- (f) **“Code”** means the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898;
- (g) **“Court”** means the court of Judicial Magistrate or any other court excising criminal jurisdiction under the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898 and Juvenile Courts as notified under the Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018;
- (h) **“Department”** means the Social Welfare and Human Rights Department, Government of Balochistan;
- (i) **“Government”** means the Government of Balochistan;
- (j) **“Guardian”** means a person, for the purpose of this Act, other than a biological parent, who has parental responsibility and care of a child or a guardian appointed by the court;
- (k) **“Parent”** means the biological father or the mother of a child;
- (l) **“Person”** includes the child; adult and senior citizens for the purposes of this Act;
- (m) **“Police Officer”** means a Police Officer not below the rank of a Assistant-Sub-Inspector of Police;
- (n) **“Prescribed”** means prescribed by rules and regulations made under this Act;
- (o) **“Public place”** means any highway, public park, garden, or any public bridge, road, lane, foot-way, square, court, alley or passage and any other places;
- (p) **“Senior citizen”** means an elderly person who has attained sixty (60) years of aged or more; *and*
- (q) **“Welfare Home for beggars”** means a home notified by the Department or any subordinate authority empowered by it in this behalf to be a fit place for the reception of beggars including adults, juveniles, and persons with special needs suffering from any other infectious or contagious disease in a separate room or hall in its premises with

separate portion for the Juvenile and female beggars as provided under Section 15 of this Act.

(2) All other words and expressions used but not defined in this Act shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in respective laws for the time being in force.

CHAPTER-II
PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH BEGGARS AND BEGGAR OFFENDERS.

Powers of the court.

3. The powers conferred on court by this Act shall be exercised by the Court of Magistrate of the first class; Juvenile Court, or any other court exercising criminal jurisdiction in the area.

4.

Power to require a person found begging to appear before court.

Any Police Officer or other person authorized in this behalf, in accordance with rules made under this Act, take such person into protective custody for the purpose of producing him before the Court:

Provided that, such custody shall not deem to be an arrest within the meaning of the Code:

Provided further that no person entering on any private premises for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms shall be so arrested or shall be liable to any proceedings under this Act, except upon a complaint by the occupier of the premises.

(1) Such Police Officer or any other person shall take or send the person so arrested to the court.

(2) The provisions of Section 61 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall apply to every arrest under this Section, and the officer in charge of the police station shall cause the arrested person to be kept in the prescribed manner until he can be brought before a court.

**Summary inquiry
in respect of
persons found
begging and their
detention.**

5. (1) Where a person who is brought before the court under the last preceding Section is not proved to have previously been detained in a Welfare Home under the provisions of this Act, the court shall make, a summary inquiry, in the prescribed manner, as regards the allegation that he was found begging.

(2) If the inquiry referred to in sub-section (1) of this Section cannot be completed forthwith, the court may adjourn it from time to time and order the person to be remanded to such place and custody as may be convenient.

(3) If on making the inquiry referred to in sub-section (1) of this Section, the court is not satisfied that the person was found begging, it shall order that such person be released forthwith.

(4) If on making the inquiry referred to in sub-section (1) of this Section, the court is satisfied that the person was found begging, it shall order a finding that the person is beggar.

(5) If a person is found to be a beggar under the last preceding sub-section, the court shall declare him to be a beggar and may—

- (a) if the court is satisfied from the circumstances of the case that the person is not likely to beg again, admonish and release the beggar on his or any other person whom court considers suitable, executing a bond, with or without surety as the court may require, requiring the beggar to abstain from begging and to be of good behavior; or
- (b) if the court is of opinion that the person is not likely to give up begging, order the beggar to be detained in a Welfare Home or to be imprisoned under this Act.
- (c) where the beggar is a non-resident of Balochistan, the court may order to repatriate/transfer the beggar to the province from where he belongs.

(6) In passing any order under the provisions of this Act, the court has regard to the following considerations, that is to say—

- (a) the age and character of the beggar;
- (b) the circumstances and conditions in which the beggar was living;
- (c) reports made by the Deputy Director of Welfare Homes of concerned area where the beggar resides; *and*
- (d) such other matters as may, in the opinion of the court require to be taken into consideration in the interest of the beggar.

(7) The report of the Deputy Director or any other report considered by the court shall be treated as confidential:

Provided that if such report relates to the character, health or conduct of or the circumstances and conditions in which, the beggar is living, the court may, if it thinks expedient, communicate the substance thereof to the beggar or (in case of dependents) to the guardian concerned, and may give the beggar or the guardian, as the case may be, an opportunity of producing evidence which may be relevant to the matters stated in the report.

(→) A copy of the order made under sub-section (5) of this Section, shall be sent forthwith to the Deputy Director of Welfare Homes.

(9) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, when the person found to be a beggar as aforesaid is a child, being a child, the court shall forward him to a Juvenile Court, and shall not make any order under sub-section (5). For the purpose of ascertaining the age of the person, the court may, if necessary, cause the beggar to be examined by a medical officer.

Penalty for begging after detention as beggar.

6. (1) Whoever, having been previously detained in a Welfare Homes under this Act is found begging, shall on conviction be punished as hereinafter in this Section provided.

(2) When a person is convicted for the first time under sub-section (1) of this Section, the court shall order him to be detained in a Welfare Home for a period which may extend up to Six months or fine which may extend up to Rs. 20000/-.

(3) When a person is convicted for the second or subsequent term under sub-section (1) of this Section, the court shall order a term of imprisonment which may extend up to two years and a fine which may extend up to Rs.50,000:

Provided that in default of payment of the fine, the offender shall be liable to further imprisonment for a period up to three months.

Offences to be tried in accordance with the code.

7. All offences under this Act shall be tried in accordance with the provisions of code.

Contribution of parents.

↩ (1) The court, which makes an order for the detention of any person in a Welfare Homes under Section 5 or Section 6 of this Act, may make an order on the parent or other person liable to maintain him, to contribute to his maintenance, if able to do so, in the manner to be prescribed.

(2) Before making any such order, the court shall inquire into the circumstances of the parent or other person liable to maintain him, and shall record evidence, if any, in the presence of the parent or such person, as the case may be.

(3) Any order made under this Section, may on an application, made by the party liable, or otherwise, be varied by the court.

Court may order detention of persons wholly dependent on beggar.

↳ (1) When the court has ordered the detention of a beggar in Welfare Homes or imprisoned under Section 5 or Section 6 of this Act, it may, after making such inquiry as it thinks fit, order any other person who is wholly dependent on such person to be detained in a Welfare Homes for a like period:

Provided that before making such order, the dependent person shall be given an opportunity of being heard that why such order should not be made:

Provided further that where the dependent person is the beggar's own child, being a child who is under the age of five years, and the beggar is an able bodied mother, not being a contagious leper or a lunatic, the child may be ordered to be detained in a Welfare Homes without being separated from the mother as regards the place or detention, until it attains the age of five years.

Power of department to order further detention of incurably helpless beggar.

10. When any person who is detained in a Welfare Home under this Act is considered, whether on an application made by him to the Department or otherwise, by the Department to be blind, a cripple, or otherwise incurably helpless, the Department may order that he after the expiry of the period of his detention be further kept in a Welfare Homes:

Provided that the Department may release any such inmate if any person whom the Department considers suitable executes a bond, with or without sureties as the Department may require, making himself responsible for the housing and maintenance of such inmate, and for preventing him from begging or being used for the purpose of begging.

Punishment of escape from a welfare Home.

11. Whoever escapes from a welfare home to which he has been committed on conviction under the provisions of this Act before expiry of the period for which he has been committed shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty thousand or with imprisonment which may extend to three months.

Punishment for employing or causing persons to ask for Alms.

12. (1) Whoever, being organizer, employs or causes:
- (a) a person, without any injury or incapacitation, to solicit or receive alms or uses him as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years and fine up to three hundred thousand rupees but not less than one hundred thousand rupees and in case of default of fine, the offender shall undergo further imprisonment of six months; or
 - (b) more than one person, without any injury or incapacitation, to solicit or receive alms or uses them as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years but not less than three years and fine up to five hundred thousand rupees but not less than three hundred thousand rupees and in case of default of fine, the accused shall undergo further imprisonment of six months; or
 - (c) a child, without any injury or incapacitation, to solicit or receive alms or uses him as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years but not less than three years and fine up to five hundred thousand rupees but not less than three hundred thousand rupees and in case of default of

fine, the offender shall undergo further imprisonment of six months; or

(d) more than one child, without any injury or incapacitation, to solicit or receive alms or uses them as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to seven years but not less than three years and fine up to seven hundred thousand rupees but not less than three hundred thousand rupees and in case of default of fine, the offender shall undergo further imprisonment of one year; or

(e) one or more than one person, or child with any injury or incapacitation, to solicit or receive alms or uses such child as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to ten years but not less than seven years and fine up to two million rupees but not less than one million rupees and in case of default of fine, the offender shall undergo further imprisonment of two years.

(2) Whoever, being guardian, employs, connives at or causes a child to solicit or receive alms or uses such child as exhibit for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years and fine up to three hundred thousand rupees but not less than one hundred thousand rupees and in case of default of fine, the offender shall undergo further imprisonment of six months.

(3) Whoever, being organizer or guardian, as the case may be, previously convicted of an offence under this Act, is convicted for the same offence, shall be punished with maximum penalty as provided for that offence under this Act.

Appeal.

13. (1) Any person aggrieved by an order of a court under this Act, may within thirty days of such order appeal to the Session Court or to the High Court, as the case may be.

(2) The provision of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act No. V of 1898) shall mutatis mutandis applicable to the appeals files under this Section.

Articles liable for Seizure.

14. All things and money found in the possession of a beggar except the necessary wearing apparel shall be taken into the custody and be dealt in accordance with the Rules prescribed under this Act.

**CHAPTER-III
WELFARE HOMES.**

Welfare Homes. 15. (1) The Department shall establish and maintain one or more welfare homes at such place or places as it thinks fit for the custody and detention of beggars who shall be kept in separate classes provided as under:

- (a) Female;
- (b) Male;
- (c) Juvenile;
- (d) Persons suffering from contagious disease;
- (e) Transgender;
- (f) Infirm or incapacitated;
- (g) Persons with Mental Illness:

Provided that children less than 7 years of age may be allowed to take up residence in the same apartment with their mother where she is confined.

(2) The Department may, by modification, declare any existing charitable or other institution(s) with consent of the controlling authority of such institutions and on such conditions as may be mutually agreed upon between Department and the said institution, to be a welfare home for the purposes of welfare of beggars under this Act.

Deputy Director (In charge). 16. (1) Every Welfare Home shall be under the immediate charge of a Deputy Director appointed/posted by the Department.

(2) Deputy Director shall perform the following duties: -

- (a) shall get the beggar medically examined and the examination shall state inter alia:
 - (i) the sex and the age of the beggar;
 - (ii) whether, he is suffering from any other contagious disease;
 - (iii) whether, the beggar is a person with mental illness or psychosocial disability; or

- (iv) what is the general state of health and bodily condition of the beggar and for which, if any of the prescribed types of work such beggar is fit;

The Department shall establish and maintain a comprehensive Management Information System (MIS) for the purpose of maintaining updated records of all Welfare Homes established under this Act to maintain complete data of persons proceeded against and brought to Welfare Homes, including details of first-time offenders, second-time offenders, and persons declared habitual beggars, along with such other particulars as may be prescribed; *and*

- (b) shall arrange:
 - (i) non-formal education for the children detained in the welfare home; *and*
 - (ii) vocational training for different trade and make them self-supporting.

Transfer of Beggar from Welfare Homes.

17. Deputy Director Welfare Home for beggars may, on request or on his discretion, transfer or shift a beggar from one welfare home to another, for the reason to be recorded in writing.

Powers of discharge of beggars from Welfare Homes.

14 The court on the recommendation of the Deputy Director may discharge a beggar from a Welfare Home:

- (a) if he is satisfied that a beggar has become capable to earn an income his livelihood;
- (b) if a relative of such beggar, or a person interested in the welfare of the beggar, enters into a bond with or without sureties to look after and maintain such beggar and to prevent him from resorting to beggary;
- (c) on the certificate of the Deputy Director of the Welfare Home that satisfactory employment has been obtained for such beggar; *and*
- (d) for any other good and sufficient reason to be recorded in writing:

Provided that if a beggar violates any condition relating to his discharge, the court may order him to be rearrested and sent to the Welfare Home to complete the sentence awarded under this Act.

CHAPTER-IV MISCELLANEOUS.

Indemnity.

- 1↪ No suit, prosecution, or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

Power to make Rules. 20. The Government may, within a year of the commencement of this Act, by notification in the official Gazette and subject to the condition of previous publication, make Rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Regulations. 21. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Rules framed thereunder, the Department with the approval of the Chief Minister may make regulations.

TAHIR SHAH KAKAR
Secretary.

No.PAB/Legis: V (40)/2025/9604.

Dated Quetta the, 15th April, 2026.

A copy is forwarded to the Chief Controller, Government Printing Press, Balochistan Quetta for favor of publication in Extra –ordinary issue of Gazette of Balochistan. Before final printing, a copy thereof be sent to this Secretariat for Proof reading. Fifty copies of the Act may please be supplied to this Secretariat for record.

(ABDUL REHMAN)
Special Secretary (Legis:)

No.PAB/Legis: V (40)/2025/9604.

Dated Quetta the, 15th April, 2026.

Copy for information to: -

- 1) The Principal Secretary to Governor, Balochistan, Quetta.
- 2) The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Balochistan, Quetta.
- 3) The Secretary, Government of Balochistan, Social Welfare Department, Quetta.
- 4) The Secretary, Government of Balochistan, Law & Parliamentary Affairs Department,
- 5) The Director General, Public Relations, Balochistan, Quetta for favour of publication.
- 6) The System Analyst, Balochistan Provincial Assembly.

SPECIAL SECRETARY (LEGIS:)