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REGISTERED No.
L.-7646

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

PART I

Acts, Ordinances, President's Orders and Regulations
GOVERNMENT OF GILGIT-BALTISTAN
GILGIT-BALTISTAN SECRETARIAT
(Law and Prosecution Department)
The Gilgit-Baltistan
Gilgit, the 6th March, 2018
CHILD PROTECTION RESPONSE ACT, 2017
(Act No. V of 2017)
ate response for the protection of children in Gilgit-Baltistan

r mental violence, injury, neglect or negligent treatment,
e and matters incidental to.

To provide a st
from all forms of physical o
maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abus
establish a Child Protection Commission within
ding vision, policy guidelines, appropriate
and adjusting policies and measures

WHEREAS it is expedient to
the Social Welfare Department for provi
strategies for child protection, analysis of trends

for the protection of children.

It is hereby enacted as follows:
(169)

Price : Rs. 20.50
[5724 (2018)/Ex. Gaz.] a

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é CHAPTER | :
PRELIMINARY

nt.—(1) This Act may be

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1. Short title, extent and commen No. V of 2017,

. ‘ » Act,

called the Gilgit-Baltistan Child Protection Response Ac

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Gilgit-Baltistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

This Act shall apply to all children physically present

“2. Application. — irs :

tg altistan, whether citizens of Pakistan or

within the territorial limits of Gilgit-B
otherwise.

3. Definitions —(1) In this Act,

(a) - “Alternative care” includes extended family care, placement with a guardian, or placement in an institution established or regulated by the State, or any other arrangement in the best interests of a child and authorised by the Court in accordance with this Act and considering all views, including those of the child in need of protection;

(b) “Best interests of a child” with reference to this Act, include the factors as described and enumerated in Section 5 of this Act;

(c) “Care giver” also comprises state agencies and organisations responsible to provide necessary age- and gender-appropriate care to a child, including concerned law enforcement agencies, judicial institutions and alternative care institutions; ‘

(d) “Child” means a person, either girl or boy, below the age of eighteen ~ years; .

(e) “Child abuse” includes one, or a combination of more than one, of the following: physical or psychological violence, exploitation, injury,

neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment, including sexual abuse;

) “Child exploitation” includes all types of exploitation prejudicial to the best interests of the child;

(g) “Child Protection Officer” means a person appointed as Child Protection Officer under section 12 of this Act; « ‘

Part I]

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“Child protection plan” a document containing details of services to be offered to a child requiring protection in accordance with this Act, based on a comprehensive assessment of the child and family under Section 16 of this Act;

“Child Protection Unit” means a unit established in the District Social Welfare Office under section 12 of this Act:

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“Commission” means the Child Protection Commission established under section 8 of this Act;

“Comprehensive assessment” a full analysis undertaken by a Child Protection Officer, under Section 14 of the Act. in support of a determination as to whether a child requires protection in accordance with the provisions of the Act;

“Court” means the District and Sessions Court, or any other court empowered by the government;

“Department” means the relevant department as per Gilgit-Baltistan Rules of Business 2009;

“Government” means the Government of the Gilgit-Baltistan;

“Guardian” means a person, for the purpose of this Act, other than a biological parent, who has parental responsibility and care of a child, as nominated by the parent(s), or a guardian appointed by the Court;

“Initial assessment” means a preliminary analysis of whether a child is in need of protection, in accordance with the provisions of this Act;

“Maltreatment” includes cruel or harmful treatment or abuse of a

child by a care giver:

“Mental violence” includes:

all forms of persistent harmful interactions with the child, for

conveying to children that they are worthless, unloved,
another’s needs;

(i)

example,

unwanted, endangered or only of value in meeting

(ii) scaring, terrorizing and threatening; exploiting and corrupting:

spurning and rejecting, isolating, ignoring and favouritism,

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(iii) denying emotional responsiveness, neglecting mental health,
iii

medical and educational needs;

(iv) insults, name-calling, humiliation, belittling, ridiculing and hurting
a child's feelings:

(v) exposure to domestic violence;

(vi) placement in solitary confinement, isolation or humiliating or
degrading conditions of detention; and

(vii) psychological bullying by adults or other children, including via
information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as
mobile phones and the Internet (known as "cyberbullying");

(s) "Neglect or negligent treatment" includes:

(i) Physical neglect: failure of caregivers to protect a child from
harm, including through lack of supervision, or failure to provide
the child with basic necessities including adequate food, shelter,
clothing and basic medical care;

(ii) Psychological or emotional neglect includes lack of any emotional
- Support and love, chronic inattention to the child, caregivers being
psychologically unavailable by overlooking young children's cues

and signals, and exposure to intimate partner violence, drug or
alcohol abuse;

(iii) Neglect of children's physical or mental health: include ignoring
essential medical care;

(iv) Educational neglect includes failure to comply with laws requiring
caregivers to secure their children's education through attendance
at school or otherwise;

(t) "Physical violence" includes:

(i) Hitting, kicking, shaking, beating, bites, burns, strangulation,
poisoning and suffocation; and

(ii) all other forms of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment
or punishment;

(uw) "Prescribed" means prescribe

d by rules or regulations made unde

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Section 31 of this Act;

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(vy) “Secretary” means: the: Secretary to the Government of
Gilgit-Baltistan; i

(w) “Sexual abuse and exploitation includes”:

(i). the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful
or psychologically harmful sexual activity;

(ii) the use of children in commercial sexual exploitation; and

(iii) the use of children in audio or visual images of child sexual abuse;

(iv) child prostitution, sexual slavery, sexual exploitation in travel and
tourism, trafficking (within and between countries) and sale of
children for sexual purposes and forced marriage:

(x) “Significant harm” means the threshold which justifies compulsory
state intervention in family life in the best interests of children.

(y) “Supervision order” means the lawful supervision of a child by a
Child Protection Officer for the purpose of ensuring that the child is
protected in accordance with the provisions 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 Federal or Gilgit-Baltistan
Laws.

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CHILD PROTECTION

4. . Right to Life—Every child has the inherent right to life.

5. Best interests of a child in need of protection.— (1) All state

-bodies, agencies and organisations, public and private social welfare institutions and

civil society organisations shall safeguard and promote the best interests of the child
in need of protection.

(2) All actions taken in relation to a child under this Act, or under any
Rules or Regulations made under this Act, whether by the Courts, or Child Protection
Officers, or any other administrative authority, public or private social welfare
institution, civil society organisations, or any other body, shall be subject to the
over-riding principle that the best interests of the child in need of protection shall be —
the primary consideration. ; ;

: (3) Allstate bodies, agencies and organisations, public and private social institutions and civil society organisations shall safeguard and promote the right of the child to be heard and every child capable of forming his own views shall be

entitled to express those views.

nonious development of a child's personality, a family social structure and environment. Where tance to the parent(s) or caregiver(s) is required are, the participation of the child in the related dto the maximum extent possible.

(4) For the full and hart child should preferably grow up in special protection of a child or assis from the state, including out-of-home & decision-making process must be ensure

ts family home and environment by

(5) Nochild shall be removed from i 1 state intervention unless the removal is deemed by the Court to be in the best interests , of the child in order to protect him/her from threat of/or significant harm, after

considering all views, including those of the child.

in this Act to the best interests of the child

(6) Where there is a reference esi | ken into account in determining the child's

in need of protection, the factors to be ta best interests shall include:

(i) the child's right to protection from violence, neglect and exploitation;
(ii) the welfare, well-being and safety of the child in need of protection;

(iii) the child's physical, mental, psychological and emotional needs and level of development;

(iv) _ the responsibility for the protection of the child rests primarily with the parent(s);

(v) _ the quality of the relationship the child has with a parent or any other person and the effect of maintaining that relationship;

(vi) the capacity of the parent(s) to provide a safe home and adequate food, clothing and medical care;

(vii) the child's religious, cultural and spiritual views;

(viii) the child's level of education and educational requirements;

(ix) the effect on the child of a delay in making a decision: and

(x) _ the preferences of the child.

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6. Restriction on parental custody.—The Court may restrict the |
f parental custody and control of a child when the child is the subject of an

exercise of]

interim or final Custody and Placement Order pursuant of the provisions of Section
18 of this Act. .

Child in need of protection.—A child in need of protection shall

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who has been subjected to, is subject to, or is under serious threat

include any child who
of being subjected to:

(i) physical violence or injury;

(ii) mental violence;

ii) neglect or negligent treatment,

(iv) maltreatment;

(v) — exploitation;

sexual abuse or sexual exploitation while in the care of parent(s), legal
guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

(vi)

CHAPTER III

CHILD PROTECTION ADMINISTRATION

8. Child Protection Commission.—(1) The Government shall establish
a Child Protection Commission under the Social Welfare Department.

(2) The Department shall provide secretariat services to the Commission.

(3) The Government shall allocate adequate budget for effective functioning
of the Commission.

9, Composition of the Commission.—(1) The Commission: shall
consist of: .

(a) Minister Social Welfare Department. Government of Gilgit-Baltistan,

being the Chairperson of the Commission,

(b) Co-members of the Commission shall select a member as Vice-
Chairperson.

(c) . The Secretary Social Welfare Department being the ex-officio

Secretary of the Commission; ae

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(d) The Secretaries to the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan Home and Prisons .
» . Department; Education, Social Welfare and Women Development
Department, Labour and Industries Department, Local Government
Department; Health and Population Welfare Department; Finance
Department; Law and Prosecution Department; DIG Headquarter;
Advocate General and one female Local Bodies' member being an

ex-officio member of the Commission.

ive Assembly shall nominate not

(e) The Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Legislat
Baltistan Legislative Assembly,

more than two members of the Gilgit-
of whom one shall be a woman.

o-opt no more than two non-official members,
iety, having at least three years' work
rotection and/or social welfare.

(f) The Commission may ç
preferably from among civil soc
experience in the field of child p

at least once every three months and at

(2) The Commission shall meet
les or regulations made under section 31

such a place and as may be prescribed by ru
of this Act.

(3) All decisions shall be taken by a simple majority, with one-half members
-officio members.

forming the quorum, of whom at least two shall be ex

(4) The Chairperson shall exercise the powers as may be prescribed by
the rules or regulations made under section 31 of this Act.

(5) The term of the Vice-Chairperson and government-nominated members ~
shall be two years.

10. Functions of the Child Protection Commission —(1) Advise on
policy, legislation, and regulatory matters relating to child protection;

(2) Monitor implementation of Article 19 of the Constitution
of the Child in Gilgit-Baltistan; refer ern dls

(3) Ensure effective coordination/implementation of this Act;

11. Child protection functions

as directed by the Secretary of the Department.—(1) Maintain and
records of persons convicted of offences against children;

(2) Establish and maintain a helpline for direct complaints;

(3) Appoint, supervise, control, monitor and review the performance of

Protection Officers in each District Child Protection Unit; |

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i (4) Regulate all providers of chi i

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: including alternative care providers, to ensure compliance with applicabl itinimum
| Lee aa applicable minimum

: (5) ee as custodian of the Child Protection Referral, Management
Information ee (MIS) in support of processes referenced in 'Section 10(3)
ensuring Its confidentiality and security, '

12. District Child Protection Units.—(1) The Government shall
establish within the District Social Welfare Office a District Child Protection Unit,
headed by a qualified Child Protection Officer, holding fulband comprehensive
responsibility for case management and re ferral of all reported cases of child abuse
inthedistrict. '

e

(2) 'Child Protection Officers 'shall receive training in social work and
child protection, as provided for in minimum standards set by the Government.

(3) The functions of the District-Child Protection Units hall include:

(i) Receive and register report(s) of alleged child abuse in the Child
Protection Referral MIS;

. (ii) Based on a report of alleged child abuse, assess whether the child
requires protection under the provisions of this Act;

(iii) ~Pursuant to a forrnal determination that a child requires protection
under this. Act, develop and maintain a child protection plan:

(iv) © In accordance with the child protection plan, refer the child to relevant
departments/agencies at the district level (obligation to comply with
requests shall be mandatory and failure to comply shall be subject to
'review of the Commission) for provision of applicable child protective

services;

(v) Manage reported cases of child abuse, including maintaining a record
of reports, monitoring cases and follow-up until case closure;

(vi) . Collect, maintain and update child protection case management data;

(vii) Monitor the application of child protection regulations at the'district.

level. .

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CHAPTER IV

CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURE

13. Initial Assessment.—(1) Whenever a Child Protection Office, receives a report of alleged child abuse, he or she shall carry out an initial ASSESSMENY to determine whether the child requires protection in accordance with the Provision of this Act.

(2) The Child Protection Officer shall ensure:

(a) that, if the case of sub-section (1), the information provided js

, acknowledged within 24 hours; and

: (b) that an initial assessment of the report of alleged child abuse is commenced by the Child Protection Officer within 72 hours of receipt

of the report and completed within 10 days.

(3) No initial assessment shall be regarded as complete unless a Child

Protection Officer has:

(a) met with the child;

(b) heard the views of the child in accordance with its age and level of maturity; and

provided a written report of the findings in the prescribed format, including next steps, as appropriate.

(c)

(4) During an initial assessment, the Child Protection Officer may request that the child and his/her parent(s), legal guardian or any other person responsible for the care of the child, attend at such premises as may be specified by the Child

Protection Officer.

(5) Where the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or caregiver(s) fail to comply with the directions of the Child Protection Officer provided under Section 13(4) of this Act, an application shall be made to the Court as soon as is practicable for a notice/summons/order to produce the child at such place as is to be determined by the Court for the purpose of completing the initial assessment.

(6) Where, following the initial assessment, the child is found not to require protection in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Child Protection Officer shall inform in writing the child's parent(s), legal guardian or other person responsible for the care of the child of this fact, and any other person who provided information

to the Unit in accordance with Section 13(1)..

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14. Comprehensive assessment.—(1) Where an initial assessment conducted in accordance with Sections 13 of 20(1) of the Act indicates that the child requires protection in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Child Protection

Officer shall:

(a) provide in writing and in person to the child's parent(s), legal guardian or other person responsible for the care of the child, the findings of the initial assessment; and

(b) undertake a comprehensive assessment of the child and his or her family environment;

(c) inform in writing any person who provided information to the Child Protection Officer under the provisions of Section 13(1) of the fact that the initial assessment has found the child to require protection in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(2) The comprehensive assessment shall be completed within 15 days of the completion of the initial assessment, or from the date of the Court order made under the provisions of Section 20(5) of the Act, as appropriate.

(3) No comprehensive assessment shall be regarded as complete unless the Child Protection Officer has met with the child, has heard his or her views, according to age and maturity levels, and produced a written report of the assessment in the prescribed format.

(4) Where the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or caregiver(s) fail to comply with the directions of the Child Protection Officer to provide access to the child for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive assessment in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Act, an application shall be made to the Court as soon as is practicable for a notice/summons/order to produce the child at such place as to be determined by the Court for the purpose of completing the comprehensive assessment.

(5) On completion of the comprehensive assessment, the Child protection Officer shall develop a comprehensive child protection plan.

15, Child Protection Plan—(1) Where the child is found to require protection in accordance with the provisions of Sections 13 and 14 of this Act, the Child Protection Officer shall develop a child protection plan.

(2) The child protection plan shall include a formal referral to appropriate protective services,

16. Child Protection Services—(1) Where the child protection plan concludes that the child's needs are to be met through the provision of protective

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— ith Section 15(2) of this Act, the Child Protection Officer
ance with Sec tion plan, formally refer the child to such

the child protec
he child.

services in accord
shall, in accordance with +
services as appropriate to protec

tion Officer shall seek the agreement of the parent(s),

iver(s) of the child on the action to be taken and the

dto the child. Such agreement shall be recorded in writing and
“ -dian or current caregiver(s) of the child. The text
all the parties, including the child, depending

(2) The Child Protec

legal guardian or current careg

services to be offere >
signed by the parent(s), legal guardi
of the agreement shall be read out before

upon his or her age and level of maturity.
7 i accept the decision 'to refer

arent or caregiver refuses to
bdina ee is ion Officer shall make an

services, the Child Protect r si
17 of this Act for a Supervision Order to

(3)
the child formally to appropriate 1
application to the Court under Section /
ensure implementation of the child protection plan.

may make such order as it deems

-(4) Upon such application, the Court :
necessary to ensure that the child accesses appropriate services recommended by

the Child Protection Officer, having regard to the child protection plan and the best

interests of the child.

CHAPTER V

Powers of the Court in Child Protection

; 17... Supervision Order.—(1) Where the child protection plan indicates that the child(s), parent(s), legal guardian or current caregiver(s) either refuses to abide by the directions of the said plan, or requires support to ensure the protection of the child, the Child Protection Officer may apply to the Court for the issuance of a Supervision Order, in accordance with the provisions of Section 15.

(2) | Any application to the Court for a Supervision Order shall be made in the name of the Secretary to the Government as defined in Section 2(v).

(3) A Supervision Order shall specify the length of time for which the Order shall apply; and <

(a) shall be implemented by the Child Protection Officer as a protective service;

(b) _ shall require the child and his or her parent(s), legal guardian or other caregiver to comply with the reasonable and appropriate directions of the Court to ensure the child's protection, including directions to attend at a specified service.

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(4) The directions contained in a Supervision Order shall not require the child to live away from home. qh A

18. Custody and Placement of the Child. —(1) Where a Child Protection Officer determines, under Section 20 of this Act, that the child is either at immediate risk of, or already suffering significant harm in the custody of his or her parent(s) legal guardian. or other current caregiver, application shall be made as soon as is practicable, but no longer than 24 hours following completion of the report of the findings of the initial assessment, to the Court under Section 12 of the Guardian and Wards Act, 1890 and Sections 6 and 22 of this Act to restrict, on an interim basis, the exercise of parental custody and to seek the temporary placement of the child in an appropriate form of alternative care, pending a final order of the Court.

7 19. Procedure for applying to the Court.—Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 10 and 11 of the Guardian and Wards Act, 1890,

(1) Any application to the Court for an interim or final Custody and Placement Order shall be made in the name of the Secretary of the Department, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4(2) of the Guardian and Wards Act,

1890.

(2) Before making any order the Court shall:
legal guardian or current carer of the child to

(a) allow the parent(s),
make representations to the Court,

hear evidence from, the Child Protection

(b) consider the reports of, and
of the proceedings;

Officer and any other relevant parties to

consider the interim Child Protection Plan, developed in accordance

with the provisions of Section 20(4), which must be filed as part of the
application ;

(d) where the child is of sufficient age and level of maturity, seek the
views of the child.

(3) If the Court decides to make a Custody and Placement Order, the
Court shall give reasons for its decision.

(4) A Custody and Placement Order shall only be made where the Court
is satisfied that the child has suffered, is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant

ith the definition contained in Section 3(y) of this Act and that

harm in accordance Ww

uire that he or she be placed in alternative care for

the best interests of the child req

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a period of time to be determined by the Court, which period is to be Subject |
regular review by the Court. to

|

20. Initial assessment of significant harm—(1) Where a COMPLAIN child abuse received by a Child Protection Officer informs a reasonable belief | the child is at immediate risk of, or already suffering significant harm, the Child Protection Officer shall conduct an initial assessment as soon as is practicable, but no later than 24 hours following receipt of the said report of child abuse,

(2) The Child Protection Officer shall ensure:

(a) that, in the case of sub-section (1), the information provided is acknowledged as soon as is practicable, but no later than 12 hours following receipt of the said complaint; and

(b) that a report of the findings of the initial assessment is completed by the Child Protection Officer within 24 hours of the conclusion of the said assessment.

(3) No initial assessment shall be regarded as complete unless a Child Protection Officer has:

(a) made appropriate efforts to meet with the child;

(b) heard, where possible, the views of the child in accordance with its age and level of maturity; and

(c) provided a written report of the findings in the prescribed format, including next steps, as appropriate,

(4) Where the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or caregiver(s) fail to comply with the directions of the Child Protection Officer to provide access to the child for the purpose of conducting an initial assessment of significant harm in accordance with the provisions of Section 20(1) of the Act, an application shall be made to the Court as soon as is practicable for a notice/summons/order to produce the child at such place as is to be determined by the Court for the purpose of completing the initial assessment of significant harm.

(5) Following completion of an initial assessment in accordance with sub-section (1) and in circumstances where the Child Protection Officer determines that the child is either at immediate risk of, or already suffering significant harm, the Child Protection Officer shall draft an interim Child Protection Plan, including an application to the Court for relief under Sections 6 and 18 of the Act.

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(6) Following application to the Court under Section 18 of this Act, and in unstances where the Court determines that the child requires protection in circu

ordance with the Act, the Court shall:
accor'

(a) make an order to restrict the exercise of parental custody and control
' of the child, including placement of the child in an appropriate form of
alternative care, in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of the

Guardians and Wards Act, 1890;

(b) _ where, based on the findings of the Child Protection Officer's initial
_ and/or comprehensive assessment, the Court determines that the child
does not require protection in accordance with the Act, the child shall

be returned to his family as soon as practicable.

—Where a child is the subject of a Custody
and Placement application or order under Section 20 of this Act, and the child cannot
be found at any stage of the proceedings, the Child Protection Officer may make an
application to the Court for the production of the child before the Court.

21. Seek and Find Order.

any proceedings to be determined by the
an interim order with respect to the child
this Section shall have effect for such

22. Interim Orders.—(1!) In
Court under this Act, the Court may make
concerned. An interim order made under
period as and untilla final order is made.

(2) Where the Court makes an interim order, it may give such directions
(if any) as to the services or placement that the child shall receive, pending the final

_ disposal of the application.

23. Appeal.—Where an order has been made, including an interim order,
any party to the order may, appeal same within 30 days before the Gilgit-Baltistan

Chief Court.

24. Review, discharge, variation.—(1) Where an order is in force, any
party to the order may seek to apply to the same. Court for' review, discharge or
variation of the order at any time.

(2) Where an application is made by a parent for review of a Custody and Placement Order: ;

(a) a parent shall first seek the leave of the 'Court to' make such an application; ;

(b) leave shall be granted on the basis of a material Change in family or other relevant circumstances. pl LOM DKS

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25. Review of a Supervision Order is made 'in accordance with

an application to the Whānau Section 17(1) of this Act, or is reviewed

with the parent (G), the child or current caregiver under Section 17

his/her parent(s), the Wards of Court Act, 1890, the Social Services

review at least every six months, or subject to a maximum period in
review of its findings

in order,

circumstances, whichever applies

in respect of the Child

Confidential—Any report

26. Reports to be treated as confidential

Reports shall be treated as confidential, but the information shall be
open to the child, his or her parents, legal guardian or :

27. Prohibition of publication of names, etc., of children mentioned

in any proceeding under this Act—(1) No report in any newspaper or

news sheet of any assessment regarding a child made under this Act

shall disclose the name, address or any other particulars, which may lead to the
identification of the child, nor shall any picture of any such child be published.

(2) The Court shall permit such disclosure for reasons to be recorded in
writing, if in its opinion such disclosure is in the best interests of the child.

(3) Any person contravening the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be
punishable with imprisonment for a period of six months or a fine which may extend
to one hundred thousand rupees or both.

28. Absconding of Child under protection from their placement.—

(1) If any child absconds from an alternative care placement made under the provisions
of Section 20 of this Act, the person delegated to provide such care shall immediately
report the matter to the local police and the Child Protection Officer and the child
shall be deemed to be at risk of significant harm. . :

(2) A police officer may take charge, without Warrant, of a child who has
absconded from an alternative care placement made under the provisions of this

Act. .

(3) No child shall be returned to an alternative care placement without:

(a) an investigation by the Child Protection Officer to determine why the
child absconded; ;

(b) the Child Protection Officer interviewing the child in the absence of

any caregiver or staff from the said alternative care institution/residential

care home; .

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(c) the Court being satisfied that it is in
returned to the alternative care pl

alternative care placement

the child's best interests to be
acement or to another. suitable

CHAPTER VI MISCELLANEOUS

an Sere appointed under the Act to be public servants.—Child
rote cee Maan and other officers appointed in accordance with the relevant

(te of this Act shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of

section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860). :

30. Delegation of powers.—Government may, by general or special order,
direct that any power exercisable by it under this Act.shall, in such circumstances
and'under such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the order, be exercisable
also by an officer authorized by Government.

31.. Power and Process to Make Rules and Regulations.—(1) The
Secretary may, with approval of the Commission, make rules and regulations for
effective and efficient implementation of this Act.

(2) Any rule or regulation under this Section shall be notified in the Official
~ Gazette of the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan.

32. Monitoring and Evaluation of Implementation:—(1) The
Commission shall evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of this law every two
years post the date of enforcement of this Law.

(2) The Secretary shall send an annual report to the Commission and
same shall report to the Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly on the progress

of this Law.

33. Repeal.—tThe Gilgit-Baltistan Child Protection and Welfare Act 2013
(Act No. II of 2013) is hereby repealed.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Gilgit-Baltistan Child Protection Response Bill 2017, prepared in
compliance with Constitutional provisions and international commitments, envisages
state responses for the protection of children from violence, neglect, exploitation,
collectively known as child abuse.

Part I

Ensuring the protection of children on the territory is the responsibility of the State. Section 35 of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973. States "The state shall protect the marriage, the family, the mother and the child" In support of this commitment, Pakistan has also ratified, inter alia. the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Pursuant to the 18th Constitutional amendment, the subject of child protection has been devolved to the provinces/territories.

It is expedient to provide for the protection of children from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child or where the child has no person providing care.

FIDA MUHAMMAD NASHAD.

Speaker

Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly.

MIR GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN,

Governor

Gilgit-Baltistan .

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PRINTED BY THE MANAGER, PRINTING CORPORATION OF PAKISTAN PRESS, ISLAMABAD.

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPUTY CONTROLLER, STATIONERY AND FORMS, UNIVERSITY ROAD, KARACHI.