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PART II

Statutory Notifications (S. R. O.)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
ISLAMABAD HIGH COURT, ISLAMABAD

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 11th March, 2026

S. R. O. 524 (I)/2025.—In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 5 and 21 of the Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Act, 2024, the Islamabad High Court is pleased to make the following rules:

1. **Short title, application and commencement.**—(1) These Rules shall be called “the Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Rules, 2026”.

(2) They shall apply to the whole of the Islamabad Capital Territory as defined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973.

(3) They shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.**—(1) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(717)

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[10585(2026)/Ex.Gaz.]

- (a) **“Act”** means the Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Act, 2024 (XXVIII of 2024);
- (b) **“Action”** means all proceedings instituted in the Court including but not limited to suits, petitions, civil or criminal petitions, contempt petitions, execution petitions, arbitration petitions, responses, replies, criminal complaints, appeals, caveats, miscellaneous cases, leave to defend and interlocutory applications filed under the Act;
- (c) **“Advocate”** means an advocate entered in any roll maintained under the provisions of the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act, 1973, and shall also include government pleaders/advocates and officers of the department of prosecution;
- (d) **“Chief Justice”** means the Chief Justice of the Islamabad High Court and includes a Judge for the time being acting as Chief Justice of the said Court;
- (e) **“Court”** means a special court established or designated under the Act;
- (f) **“Electronic Filing (e-filing)”** means e-filing as prescribed through the Internet (at the web portal of the Court) or through the internet/intranet at Designated Counters, unless the context requires otherwise;
- (g) **“Evidence”** means and includes evidence as defined under the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order, 1984;
- (h) **“High Court”** means the Islamabad High Court;
- (i) **“Objections”** includes deficiencies and errors pointed out by the Registry/office in relation to the Action instituted in the Court;
- (j) **“Opposite Party”** means defendant, accused, respondent and judgment debtor;
- (k) **“Party”** means petitioner, plaintiff, appellant, decree holder, complainant, applicant and caveator;
- (l) **“PDF”** means an electronic document filed in a portable document format;
- (m) **“Physical Filing”** means Action filed in hard copies;

- (n) “**PST**” means Pakistan Standard Time;
- (o) “**Registrar**” means the Registrar of the special court;
- (p) “**Schedule**” means the Schedule as appended to these Rules;
- (q) “**Working Day**” means a day when the Registry/office of the Court is working under the calendar published or as directed by the Court.

(2) The words and expressions used but not defined herein shall have the same meanings as are assigned to them under the Act or the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

3. **Language of the Court.**—All proceedings shall be conducted in English and Urdu, and orders and judgments shall be written in the same language.

4. **General instructions regarding e-filing for overseas Pakistanis.**—(1) On-line e-filing shall be made by visiting the official web portal of the Islamabad District Courts or through an e-filing link on the official website of the Court.

(2) Action shall be filed electronically by an Advocate or petitioner in person from remote location in the manner provided in these Rules or as directed by the Court.

(3) The size and format of the documents shall not exceed the size limit and specifications prescribed on the web-portal of the Court from time to time.

5. **Steps for Registration for e-filing.**—(1) Advocates or petitioner in person shall take the following steps to register themselves:

i. **Advocates:**

1. Visit the web portal of the Court to view the form.
2. Click the registration link and select the option of ‘Advocate’.
3. Fill up the registration form with requisite details.
4. Submit the filled-up form along with a self-attested copy of the Bar Council Registration Certificate or Bar Council card (in PDF format only).

ii. **Petitioner in person:**

1. Visit the web portal of the Court and select the option of 'Party in-person', and fill the required form.
2. Submit the form with following personal details:
 - (a) a self-attested copy of any Government-issued identity document (e.g., CNIC, NICOP, POC, OPF membership card, Passport data page) which shall be verified by the Registrar through National Database & Registration Authority (NADRA) online portal.
 - (b) Documentary proof of residency and status.
 - (c) Verified contact number and email address.
3. Submit an online affidavit/undertaking that they have not engaged an Advocate in the Action:

Provided that a petitioner appearing in person, who subsequently engages an Advocate, shall submit an online application before the Registrar for transferring the data in respect of the Action to the Advocate's account which upon approval of the Registrar shall be transferred in the user account of the Advocate.

(2) A login ID shall be allotted if the registration application by an Advocate or a petitioner in person is found complete in all respects.

(3) After submitting the application, the Advocate or petitioner in person shall not modify the data of the subject Action without permission of the Registrar.

6. **Filing of petitions.**—(1) Petitions may be filed physically or through e-filing via the official portal of the Court.

(2) Every petition shall be filed in Form-I of the Schedule and shall be accompanied by:

- (a) an affidavit verifying the statements made therein;
- (b) copies of title documents and any other material relied upon; and
- (c) the prescribed court fee.

7. **Case status.**—Every petition shall be assigned a number and the relevant data shall be maintained electronically and in bound register by the Registrar (or designated officer) in the format as given in Form –II of the Schedule.

8. **Formatting.**—(1) All the originally typed text material including notice of motion, memorandum of parties, main petition or appeal, interlocutory application, response/ reply, leave to defend, status report, affidavit, document, and form shall be prepared according to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, and other instructions issued from time to time by the Court.

(2) For e-filing, the text document should be converted into Optical Character Recognition (OCR), searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) using any PDF converter or in-built PDF conversion plug-in provided in the software.

(3) A document which is not a text document and has to be enclosed with the Action, should be scanned using an image resolution of 300 DPI (Dots per inch) and then submitted as a PDF document.

9. **Notice to respondents.**—(1) Notice to each respondent shall be issued in Form –III of the Schedule.

(2) Service shall be effected in the modes prescribed under section 6 of the Act and Rule 10 of these Rules.

10. **Modes of service.**—(1) Service of notice may be effected by any or all of the modes under section 6 of the Act.

(2) An affidavit of service shall be filed in Form –IV of the Schedule.

11. **Applications.**—All interlocutory or ancillary applications shall bear the same case number as the parent petition and shall be supported by an affidavit.

12. **Digital Signatures and Authentication.**—(1) All PDF documents shall be digitally signed by the Party and/or their Advocate.

(2) If digital signatures are not available, a printout of the Action shall be physically signed by the Party/ Advocate, scanned and uploaded.

(3) For documents required to be notarized or attested (such as *wakalatnama* or affidavits) by an overseas Pakistani, the following alternatives are acceptable:

- a. Attestation by nearest Pakistan Embassy or Consulate in the country of residence; or
- b. Authentication via Video Conferencing, where the petitioner in person or Advocate appears before the Registrar (or designated officer) on a scheduled video call to confirm signature and identity.

13. Payment of Court Fees and Charges.—(1) Court fees shall be as notified from time to time by the High Court.

(2) Fees may be deposited manually or through e- payment mechanisms designated by the Registrar.

(3) Electronically, court fees and other charges shall be paid by the methods provided on the web portal of the Court, including payment gateways for local and international remittances.

(4) The Transaction ID provided upon payment is required to be entered in the appropriate field at the time of e-filing.

14. Electronic Recording of Evidence and Hearing.—(1) The Court may, upon application or its own motion, direct hearing of parties including witnesses and recording of Evidence through electronic means, particularly to facilitate overseas Pakistanis.

(2) The Court may direct that examination- in- chief be submitted by affidavit.

15. Computation of time.—(1) The facility for e-filing through the web portal shall be available during prescribed working hours and Working Day of the Court, subject to system maintenance.

(2) The date of e-filing shall be taken as the date when an Action is electronically received in the Court.

(3) For computing the time at which e-filing is made, Pakistan Standard Time (PST) shall apply.

16. Retention of Originals.—(1) Originals of the documents that are scanned and digitally signed shall be preserved physically for production or inspection as may be directed by the Court.

(2) The responsibility of producing the originals and proving their genuineness shall be of the Party that has electronically filed the scanned copies of the document.

17. **Certified copies and inspection.**—Parties or their counsels may obtain certified copies or may be allowed inspection of records in the manner applicable to civil courts in the Islamabad Capital Territory.

18. **Exemption from e-filing.**—Exemption from e-filing of Action or any part of it and/or other document may be permitted by the Court upon an application for Physical Filing being made for that purpose in the following circumstances:

1. where on-line e-filing is for reasons set out in the application not feasible;
2. where there are concerns about confidentiality and protection of privacy;
3. where the document cannot be scanned or filed electronically because of its size, shape or condition; or
4. where the on-line e-filing portal is either inaccessible or not available for some reason.

19. **Storage and Retrieval of e-filed Actions and documents.**—(1) E-filings shall be stored on an exclusive server maintained under the control and directions of the Court.

(2) Each such filing shall be separately labeled and encrypted for facilitating easy identification and retrieval.

(3) The security of such filings shall be ensured.

(4) Access to e-filings shall be restricted in the manner provided herein above and as may be notified from time to time.

(5) For continuity of operations in case of disaster, natural calamity or breakdown, back-up of e-filings available on the servers located in the Court may be maintained at different geographical locations, as decided from time to time by the Court.

20. **Residuary provisions.**—(1) The e-filing made by an Advocate/petitioner in person shall be rejected if it does not follow the procedure prescribed under these Rules and practice directions issued from time to time by the High Court.

(2) Subject to such further directions as may be issued, the Opposite Party may seek hard copies of the Action, upon payment of the prescribed costs,

to be deposited with the Registrar of the Court provided such application seeking hard copies is filed in the Court within fifteen days of the e-filing.

(3) Application filed with delay shall not be entertained and be dismissed with costs.

(4) The costs of providing hard copies shall be PKR. Thirty per page or such other amount as may be determined from time to time by the Court.

(5) The Court shall communicate the Objections, if any, regarding the cases filed via e-mail/SMS/Notification to the Advocate/petitioner in person via their dashboard and their WhatsApp.

(6) After the Objections are removed, the case shall be processed for listing and the Advocate/petitioner in person shall be informed via e-mail/SMS/Notification on dashboard or their WhatsApp.

21. **Judgment and decree.**—(1) The Court shall pronounce judgment in open Court and the decree shall be drawn accordingly.

(2) Certified copies shall be supplied on payment of the prescribed court fee.

22. **Execution of decrees.**—(1) Execution of decree shall be entered in a separate execution register immediately upon issuance of decree.

(2) Execution proceedings shall follow the procedure prescribed under section 11 of the Act.

23. **Maintenance of registers and records.**—(1) The Registrar shall maintain separate registers for all Action.

(2) Electronic copies of all orders and cause lists shall be uploaded on the Court's web portal daily.

Schedule

Form-I

In the Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property), Islamabad Capital Territory

Petitioner: (Full Name, CNIC/ NICOP/ POC/OPF Membership No.)

Respondent (s): (Names and addresses)

1. Particulars of property: _____ (complete description, address, and area)
2. Ownership status and title documents: _____ (attach copies)

3. Details of unlawful possession or control: _____ (brief narrative)
4. Details of rent (if any) or profits received by person in unlawful possession or control of property: PKR. _____/-
5. A concise statement of facts: _____
6. Estimated market value of property: PKR. _____/-
7. Relief sought: _____ (mention specific reliefs claimed)
8. List of documents annexed.

Verification

I, _____ the above named petitioner, do hereby verify that the above contents are true to my knowledge and belief.

Date: _____ Signature of Petitioner/ Authorized Representative

Form- II

REGISTER OF PETITIONS

Sr. No.	Case No.	Date of Filing	Name of Petitioner	Name of Respondent	Property Description	Stage/ Status	Date of Decision

Form- III

In the Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property)

Case No. _____ Date of Institution _____

To: (Respondent's Name & Address)

Whereas a petition under section 4 of the Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Act, 2024, has been filed against you by _____; you are hereby required to appear in person or through counsel before this Court on _____ at _____ hours to answer the said petition, failing which the case shall be decided ex parte.

Issued under the hand and seal of the Court on this _____ day of _____

Seal & Signature of Registrar/ Designated Officer

Form- IV**In the Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property)**

Case No. _____

I, _____, son/ daughter of _____, aged _____, years _____, resident of _____, do hereby solemnly affirm that:

1. I effected service of notice/ summons on the respondent _____ on (date) by the following mode (s):

2. The acknowledgment /proof of service is attached thereto.

3. The contents of this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Verified at Islamabad this _____ day of _____.

Deponent
(Signature)

Attested by Oath Commissioner /Authorized Officer

[F.No.139-II/Legis./IHC.]

MUHAMMAD YAR WALANA,
Registrar.