**Project Charter Plan**

**PakCouncel AI**

**Fast NUCES**

**Shah Latif Town,**

**Karachi, Pakistan**

**Date**

**23rd Sep 2025**

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# Executive Summary

This Feasibility Study has been conducted to evaluate the viability of developing an PakCouncel AI a digital platform designed to provide affordable, multi-lingual, and reference-backed legal guidance to citizens of Pakistan. The primary objective of the report is to assess whether such a system can effectively bridge the gap between individuals seeking legal information and the professional legal services they require.

The project has been framed in line with the terms of reference defined by the Department of Software Engineering Final Year Project Committee. The AI Legal Consultant will focus on four major domains: **Criminal Law, Taxation & Excise, Family Law, and Business & Employment Contracts.** It will leverage artificial intelligence, natural language processing, and retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) techniques to provide accurate responses, supported by authentic references to legal statutes, case laws, and precedents.

This study has been conducted within several constraints. As a student-led Final Year Project, the development is limited by available funding, technical resources, and time (one academic year). The solution must also adhere to ethical and legal boundaries by clearly positioning itself as an advisory tool rather than a replacement for licensed legal practitioners. Furthermore, the scope is confined to Pakistan’s legal framework and excludes areas such as international and constitutional law.

Within these parameters, the feasibility analysis considers the technical, operational, and financial aspects of the project and concludes that the AI Legal Consultant is both achievable and impactful, offering a sustainable digital solution to improve access to justice in Pakistan.

# Project Purpose/Justification

## Business Need/Case

The **PakCouncel AI** project has been initiated to address the lack of accessible, affordable, and reference-backed legal guidance within Pakistan’s legal framework. Currently, most individuals depend on costly manual lawyer consultations or limited digital tools that are English-only, lack verified references, and exclude users with low literacy. This creates barriers in accessing timely legal assistance, particularly for low-income and underserved communities.

The business case for this project is grounded in:

* **Social Need:** Enhancing access to justice by providing affordable, preliminary legal guidance.
* **Market Demand:** Growing reliance on digital platforms for everyday needs, including legal information.
* **Technological Advancement:** Leveraging AI, and Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) to improve accuracy and reliability of legal responses.
* **Organizational Need:** Supporting the University’s commitment to innovation, interdisciplinary learning, and social impact.

**Intended Effects of the Business Case:**

* **Cost Savings:** Reduction in expenses associated with basic legal consultations.
* **Process Improvement:** Faster and more efficient access to

verified legal information.

* **New Product Development:** Creation of a prototype

legal-tech platform that demonstrates innovation

and scalability.

* **Social Contribution:** Promotion of inclusivity through

multi-lingual and voice-enabled features

## Business Objectives

The business objectives for the AI Legal Consultant project directly support the University’s strategic goals of innovation, digital transformation, and community service. The objectives are:

* Deliver a functional **AI-powered legal consultation platform** with verified references by **May 2026**.
* Provide **multi-lingual and voice-enabled support** to ensure inclusivity for Urdu and regional language users.
* Enable **affordable access to preliminary legal guidance**, reducing the financial burden on individuals.
* Demonstrate **academic innovation** by integrating AI into a real-world, socially relevant problem domain.

# Project Description

The **PakCouncel AI** project will provide an innovative, web-based platform that offers accessible, affordable, and reference-backed preliminary legal guidance. The platform will leverage **Artificial Intelligence (AI), Natural Language Processing (NLP), and Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)** to deliver accurate responses supported by authentic legal references.

The system will focus on four domains of law: **Criminal Law,**

**Taxation & Excise, Family Law, and Business/Employment Contracts.**

It will also include **multi-lingual support** (English, Urdu,

and regional languages) and **voice-enabled interaction** to

promote inclusivity for users with limited literacy or

language barriers.

The platform will be developed using **Python (FastAPI backend),**

**React (frontend), LangChain (AI orchestration), and**

**Pinecone/Qdrant (vector database)**, with all components

integrated into a single web application. The goal is to demonstrate

a functional prototype that addresses current limitations of

manual consultations and existing digital tools.

## Project Objectives and Success Criteria

The objectives of the PakCouncel AI project are defined using the **SMART** framework to ensure measurable progress and success:

* Deliver a **functional prototype** of the AI Legal Consultant by **May 2026** within the allocated budget of **Rs. 23,000**.
* Provide **multi-lingual query support (English and Urdu at minimum)** and **voice-enabled input** by the testing phase (April 2026).
* Achieve at least **80% accuracy** in system responses, validated through reference-backed outputs.
* Conduct **successful user testing and feedback sessions** with at least 20 participants by **April 2026**.
* Ensure all deliverables are completed within the **9-month project timeline (SEP 2025 – May 2026).**

## Requirements

To achieve success, the project must meet the following high-level requirements:

* The platform must provide **verified, reference-backed responses** citing relevant laws and judgments.
* The solution must include **multi-lingual support**, starting with English and Urdu.
* User data must be protected with **secure login, encryption, and anonymization**.
* The prototype must be **accessible via a web browser** without requiring specialized hardware.
* System must include a **disclaimer** clarifying that it provides guidance only and does not replace licensed lawyers.

## Constraints

The following constraints pertain to the **PakCouncel AI** project:

* Total project funding is limited to **Rs. 23,000**, pooled by

the project team members.

* Project work must be completed within the **(-month**

**academic timeline (SEP 2025 – May 2026).**

* Only three student team members and one faculty

supervisor are available as resources, with limited support

from a part-time legal consultant.

* The system must be implemented using available

open-source and affordable tools, ensuring compatibility

with chosen technologies (Python, React, LangChain,

Pinecone/Qdrant, MySQL).

## Assumptions

The following assumptions are recognized for this project:

* The project has the **support of the project supervisor**, ensuring guidance throughout the timeline.
* **Legal datasets and open-access statutes** will remain available for building the knowledge base.
* **AI APIs and hosting services** will remain affordable and accessible during the project.
* Each group member will **actively contribute** to assigned tasks, and coordination will be maintained through regular meetings.
* Necessary technical infrastructure (laptops, internet connectivity, development environments) will be available throughout the project.

## Preliminary Scope Statement

*The PakCouncel AI project will include the planning, implementation, and demonstration of a* ***web-based platform*** *that provides affordable, reference-backed, and multi-lingual preliminary legal guidance in Pakistan. The system will support* ***Criminal Law, Taxation & Excise, Family Law, and Business/Employment Contracts****. Core features will include* ***voice-enabled interaction, secure login, user history management, and verified responses citing relevant laws and judgments****.*

*Project resources will be limited to student developers, faculty supervision,*

*and a part-time legal consultant for validation. The project will be*

*conducted independently of other university operations and will*

*be tested with sample queries and user feedback sessions*

*.*

*Completion of the project will be defined by:*

* *Delivery of a* ***functional prototype*** *accessible via*

*web browser.*

* *Submission of* ***final documentation*** *(technical*

*and functional).*

* *Successful* ***demonstration and presentation*** *to the*
* *evaluation committee by* ***May 2026****.*

# Risks

The following risks for the **PakcCouncel AI** project have been identified. The project manager will employ mitigation strategies to minimize the likelihood and impact of these risks:

* **Technical Risk:** AI hallucinations leading to inaccurate or misleading advice.
* **Operational Risk:** Data privacy concerns during user interaction and storage.
* **Financial Risk:** Limited budget (Rs. 23,000) restricting advanced tools or paid APIs.
* **Regulatory Risk:** Restrictions on AI-based legal guidance, requiring clear disclaimers.
* **Resource Risk:** Dependence on a small student team with limited time and capacity.

# Project Deliverables

The following deliverables must be produced and approved by the project sponsor upon successful completion of the project. Any modifications to these deliverables must receive prior sponsor approval to avoid scope creep:

* A **functional prototype** of the AI Legal Consultant web-based platform.
* **Verified legal knowledge base** with citations from relevant laws, acts, and judgments.
* **Core features implemented:** multi-lingual support, voice interaction, secure login, and reference-backed responses.
* **Final project presentation and demonstration** to the evaluation committee.

# Summary Milestone Schedule

The following schedule outlines the major milestones for the **PakCouncel AI**

project. These dates are estimates and may be refined as

the project progresses.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Summary Milestone Schedule – List key project milestones relative to project start.** | |
| **Project Milestone** | **Target Date (mm/dd/yyyy)** |
| 1. Project Start | 10/01/2025 |
| * Complete System Requirements Gathering | |  | | --- | | 11/01/2025 |  |  | | --- | |  | |
| 1. Develop Core Prototype (Backend + AI Pipeline) | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | 01/15/2026 | |
| 1. Integrate Frontend (React Web Interface) | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | 01/15/2026 | |
| 1. Multi-Lingual & Voice Features Completed | 03/20/2026 |
| 1. Testing & User Feedback | 04/15/2026 |
| 1. Final Deployment & Demonstration | 05/10/2026 |

# Summary Budget

The following table provides the **summary budget** for the project based on the allocated total of **Rs. 23,000**. Costs are estimates and may be adjusted during execution with sponsor approval.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Summary Budget – List component project costs** | |
| **Project Component** | **Component Cost** |
| 1. Personnel Resources | 5,000 |
| * Development Tools & Software (libraries, APIs, vector DB) | 10,000 |
| 1. Hosting & Infrastructure (servers, storage) | 5,000 |
| 1. Miscellaneous (documentation, marketing, printing) | 3,000 |
| **Total** | **23,000** |

# Project Approval Requirements

Success for the **AI Legal Consultant** project will be achieved when a **fully functional and tested prototype** is delivered within the agreed **budget of Rs. 23,000** and **timeline ending May 2026**. The solution must demonstrate:

* Accurate, **reference-backed legal responses** in the selected domains (Criminal Law, Taxation, Family Law, and Business/Employment Contracts).
* Working features include **multi-lingual support, voice-enabled input, secure login, and user history management**.
* Delivery of **technical and user documentation**, ensuring the system

can be reviewed and reused for future academic or research initiatives.

# Project Manager

**Munawar Shereen (ID: 22K-4809)** is assigned as the **Project**

**Manager** for the AI Legal Consultant project.

His responsibilities include:

* Overseeing all project tasks, deliverables, and milestones.
* Managing project scheduling, coordination, and team collaboration.
* Ensuring compliance with budget allocation (Rs. 23,000)

and reporting on expenditures.

* Facilitating communication with the project sponsor

and supervisor.

* Coordinating technical development activities across the team, with support from **M. Ehtesham ul Hassan Malik (22K-4828)** and **M. Ahmedzaib Qamar (22K-4820)**.

The Project Manager is authorized to approve all budget expenditures up to the allocated amount. Any additional funding must be approved by the Project Supervisor. Regular status updates will be shared throughout the project lifecycle.

# Authorization

This document authorizes the **AI Legal Consultant Project** to proceed in accordance with the information, scope, and budget outlined in this charter. Approval by the Project Supervisor signifies agreement with the project objectives, deliverables, and constraints.

Approved by the Project Supervisor:

Miss Fizza Aqeel

Date: 2-OCT-2025