

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

REPORT



Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Human Rights

August 2018-July 2020





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The Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) has prepared this progress report to document the work undertaken by the MoHR between August 2018 and August 2020. While there is room for further progress on many issue-areas, during this period, the MoHR has been able to address several human rights concerns through inter alia landmark legislation and policies on women empowerment and child domestic labour, establishment of the National Child Protection Center, the Zainab Alert Law, the Christian Marriage and Divorce Bill, and the establishment of the National Commission on Rights of the Child.

As a small Ministry with huge commitment and dedicated personnel, we have been able to pave the way for more inclusive representation at the United Nations. With Aisha Mughal as part of Pakistan's official delegation to the United Nations in February 2020, Pakistan became the first country in the world to include a transgender woman in a government delegation before the United Nations. As a part of our vision for Pakistan's global positioning on human rights, a consistent engagement between the MoHR and international organisations has been maintained, particularly on the Kashmir dispute.

In just two years, the MoHR has transformed itself to become one of Pakistan's most proactive Ministries, most notably when dealing with cases of human rights violations.

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to our team of officers and young consultants, led by our dedicated Secretary, Ms. Rabiya Javeri Agha, for working beyond the call of duty to deliver for human rights in Pakistan.

We aim to continue and build upon the work undertaken by our Ministry, with a renewed focus on ensuring Pakistan's compliance with its Constitutional and international human rights obligations.

Dr. Shireen M. Mazari

Federal Minister, Ministry of Human Rights



There was a time when we had no chair at the table!

A few years ago, the Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) was simply a small offshoot of a defunct Women Development Division and a scion of the Ministry of Law and Justice. Two Director Generals, one joint Secretary and a small medley of officials transferred from various departments and wings; NCCWD, WDD, NCPC, SW, and SE made up our Ministry.

At the beginning of my tenure, MoHR had no permanent office and no money. Our budget was 0.01% of the federal budget and our outreach was primarily limited to issues regarding women and children.

Today we are housed in a full floor on the top story of the exclusive Kousar Office Block. (Kudos to our Minister Shireen Mazari who fought tooth and nail for the opening of this magnificent office space). From a small group of about 100+ persons (35 officers) we now boast a strength of 1500+.

Within a span of two years the Ministry of Human Rights has submitted a record number of six treaty body reports, including a Universal Periodic Report (UPR). We have drafted and promulgated eight substantive legislations, including those on transgender, legal aid and juvenile justice. An additional nine legislations, drafted by MoHR are currently under legal or parliamentary review.

We have taken cognizance of hereto unaddressed subjects; old age, disability, enforced disappearances and the protection of journalists. We have instituted major reforms in the process of mercy petitions and have outlawed child domestic labor in Islamabad.

MoHR has partnered with UNICEF for a child labor survey after a gap of 23 years. We have included Washington Questions on disability in two national surveys and ensured that Disability Impact Assessments (DIAs) are a mandatory provision for all public sector projects.

Ministry of Human Rights made history this year by including a transgender Ms Aisha Mughal, as part of our official Government delegation to the CEDAW review in Geneva. We are working to break further records through our initiatives in Business and Human Rights, our new Human Rights Information Management System (HRIMS), our research in COVID19 and Human Rights.

Working in Human Rights is not a job but a calling. Nobody joins this Ministry for power or money or name. People come here inspired by a moral imperative, the imperative to make a tangible difference in life around them- to make the world a fairer and more equitable place to live in.

Our milestones could not have been achieved without the passion and commitment of officers such as Mr Malik Kamran Rajar, Mr Mohammad Arshad, Mr. Hassan Mangi, our dedicated directors, deputy directors, helpline officers and other members of MoHR's team.

I would also like to acknowledge our wonderful partners; Mr Dieter and Mr Amar at UNDP, Ambassador Androulla Kaminara, Ms Javeria and Ms Inge from the European Union. Our leaders, experts and junior associates from Haqooq-e-Pakistan Programme also deserve strong commendation.

Ms Aisha Mukhtar from UNWomen has been of invaluable help to the Ministry as have been members from civil society; Ms. Sarah Belal from JPP, Ms. Haya Zahid from LAS, Ms. Valerie from GDP and Ms. Muneeza from Sahil.

Most of all, I would like to recognize the unflinching support given to us by Minister Shireen Mazari who has been our rock in times of difficulty.

And yes, now we do have that chair at the table—and sometimes we get a name card too!

Rabiya Javeri Agha

Federal Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights



INTRODUCTION

After a checkered history as a wing in the Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs in 1996, as part of Ministry of Women Development in 2008, as a unit in Ministry of Law and Justice in 2013, the Ministry of Human Rights was finally set up as an independent ministry in 2015.

The Ministry of Human Rights has a broad mandate, which is tasked with establishing and strengthening institutional mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights, as enshrined under the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973 and in line with the State of Pakistan's international human rights obligations.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



Visit of the President of UN General Assembly, Ms Maria Fernando Espinosa, to the office of Dr. Shireen M. Mazari.



Launch of Child Abuse Campaign with Shehzad Roy.

MAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER RULES OF BUSINESS 1973 INCLUDE:

1. Review of human rights situation in the country, including implementation of laws, policies and measures.
2. Coordination of activities of Ministries, Divisions and Provincial Governments in respect of human rights, and facilitation functions relating to human rights.
3. Initiatives for harmonization of legislation, regulations and practices with the international human rights covenants and agreements to which Pakistan is a party and monitoring their implementation.
4. Obtaining information, documents and reports, on complaints and allegations of human rights violations, from Ministries, Divisions, Provincial Governments and other agencies.
5. Referring and recommending investigations and inquiries in respect of any incident of violation of human rights, including rights of disadvantaged and child rights.
6. Pursuing or defending issues, complaints, representations and matters for and against Pakistan relating to human rights before any official or non Governmental organizations, body or forum in Pakistan and, in consultation with Foreign Affairs Division, before any international organization and foreign Government or non-Governmental organization.
7. Representation of Pakistan in international bodies, organizations and conferences relating to human rights in consultation and conjunction with Foreign Affairs Division.
8. Developing and conducting information programmes to foster public awareness about human rights including the rights of labour women and children and laws and remedies available to them.

9. Formulating programmes for teaching of human rights at educational institutions.
10. Provision of facilities for professional and technical training at national and international level relating to human rights issues.
11. Administrative control of the Tribunal for disadvantaged persons.
12. Human rights NGOs
13. Representing Pakistan at international and bilateral level, involving all gender related matters
14. Administration of the National Commission on the status of Women Act, 2012 (VIII of 2012).
15. Administration of the National Commission for Human Rights Act, 2012.
16. Administration of the National Commission for Child Welfare and Development Resolution, 1981.
17. Social Welfare, Special Education, welfare, development and rehabilitation of children and disabled in the Federal area.
18. Training and education of disabled in Islamabad.
19. Dealing and agreements with other countries and international organizations in the field of social welfare.



Human Rights Diplomacy Panel Discussion.



CHAPTER ONE LAYS OUT THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FOLLOWING THEMATIC AREA.

This progress review traces the work undertaken by the Ministry of Human Rights since August, 2018, highlighting major milestones. This Report is divided into four chapters.

1. Protection and promotion of the fundamental human rights of women
2. Protection and welfare of children
3. Safeguarding representation and rights for minorities
4. Protection and promotion of the rights of members of the transgender community, and securing their full inclusion and participation in society
5. Developing a framework for protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and ensuring their full inclusion in all decisions affecting their representation and rights
6. Criminalizing enforced disappearances and countering the culture of impunity that exists with respect to this practice;
7. Criminal Justice
8. Rights of senior citizens;
9. Protection of journalists.
10. Covid-19 & human rights

Accordingly, within each thematic area, the Report identifies:

- i) Legislative initiatives
- ii) Progress in implementation of existing laws
- iii) Operationalization of laws
- iv) Research and survey work undertaken
- v) Institutional developments
- vi) Sensitization, education and awareness work
- vii) Events, conferences and workshops arranged.

CHAPTER TWO DEALS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS REPORTED TO THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE RESPONSES OF THE MINISTRY IN REDRESSING THESE VIOLATIONS.

CHAPTER THREE IDENTIFIES FUTURE PLANS AND PROGRAMS OF THE MINISTRY.

CHAPTER FOUR OUTLINES KEY HUMAN RIGHTS CASES HANDLED BY THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

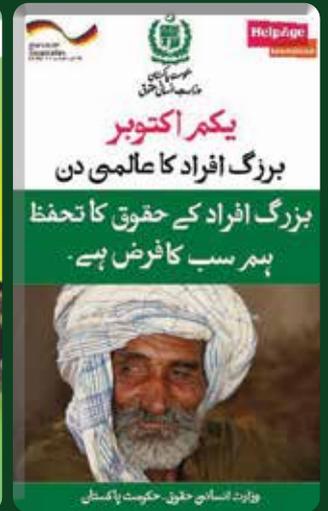
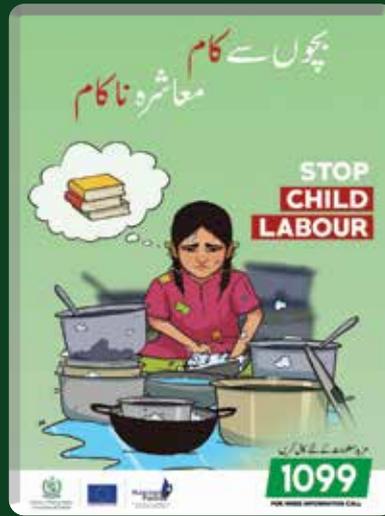


Launch of Child Labour survey by the President of Pakistan.

Chapter one:

THEMATIC AREAS & PRIORITIES

This Chapter highlights the thematic areas of work that the Ministry of Human Rights has been engaged in. These ten thematic areas represent the key priorities of the Ministry of Human Rights.





1.1

PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

WOMEN'S RIGHTS MILESTONES

ICT Domestic Violence (Prevention & Protection) Bill 2020

Drafted Model Policy on Violence against Women and Girls

Women Empowerment Policy

Convened meeting of Board of Governors to utilize Women in Distress and Detention Fund of 1996

Training of ICT Police on Women's Rights & Gender Sensitizations

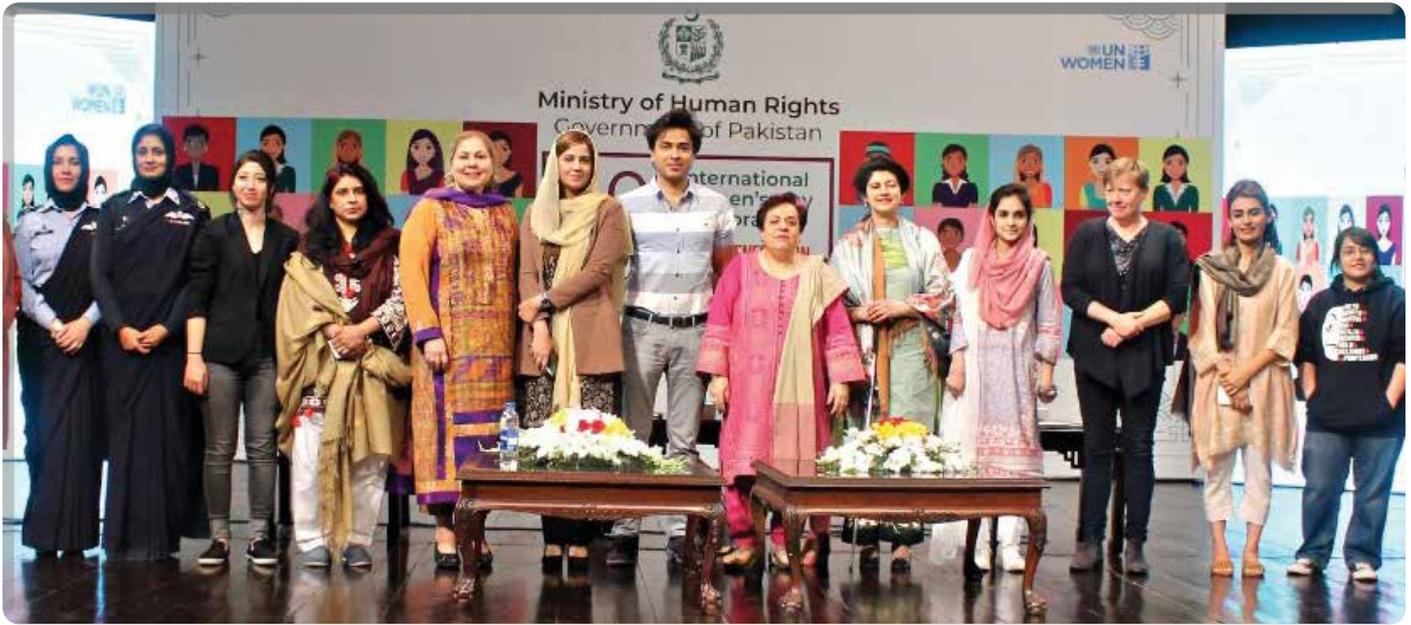
Research on Men's perception of GBV

Celebrated International Women's Day with Female Trailblazers from across Pakistan

Sensitization & Training of Judges & Police

From 2008 onwards, Ministry of Human Rights has taken several important steps to safeguard the rights of women in law and in practice. Earlier legislations include;

- Acid and Burn Crime Act, 2018
- Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010
- Prevention of Anti Women Practices Criminal Law Act, 2011
- Criminal Law (Amendment) (Offences in the Name or on Pretext of Honor) Act, 2016
- Criminal Law (Amendment) (Offences relating to Rape) Act, 2006.
- Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Act, 2018
- National Commission on the Status of Women (Amendment) Act, 2018
- Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Ordinance, 2019
- The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2018
- Hindu Marriage Act, 2017



International Women's Day panel discussion and event.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BILL

With the prevalent practice of violence against women, one of the Ministry's first priorities was to draft a domestic violence bill. Accordingly, the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill 2019 was shared with the Federal Cabinet for "in principle approval" and approved in its meeting held on 27th April. The Bill was subsequently forwarded to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for introduction in the National Assembly on 3rd June 2020. The Legal Authority Act 2019 also provides for the provision of legal aid to indigent and deserving women.

WOMEN IN DISTRESS & DETENTION FUND

The Ministry of Human Rights undertook amendment in the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 through changes in Section 6 of the Act. The aim of the Fund is to provide financial and legal assistance to women in distress and detention. Since promulgation of the Act, composition of high powered Board of Governors, as stipulated in Section 6 of the Act, presented issues of ensuring necessary quorum and this issue kept the fund non-operational for many years and hence deserving people remained deprived of the fund. After promulgation of the Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Ministry constituted a Board of Governors as required under the Section 6 of the Act. The Board of Governors was notified on 26th July 2019. The Board of Governors in its meeting held on 7th October, 2019 decided to revise Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Procedure) Rules, 2019.

LEGAL AID AUTHORITY

The Legal Authority Act 2019 also provides for the provision of legal aid to indigent and deserving women. Minister Human Rights is chairperson of the board of governors of the act responsible to make policies for providing legal aid and to advise the government in regard to enforcement to right to fair trial and due process of law.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PACKAGE

On a similar institutional level, the Ministry of Human Rights also prepared a Women Empowerment Package/Policy in 2016 and a Model Policy on Violence against Women and Girls in 2019. The Women Empowerment Package includes Legal Reforms, addresses issues of women particularly working women and facilitation of basic services which includes day care center, age relaxation, bank loans, small and medium business plans, availability of shelter in case of any mishap, educational and health facilities and political empowerment.



The Policy comprises four basic components which include prevention, response, protection and rehabilitation. The vision of the Policy is to create a violent free society, where all forms of violence against women and girls regardless of origin, ethnicity, disability, religion or any other criteria is eliminated. The overall purpose is to address the incidents of all forms of violence against women from all socio-economic backgrounds and religious denominations by creating awareness as to what constitutes violence and then to ensure that it is the State's responsibility to eliminate such violence in all its forms and manifestations.

AWARENESS ON WOMEN RIGHTS

On 4th March 2020, Ministry of Human Rights organized celebration of International Women's Day, engaging female trailblazers from across the country, such as Ms. Ayesha Farooq a fighter pilot of the Pakistan Air force, Ms. Samar Khan a Cyclist, Dr. Zareena a visually impaired rock climber, and Ms. Shiza Younas a 22 years old community volunteer. This event was organized by the Ministry of Human Rights to celebrate the achievements of women in all fields of work in Pakistan.



Rabia Javeri Agha, Federal Secretary Ministry of Human Rights, at the training of Judges at Sindh Judicial Academy.

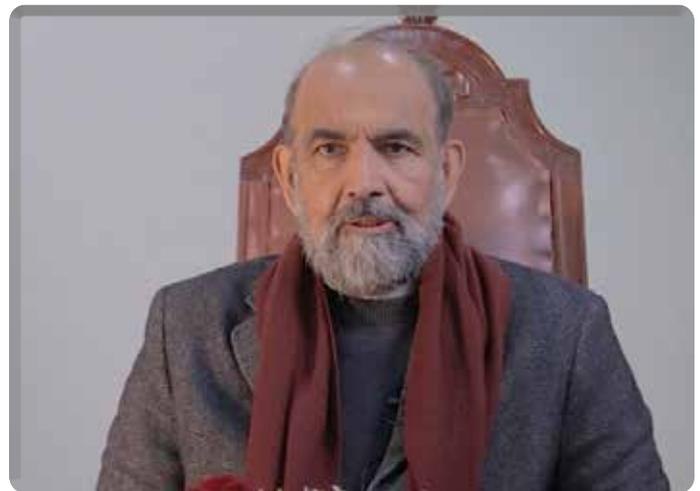


Ministry of Human Rights hosts International Women's Day Event.

The event included success stories of women in politics, sports, law, aviation, education, arts and development. An inclusive panel of men and women was also organized to discuss women's struggles in achieving high successes in their chosen fields. Moderated by Dr. Shireen M Mazari, an insightful presentation on legislations pertaining to women's rights was given by Secretary Rabiya Javeri Agha. Ms Zartaj Gul Wazir, Minister of State for Climate Change, Shehzad Roy Social Worker and Ms. Haya Zahid Executive Director Legal Aid Society also participated in the panel discussion.

WOMEN INHERITANCE

The Ministry of Human Rights has also engaged in a range of campaigns on women's issues. One of the most significant campaigns, endorsed by the Chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council, was the Women's Inheritance awareness campaign. Following substantive research on the bottlenecks faced by women in securing their inheritance and in registration of property, a nationwide campaign was launched to spread awareness and knowledge on women's rights to property and land.



Dr. Qibla Ayaz Chairman, Council of Islamic ideology, Pakistan speaks in favour of women's right to inheritance

TRUCK ART CAMPAIGN ON RIGHTS OF GIRL CHILD

The Ministry of Human Rights has held several awareness raising campaigns with respect to women's rights and empowerment, including an event on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women in November 2019; and an event encouraging education and empowerment of the girl child on 11 October 2019. A very well received campaign was on Girls Rights which were disseminated through truck art in partnership with Ms. Samar Minallah. Twenty trucks painted with messages encouraging the protection of children and supporting girls education and early marriages served as moving billboards spreading the message of gender equality and empowerment throughout Pakistan.



Samar Minallah with truck artists and truck owners at the campaign launch.

CEDAW REPORT

In line with Pakistan's international human rights commitments, the Ministry of Human Rights also effectively presented and defended Pakistan's 5th State Party report before the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on 12th February 2020 in Geneva, Switzerland. Led by Secretary Ministry of Human Rights, Rabiya Javeri Agha the delegation made world history by including a transgender women Ms Aisha Mughal in the official government delegation.

EMERGENCY COVID-19 RESPONSE FOR WOMEN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The Ministry of Human Rights, National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) and UN Women also published, in May 2020, a Policy Paper detailing and evaluating the gendered impact of COVID-19 and its implications for women and girls. The report makes recommendations to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, at the onset, during, and after the COVID-19 public health crisis. It also considers the economic impact of the pandemic and its implications for violence against women and girls in the long term.

HELPLINE APP

During COVID-19, Ministry of Human Rights was cognizant of the potential increase in domestic violence and that due to conditions of lockdowns, it was more difficult for victims to speak to Helpline officers. Therefore, Ministry of Human Rights decided to upgrade its complaint registration system. Through partnership with UN Women, Ministry of Human Rights has transformed the Helpline and upgraded it to be able to take complaints through SMS and a mobile app. The new helpline will allow citizens to send a distress signal by just dialling a secret number.



To achieve the above hardware and software improvements were undertaken with the support of UNDP.



COVID-19 Response:
Promotional materials for digital dissemination.

The new dashboard setup will assimilate all operations of the Helpline in one place. It will seamlessly integrate with the mobile app and the Call Centre, and thus be able to handle different data flows required by the Ministry of Human Rights. This Dashboard will also have an alert system connected to relevant departments for follow-up by Helpline staff.

Finally, Ministry of Human Rights has hired additional lawyers and operators to add an additional shift, making helpline support available for 24 hours a day. Additionally, all the provincial police departments have agreed to provide focal persons to help with the redressal of complaints in their local areas.

WOMEN'S SHELTER

The Ministry of Human Rights Women's Shelter has provided shelter and free psychological counseling services through its "Family Protection & Rehabilitation Centre for Women (FPRC) Islamabad". The Center protects and promotes women rights through refuge, rehabilitation, and legal and medical support. Victims of violence can share their sufferings in strict confidentiality through psyche-social counseling. Through trained and professional staff, the Shelter Home is committed to offering assistance to victims of violence round the clock.



Federal Secretary Ministry of Human Rights Ms. Rabiya Javeri Agha signing MOU with the Sindh Judicial Academy.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY MOHR WOMEN’S SHELTER FROM JULY, 2018 TO JUNE 2020

Total registered cases	No. of victim accommodated	Legal aid	Medical aid
850	1265	127	3903

Reconciliation	Vocational training	Informal education	Counseling
121	171	159	23716



National seminar and report launch: “Against all odds: post shelter lives of women survivors of violence” - Collaboration with NCSW and Rozan.

Through support of UNWOMEN, a computer lab is also being established at the Shelter and will soon be functional for use by women residents. Women housed at the shelter have also been involved in making masks in the context of the Covid public health emergency.

1.2

PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN



CHILD RIGHTS MILESTONES

- 1 Child Employment Act 1991 amended to include Child Domestic Labour as hazardous employment under schedule I
- 2 Set up National Child Protection Center
- 3 12 Child Protection Committees established
- 4 Upgraded 1099 Helpline & Mobile App
- 5 School Engagement Campaign on Child Abuse
- 6 Designated Police station in ICT for Women & Children

Children Cases Assisted

2015-20

Reunified

416

Non-Formal Education

683

Mainstreaming

195

Total

1294

Child protection and welfare has been Ministry of Human Rights's major focus, particularly keeping in mind the need to address widespread child sexual abuse and other forms of violence against children.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON RIGHTS OF CHILD (NCRC)

Ministry of Human Rights set up and operationalized the National Commission on the Rights of the Child (NCRC), provided for in the National Commission on the Rights of the Child Act 2017, to monitor child rights situation in the country and take punitive measures for redressal of grievances of victims.



1st board meeting of NCRC

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION INCLUDE:

- (a) Examine existing or proposed legislations and administrative instruments and proposals related to child rights and make such recommendations as it deems appropriate;
- (b) Liaise with provincial commissions set up under provincial laws and other concerned provincial organizations;
- (c) Examine and review any law or policy or practice, for the time being in force, for protection of child rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- (d) Present to the Federal Government and to the provincial governments, as the case may be, upon working of such law or policy or practice specified under clause (c);
- (e) Inquire into violation of child rights and recommend to the relevant agency or department initiation of proceedings in such cases;
- (f) Examine all factors that inhibit enjoyment of rights of child, such as violence, abuse and exploitation, trafficking, torture, pornography and prostitution and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (g) Sponsor, encourage research and maintain a database relating to children and their issues to provide knowledge and awareness for national policy and strategic action for its remedy;
- (h) Spread awareness and promote dialogue on child rights among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights;

- (i) Examine international instruments and undertake periodical review of existing policies and programmes on child rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation in the best interest of children;
- (j) While inquiring into complaints of violations of child rights, may call for information or report from the Federal Government, civil society organizations and autonomous or concerned bodies and in this regard the Commission shall have the powers vested in a civil court.



Rabiya Javeri Agha the Secretary Ministry of Human Rights responding to the media persons regarding the activities at National Child Protection Center. Barrister Muhammad Saif (Senator) also present.

Upon its operationalization, the Commission held its 1st Board meeting in July 2010.

Work of the National Child Protection Center between 2019 and 2020, included among others:

- (i) Established of 15 child protection committees at ICT level. These grassroot committees work on the ground to help in referral, rehabilitation and in spreading awareness on child protection and prevention of child abuse.
- (ii) Provided temporary shelter and reunified 67 children with their families;
- (iii) Provided non-formal education to 185 children;(iv) Provided medical treatment to children in need, in coordination with Federal Government hospitals
- (iv) Provided medical treatment to children in need, in coordination with Federal Government hospitals;



Ministry of Human Rights celebrates 'White Cane Day' at the Directorate of Special Education.



Celebrating 30 years of CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) with President of Pakistan.

- (v) Established 2 eye-camps between April and June 2019 at NCPC.
- (vi) Conducted 5 seminars on child abuse in NCPC during 2019 and 2020 for parents, civil society members and children; (2 in Sitara Market with Police and 3 at NCPC with relevant NGOs)
- (vii) Arranged 7 meetings with Police and Commissioners at ICT level on child protection issues including beggary, domestic labor, etc
- (viii) Held 24 meetings with stakeholders at community level in different areas of ICT level for formulation of child protection committees and spreading awareness on child abuse

CHILD RIGHTS MILESTONES

Legislation	Institutional Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 292 A. Exposure to seduction 292 B. Child pornography 328 A. Cruelty to a child 377 A. Sexual abuse ICT Child Protection Act, 2018 The Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018 The Zainab Alert, Response & Recovery Act Designated Police station in ICT for Women & Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Commission on Rights of the Child (NCRC) set up National Action Plan on Child Protection & Abuse submitted to PMO Inter-agency Protocol for Child Abuse Consultative Committees on Child Abuse & Beggary National Commission on Rights of the Child set up & operational SOPs for Child Care Institutes 1st meeting of Board of ICT Child Protection Act

PROHIBITION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Ministry of Human Rights has also drafted the Prohibition of Corporal Punishment Bill 2019, which prohibits corporal punishment in all types of educational institutions, including formal and non-formal, both public and private and in child-care institutions.

ZAINAB ALERT ACT 2020

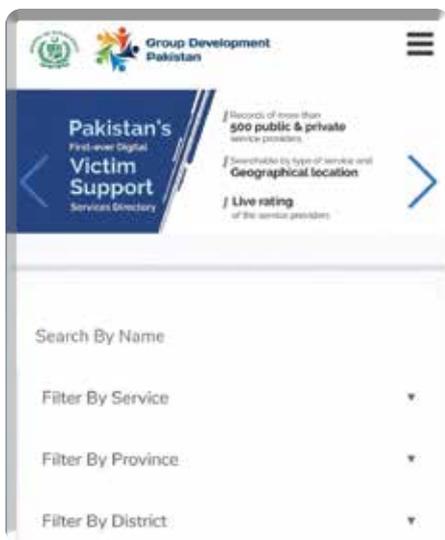
The Zainab Alert, Response and Recovery Act was passed on 24th March, 2020. This important law provides mechanisms for the recovery of missing and abducted children by establishing an alert, response and recovery system.

JUVENILE JUSTICE ACT 2018

The Juvenile Justice System Act 2018 has been enacted, dealing with disposal of cases through diversion and social reintegration of child offenders. The Rules under this Act have been drafted by the Ministry of Human Rights in consultation with ICT Administration, Ministry of Interior and Provincial Police, Home, Social Welfare, Human Rights Departments. Sensitization and awareness programs on these Rules begin shortly.

To protect children from exposure to seduction, child pornography, human trafficking and child sexual abuse, the Criminal Laws (Second Amendment) Act 2016 had been enacted in March 2016, criminalizing the aforementioned acts. Ministry of Human Rights is now working on effective enforcement of this law through sensitization of police in the Federal Capital, as well as other stakeholders. Personal attendance of MoHR lawyers has ensured that this penal section has been added to FIRs involving cruelty to children

DIGITAL DIRECTORY FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE



With support of the Group Development Pakistan, Ministry of Human Rights also launched a nationwide digital directory for victims of child abuse. This innovative new tech victim support directory will provide easy access to information about services available for victims of harassment, abuse, particularly children and women. The service provider database holds records of more than 500 public and private service providers and is searchable by organization, service type and geographic location, allowing organizations, victims and/or family members to quickly identify and facilitate/access support and referral services.

Service providers in the database offer the following diverse services to survivors and their family members:

- Shelter	- Reporting Missing Children
- Referral	- Reporting Online Abuse
- Counseling	- Legal Assistance
- Access to media	- Psychological Support
- Medical care	



Child Abuse Awareness Campaign (Minister School Engagement Programme) with MNA Ali Nawaz Awan.

ICT CHILD PROTECTION MECHANISMS/INITIATIVES

Following the promulgation of the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Child Protection Act 2018 which provides for protection and care of children in Islamabad from all forms of physical or mental violence, a Child Protection Institute is presently being set up in the Federal Capital. The **ICT Child Protection Board** has already been notified in May, 2019.

Ministry of Human Rights with the support of UNICEF and the Bureau of Statistics, launched a national child labour survey after 23 years. The last child labour survey was conducted in Pakistan was in 1996. That meant that for twenty-three years, there has been no accurate data on child labour in Pakistan. The objective of this nationwide survey is to identify the nature and extent of child labour in different settings across the country.

A high-level consultative **Committee on Child Beggary** has also been established in the Federal Capital. Since its operationalization, the Committee has provided several recommendations for the training and sensitization of ICT Police on child abuse.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari visits schools to create awareness on child abuse.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari visits area schools to create awareness on child safety.

The Ministry of Human Rights also conducted **Studies on out of school children in katchi abadis and rural areas** in ICT and the findings have been shared with Directorate of Education for further necessary action.

The Minister for Human Rights has taken personal interest and initiative in the area of child protection, by regularly visiting public and private schools in the Federal Capital to speak to parents, teachers and students on issues relating to child abuse.

On 4 July 2019, the Ministry of Human Rights launched its **media campaign on child abuse awareness**. The video messages developed on child abuse have been shared with the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA), for telecasting the same on private and public channels.



Children at Child Protection Centre celebrate Universal Children's Day.

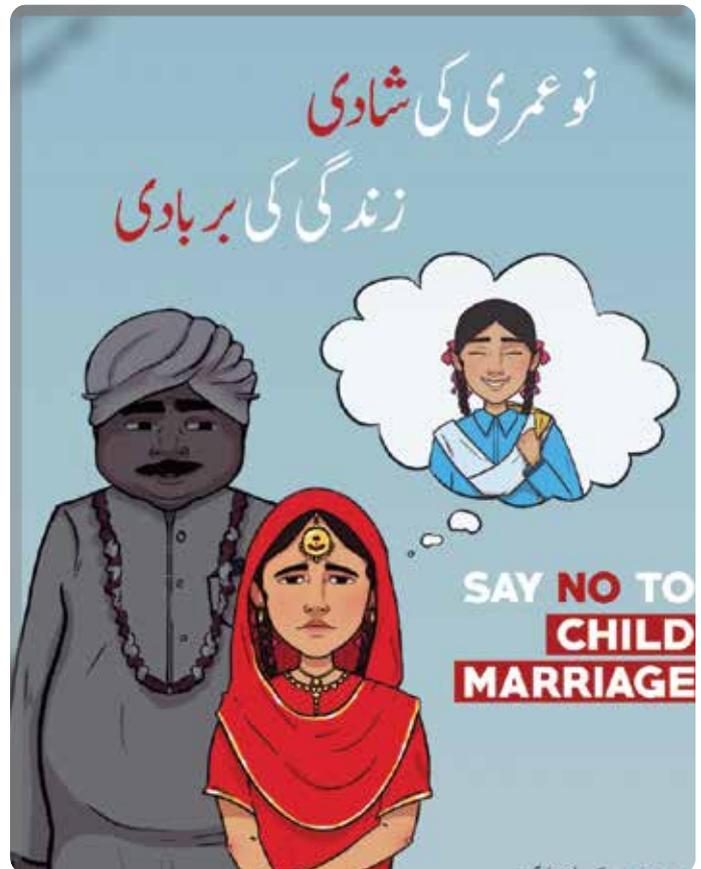


Children at Child Protection Centre visit female police station to learn about safety.

Ministry of Human Rights also formulated an **Action Plan on Child Abuse**, which deals with prevention and protection of children from abuse, whilst instituting safeguards for their participation, reintegration and rehabilitation. The Action Plan addresses monitoring and coordination of activities/interventions among relevant stakeholders through establishment of a gender balance Steering Committee including representation from the provinces and CSOs.

Ministry of Human Rights has played a leading role in the implementation of the agenda of the **South Asia Initiative to end Violence against children (SAIEVAC)** an apex body of the SAARC which focuses on five thematic areas including ending Child Marriages.

Nineteen training **workshops** have been conducted to end violence against children including child marriages for public and volunteer sector stakeholders including media professionals.



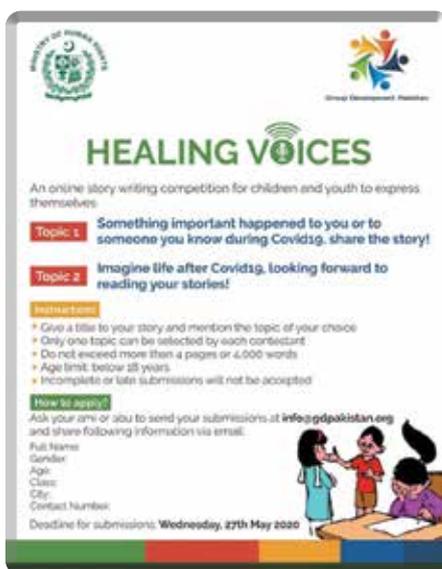
Campaign against child marriages.



A tableau on child abuse and safety at the Directorate of Special Education.

Ministry of Human Rights has also prepared a **Minimum Quality Care Standards for Child Care Institutions**, which ensure that services provided by the Child Care Institutions adhere to certain prescribed minimum standards, provided in United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNRC) ratified by Pakistan in 1990.

Ministry of Human Rights has also established the **Interagency Protocol on Child Abuse for Child Care Institutions**, in the Federal Capital. This was developed to enhance coordination among various child protection institutions at the ICT level, for efficient referral of cases of child abuse.



Further, between 26 June 2019 to 3 July 2019, Ministry of Human Rights, in collaboration with UNICEF, carried out a **youth empowerment campaign** titled “We the Future Campaign”. Following this, on 4 July 2019, the Ministry of Human Rights held an awareness raising campaign on child sexual abuse titled “Protect our Children – Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse”.

Ministry of Human Rights is currently preparing an awareness campaign on the **impact of COVID-19 on children**.

A story writing competition by Ministry of Human Rights, in partnership with Group Development Pakistan.



1.3

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATION AND RIGHTS OF MINORITIES

MINORITY RIGHTS

- Drafted Christian Marriage and Divorce Bill | 2002
- Action Plan on Religious Harmony Prepared
- Commission to investigate kidnapping case of Hindu Minorities in Ghotki, Sindh

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE & DIVORCE BILL

Ministry of Human Rights engaged in umpteen stakeholder's consultations for preparation of the Christian Marriage and Divorce Bill 2019, from 2012 to 2019. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony issued its no objection certificate to the bill on 11th June 2019. As a result, on 5th September 2019, the Cabinet granted in-principle approval to the contents of the Christian Marriage and Divorce Bill 2019 which were shared with the Law Division for vetting. The Bill comprises 106 sections and four schedules. It extends to the whole of Pakistan and a condition has been inserted that the age of parties to marriage must be 18 years and above in line with the Majority Act, 1875. Moreover, certain outdated sections in the previous laws dealing with unnecessary notices related to marriage and their publication/fixation of notices have been deleted/omitted.



Consultation on the Christian Marriage Bill.

Nine new grounds have been proposed to be included on the basis of which petition for dissolution of marriage can be filed by either spouse. The Bill is with Ministry of Law and Justice.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari with the Christian Delegation to discuss Christian Marriage and Divorce Bill 2020

EXPERT GROUP ON RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

In compliance with Supreme Court Judgement dated 19.6.2014, and directive to Federal Government to set up a task force for developing a strategy on religious tolerance, an Expert Working Group on Point No. 9 of NAP was established under the chair of the Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights, Rabiya Javeri Agha with the approval of National Internal Security Committee for taking effective steps against religious persecution. Accordingly, the Expert Group developed the Action Plan against Religious Persecution which outlines efforts to be taken up with multiple stakeholders in order to safeguard and promote rights of religious minorities. These efforts include but are not limited to:

- Targeted awareness raising, media campaigns and trainings on the contribution of religious minorities in Pakistan, interfaith harmony, the rights of minorities outlined in the Constitution and in the teachings of Islam, and the responsibility of Muslims in protecting the rights of minorities
- Review and revision of education curricula at all levels in order to create a peaceful and inclusive society by educating students on rights of religious minorities in the Constitution and Islam and the removal of any content that promotes hatred against a specific group.

On March 2019, a consultation between Ministry of Human Rights and the Sindh Madrassatul Islam University in Karachi, was held wherein it was agreed that the subject of “Human Rights” would be introduced as an optional course at the graduate level. This has been introduced at the graduate level in this University. The course will cover Human Rights, Constitutional guarantees and International Commitments of Pakistan regarding Human Rights. . Formal MOU between Ministry of Human Rights and Sindh Madrassatul Islam University is to be signed shortly.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari and the Vatican envoy discuss minority issues.

Creation of an endowment fund for scholarships for students and other initiatives for skill development of minorities.

- Strengthening district level Interfaith Harmony Committees
- Creation of a complaint and redressal mechanism
- Review and propose amendments for discriminatory laws
- Creation of National Commission on Interfaith Harmony
- Protection of places of worship

Ministry of Human Rights was also part of a commission set up by Islamabad High Court to investigate kidnapping cases concerning members of the minority Hindu community in Ghotki, Sindh. Commission comprehensively probed the matter and submitted its report to IHC along with recommendations to improve the situation.

ISLAMABAD HIGH COURT JUDGEMENT

“This Court cannot restrain itself from recording appreciation for the dedicated and earnest efforts made by the members of the Commission, particularly its Chairperson, namely Dr Shireen Marazi, the then Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights Ms Rabia Javeri, Director General Mohammad Arshad and the officials of the Ministry for submitting a comprehensive report in a short time.” - Justice Athar Minhallah (W.P. No. 4037 of 2019)



1.4

PROTECTION AND INCLUSION OF THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS MILESTONES

- 1 Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018
- 2 Drafted Rules for the Transgender Persons Act 2018 based on National Consultations
- 3 Constituted 1st National Committee for Implementation of Transgender Persons Act
- 4 Developed SOPs for transgender protection and training guidelines for police in English and Urdu
- 5 Nationwide awareness workshops on HIV and stigmatization of transgender persons
- 6 Consultations for referral mechanism for Transgender Protection Centre
- 7 Awareness meetings with passport office, NADRA, Ministry of Health & Universities throughout Pakistan

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS MAKES HISTORY

Under the leadership of the Minister for Human Rights, the Ministry of Human Rights has taken significant steps to address the stigmatization and marginalization of the transgender community in Pakistan. In fact, **Pakistan became the first country in the world to include a transgender woman in a government delegation before the United Nations.** Aisha Mughal was part of the government delegation sent by Pakistan before the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on 12th February 2020.

Ministry of Human Rights prepared the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018, Under this Act, a **National Committee has been established** to monitor implementation and Rules have been developed after an extensive process of national consultations during October- December, 2019. The Committee has also developed **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for police** and healthcare workers in their engagement/interaction with members of the transgender community.



Pakistan CEDAW Review at the UN Headquarters in Geneva.

SENSITIZATION OF LEA'S



Another equally important initiative is the sensitization of ICT and Rawalpindi Police on Transgender rights, conducted to ensure effective implementation of Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act. The Draft Guidelines for Police Engagement with Transgender Citizens aim to bridge the gap between international best practices and national realities through measures that are implementable, practical and relevant to Pakistan's legal context. In addition to a rigorous legal review and analysis of national legislative framework, an extensive desk review was undertaken of international human rights best practices, relevant policy documents, academic research articles, and latest directives developed by law enforcement agencies in the United States.

Aisha Mughal, in attendance at the Ministry of Human Rights transgender sensitization session.

Draft guidelines, were shared with Islamabad and Rawalpindi police to chart the way ahead for police engagement with transgender persons. In addition to providing a historical backdrop to the current status of transgender persons in Pakistan, the workshop aimed to:

- Sensitize Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) on transgender issues and unique challenges.
- Improve understanding of Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2018, among the LEAs.
- Increase trust in the LEAs by the transgender community.
- Present/finalize Guidelines for Police Engagement with Transgender Citizens.
- Organize awareness sessions with transgender community on the new SOPs of police.



Consultation & sensitization of police on transgender.

Ministry of Human Rights has conducted several sensitization workshops for police on guidelines for engagement with transgender persons. The workshops raised awareness about the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018 and challenges faced by transgender persons in Pakistan. Posters in English and Urdu with guidelines for police engagement were also distributed to police stations across ICT. The workshops were attended by representatives of police stations across Islamabad, human rights police officers and transgender community leaders from the provinces. Minister for Human Rights Dr Shireen M Mazari attended the event as Chief Guest.



Participants at the transgender sensitization session at the Ministry of Human Rights.

Ministry of Human Rights has also translated training guidelines for law enforcement personnel in English and in Urdu, as part of our efforts to enhance sensitization and capacity-building in this regard. Similarly, several awareness meetings have been held with the Passport Office, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), Ministry of Health and several universities across Pakistan on the issue of transgender persons.

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS AND COVID-19

During COVID 19 pandemic, UNDP, UNFPA and the Federal Ministry of Human Rights (Ministry of Human Rights) undertook a trans-community led and trans-community driven preliminary **socio-economic rapid assessment survey** in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi – to assess and contribute towards addressing most vulnerable trans-community members’ immediate & prioritised socio-economic needs.

Trans-persons and those with non-binary gender identities are particularly vulnerable during COVID-19. People living with compromised immune systems, including some persons living with HIV/AIDS, face a greater risk from COVID-19. Homeless persons, a population that includes many transgender persons in Pakistan, are less able to protect themselves through physical distancing and safe hygiene practices, increasing their exposure to viruses and disease.

Following the survey, care and support packages were distributed to needy transgender persons.



Rabiya Javeri Agha, Federal Secretary Ministry of Human Rights, distributes relief packages to the transgender community.



1.5

PROTECTION AND INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Despite Pakistan being a party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) since 5 July 2011, the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs) need further attention. The Ministry of Human Rights has, therefore worked hard to ensure the inclusion of PWDs in all aspects of society.



International Day for Persons with Disabilities with DGSE.



Consultative meeting on disability legislation.

ICT RIGHTS OF PERSON WITH DISABILITIES BILL

As a result, the Ministry of Human Rights prepared the ICT Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill 2018 which was introduced in Parliament on 21st December, 2018. The Bill was referred to the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Human Rights which cleared it with some amendments. The Bill passed by the National Assembly on 10th January, 2020, was introduced in the Senate of Pakistan which referred it to the Senate Functional Committee on Human Rights. The Bill was lapsed and has been referred to National Assembly for its consideration during Joint Session of Parliament.



International Day of Persons with Disabilities event by the Ministry of Human Rights.

UNCRPD REPORT

Initial report on implementation of United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) was prepared by Ministry of Human Rights in consultation with relevant federal and provincial stakeholders and submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 18th October 2019 for onward submission to concerned UN Committee.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE TRANSFERRED

One of the most important institutional developments was that the entire attached Department of Social Welfare, Special Welfare and National Council of social Welfare, National Council for Rehabilitation of disabled persons, including grassroots level community centres were transferred to Ministry of Human Rights from Ministry of Federal Education in November 2019.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari presents shield to Anne Marchal on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Ministry of Human Rights also initiated capacity building workshops for Provincial and Regional Governments on the CRPD and the Incheon Strategy so as to enhance Pakistan's compliance with its international human rights obligations vis-à-vis PWDs.

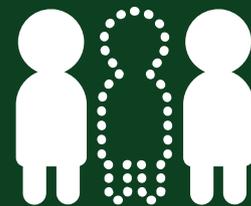
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The Ministry of Human Rights reconstituted the National Committee for Implementation of the CRPD and the Incheon Strategy. In this regard, the Action Plan for implementation of Incheon Strategy is being finalized in consultation with the stakeholders.

NATIONAL SURVEYS ON DISABILITIES

Moreover, through Ministry of Human Rights intervention two national surveys have included the Washington Group of Questions in their surveys. The Pakistan Health and Demographic survey 2017-2018 for the first time collected data on disability by using Washington group of question. Furthermore, the Pakistan living and social standard measurement and Pakistan labour force survey 2020-21 will provide data on disability by using Washington group of question also for the first time.

Ministry of Human Rights has also prepared awareness-raising material, and disseminated the same on the impact of COVID-19 on PWDs. On In fact, on 3 December 2019, Ministry of Human Rights carried out an awareness raising campaign, celebrating the International Day for PWDs.



1.6

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

LEGAL RIGHTS

Protection against Enforced Disappearances Bill 2020

Torture, Custodial Death & Custodial Rape (Prevention & Punishment) Bill| 2020

Set up standardized form and online process for Mercy Petitions

Concluded Review of Death Penalty Crimes

Established Legal Aid and Justice Authority Act 2020; to reform existing legal aid mechanisms

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

Minister for Human Rights is the first official of the Government of Pakistan to have recommended signing of the International Convention for Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPED). In November 2018, the Minister for Human Rights issued an unequivocal condemnation of the practice, announcing her intention to have the practice criminalized in the country.

Ministry of Human Rights carried out a consultation on Draft Forced or Involuntary Disappearances (Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 9th January, 2019. Consultation was attended by chairman Senate Functional Committee on Human Rights, senior members from the Ministry of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Law. The Committee unanimously voted for criminalization of the offence of enforced disappearances through amendments in PPC and CRPS. The draft Bill was subsequently forwarded to the Ministry of Law & Justice on 16th January, 2019 for vetting. At present, the Bill is with ministry of Law and Justice.

PAKISTAN SATISFIED THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE

The Bill prepared by Ministry of Human Rights was placed before CCLC in its meeting held on 6th February, 2019. As advised by CCLC, Law Division was requested on 8th February, 2019 for vetting the subject Bill. In this regard, Ministry of Law & Justice convened meetings to finalize the Bill. The Bill is with the Ministry of Law & Justice for approval after final vetting. In the meanwhile, a private members bill on Torture & Custodial Rape has been approved by the Senate Functional Committee.

PRISONERS RIGHTS

- Final Report on Prison Reforms submitted to the IHC
- Commission on Implementation of prison Reform set up on directive of CJ, IHC
- Expanded scope of utilization of Diyat, Arsh and Daman (Fund): Rules 2007 revised prisoners age to 40

PRISON REFORMS

In November, 2019, the Islamabad High Court issued an order, in *Khadim Hussain v. Federation of Pakistan* (Writ Petition No. 4037/2019), establishing the Commission on Jail Reforms, under the Ministry of Human Rights to investigate prison conditions and make recommendations for reform.

The Ministry of Human Rights accordingly submitted reports on prison reforms for the Islamabad High Court's assistance, inter alia containing data on: the number of prisoners in each province categorized as Under Trial Prisoners (UTPs), Convicted Persons and Condemned Prisoners; the number of female inmates (including the number of mothers and children); the number of juveniles incarcerated in each province; and the number of seriously ill or terminally ill prisoners in each province (prison-wise). A comparison was made between Pakistan Prison Rules and the Mandela and Bangkok Rules with recommendations for improving the condition of prisoners in jail.

The Ministry of Human Rights also submitted a legal brief before the Supreme Court of Pakistan in *Raja Muhammad Nadeem v. The State* (Criminal Petition No. 299/2020), to assist the Supreme Court on the condition of prisoners across the country, and to recommend release of certain categories of prisoners. Other recommendations made by the Ministry of Human Rights in this brief included: immediate filling of vacant posts (of the 193 posts of medical officers in jails of Pakistan, 108 remain vacant); reduction in overcrowding by releasing model prisoners on probation, parole and remissions; external audits of prisons; digitization of data; creation of SOPs to quicken the approval process for transfer of ill prisoners; and encouraging judicial visits for granting of bail and other relief to deserving prisoners.



Dr. Shireen M. Mazari meets Barrister Haya Zahid of Legal Aid Society to discuss prison reforms.

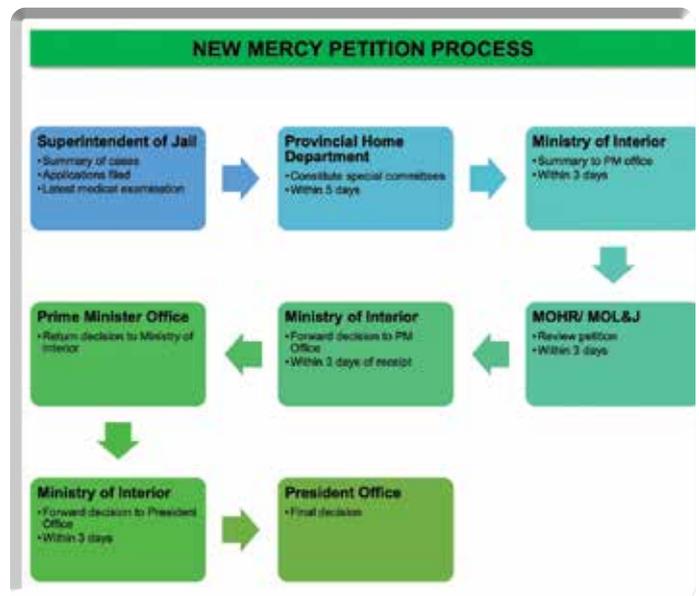


REPORT ON FEMALE PRISONERS

Recently, the Committee constituted by the Prime Minister to investigate the Plight of Women in Pakistan’s Prisons completed its final report. The Committee was chaired by the Federal Minister for Human Rights Dr. Shireen M. Mazari. The Committee collected primary data through two rounds of questionnaires and conducted a comprehensive literature review of available reports and existing research on the issue to develop a more in-depth understanding of their problems and concerns. The Committee also conducted a comprehensive gap analysis between the Bangkok Rules and the Pakistan Prison Rules, and presented several gender specific recommendations for legislative amendments to be incorporated into the provincial prison rules as they are in the process of being finalized. The Committee made several key observations and recommendations in terms of legislative, policy and training reforms needed to protect the rights of female prisoners in the country.

REFORM IN PROCESS OF MERCY PETITIONS

Ministry of Human Rights also successfully streamlined the mercy petition process for death row prisoners. Following the Ministry of Human Rights intervention, the old mercy petition forms have been replaced with comprehensive and detailed data forms allowing for greater information on inmates to be shared with decision makers. The mercy petition process now also includes Ministry of Human Rights and as a member and all mercy petitions are now routed through Ministry of Human Rights.



DIYAT, ARSH AND DAMAN FUND

The Diyat, Arsh and Daman Fund Rules 2007 have also been amended to revise the age limit to 40 years thus opening way for greater utilization of funds.

The Supreme Court of Pakistan while deciding some identical cases on 14th December, 2006, observed that the convicts who have to pay Diyat, Arsh and Daman are languishing in jails on account of non-payment of the same due to poverty and weak financial position. In this backdrop the Supreme Court directed that the Federal Government was directed to create a fund and evolve a mechanism for the payment of Diyat, Arsh and Daman.



1.7

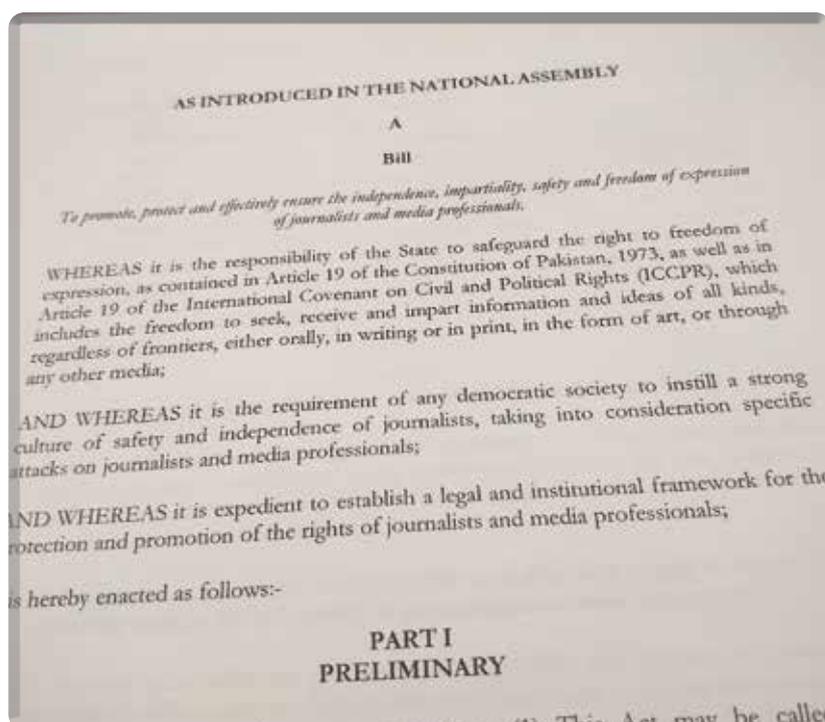
PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS

To ensure freedom of the press and account for the challenges faced by journalists, particularly female journalists, the Ministry of Human Rights prepared the Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Bill 2020, which seeks to promote, protect and effectively ensure the independence, impartiality, safety and freedom of expression of journalists and media professionals.

The bill is a progressive legislative instrument that provides comprehensive protection to journalists and media professionals, including protection of their right to life, protection against ill-treatment, protection of their sources and their right to privacy, protection from harassment etc.

The bill has been drafted through extensive consultations with member of the journalist community.

The Cabinet considered the summary titled 'Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Bill 2020' dated 7th February, 2020, submitted by Human Rights Division and approved the draft legislation, in principle, subject to incorporation of views/comments of Information and Broadcasting Division. The revised draft has been referred to Ministry of Information and Law and Justice Division for consolidation /vetting and final submission to the Parliament.



1.8

RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS



NATIONAL REPORT ON RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS

Cognisant of the rights of senior citizens, the Ministry of Human Rights along with British Council, HelpAge International and Oxford Professor Dr Asghar Zaidi undertook a unique qualitative research on Senior Citizens in Pakistan. The results and issues brought forward by the report were addressed by legislation drafted on senior citizens.

SENIORS CITIZENS BILL

The Ministry of Human Rights Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Bill, 2020 which provides for the care, protection and rights of Senior citizens in Islamabad. The Bill was introduced in the National Assembly on 7th November, 2019 and referred to the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights for consideration.

Salient features of the Bill:

- Establishment of a Senior Citizen Council to maintain oversight over policy-making and research on Rights Based Approach for elder citizens
- Establishment of a Senior Citizen's Fund for protection of rights of older persons.
- Benefits to older persons include:
 - Separate counters,
 - Medical wards,
 - 20 % concession in medical and dental services, diagnostic and laboratory facilities
 - Concession in medicines charges
 - Reduction in domestic travel fares
 - Exemption from the payment of individual income tax.

Ministry of Human Rights also prepared awareness-raising material, and disseminated the same online, regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the elderly. On 1st October 2019, Ministry of Human Rights carried out an awareness-raising campaign on social media, celebrating the rights of the elderly on International day for Older Persons.



1.9

COVID & HUMAN RIGHTS

Pakistan is the 5th most vulnerable country to climate change, which makes us susceptible to earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters. Evidence from past pandemics and natural disasters suggests that such crises often transform into a larger human rights crisis with time. In order to avoid this, the government must incorporate a rights-based approach in its response and recovery mechanisms.

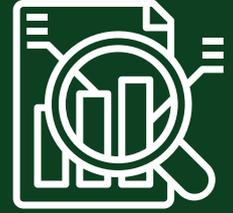
To date Pakistan has had 290,000 COVID-19 cases, of which 270,000 have recovered. Due to Pakistan's pragmatic and innovative policies we have been able to flatten the curve. That said, aforementioned concerns about human rights still remain.

To address these concerns MoHR conducted an exercise to create a framework to enable the government to respond better to the crisis. The starting point of the project was the guidance from the letter of the Secretary General on Human Rights to COVID-19. MoHR identified seven areas that needed immediate redressal. Through mapping of our constitutional and international human rights obligations of SDGs, MoHR recognised that Health, Unemployment, Gender Based Violence, Refugees and Migrants, Food Security, Detention Centres, and Child Protection are of utmost importance.

To establish a baseline the team undertook a desk review of the various documents published by international organisations such as the UN and the World Bank. Upon completion, the team conducted a mapping exercise of the existing laws and the government's COVID-19 response initiatives. This information was converted into a database, which was used to conduct a COVID-19 impact analysis. Through this analysis, the Ministry identified key human rights challenges that were created as a direct result of the pandemic and indirectly through the government's COVID-19 policy measures (e.g. the impact of the government mandated lockdown on increasing incidences of domestic/gender-based violence). The analysis also noted how vulnerable groups and minorities were underserved or missed by the government's policy measures.

The experts were then tasked to come up with best practices and future steps for the Government of Pakistan to take to safeguard human rights. This was done by identifying global best practices from various countries and their responses to the crisis.

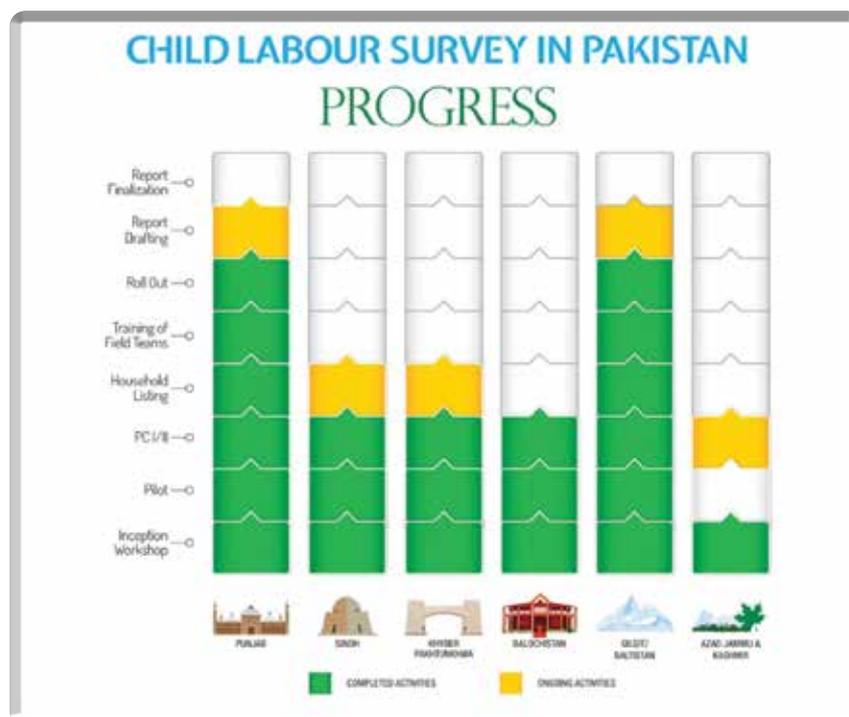
Subsequently, MOHR has come up with policy actions that the government can incorporate in their response and recovery plans. By adopting these recommendations, the State can ensure that their short and long-term response is rooted in preserving basic human rights as prescribed in Pakistan's constitution while also upholding the country's international human rights commitments.



1.10

RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN BY MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- Report on harmonization of legislation with Constitution & treaties
- Qualitative Report on rights of Senior Persons in Pakistan
- Report on Out of School Children in ICT
- Report on Men's Perception on GBV
- Gendered Impact and Implications of Covid 19 in Pakistan with UNWOMEN
- Assessment of COVID19 policies through Human Rights Lens
- Needs Assessment report of Ministry of Human Rights, TICs & Provincial HR Depts





1.11

REPORTS SUBMITTED BY MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- Presented 5th Periodic Report on CEDAW to UN CEDAW Committee in February 2020.
- Pakistan's Initial Report on UNCRPD, submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Report regarding National level review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for Women (Beijing+25),
- Pakistan's 24th to 26th Periodic Report on ICERD submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs for onward transmission to the Treaty Body.
- Progress Report on Implementing OIC Plan of Action for Advancement of Women.
- Report on GSP+ covering Human Rights issues
- Four follow-up reports on following Pakistan's obligatory reports prepared and submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs for submission to the concerned committee, as under;
 - Pakistan's Initial Report on International Covenant Civil & Political Rights,
 - Pakistan's Initial Report on International Covenant Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
 - Pakistan's Initial report on UN Convention against Torture (CAT)
 - Pakistan's combined 21st to 23rd Periodic Report on ICERD.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENTS

Reports Submitted

	Pakistan's Initial Report on UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD)		Follow up Report on International Covenant Civil & Political Rights (ICCPR)
	Follow up Report on International Covenant Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)		Follow up Report on UN Convention against Torture (CAT)
	Pakistan's 24th Period Report on International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)		Pakistan's 5th Periodic Report on UN Convention on the elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
	Report on National level review of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for women		Report on GSP+ covering human rights issues

Chapter two:

REMEDIES & MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS



Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Human Rights

#bacchonkatahaffuz



Helpline **1099**

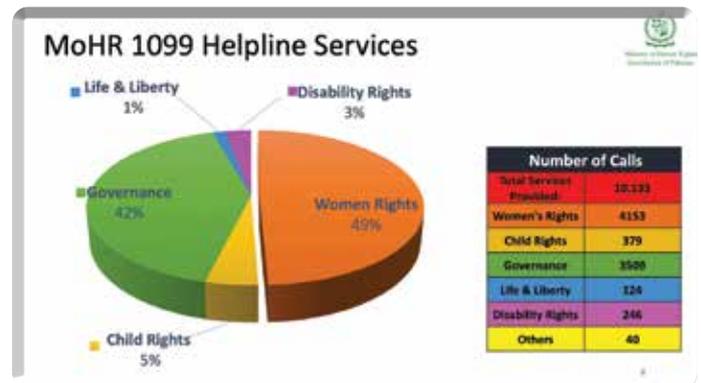
HELPLINE 1099



The Ministry of Human Rights’s 1099 Helpline received a total of 73470 calls from January 2020 till June 2020. Of the relevant cases, 818 complaints pertained to women’s rights violations; 112 cases related to child rights violations; and 218 cases related to the police and legal issues whereas 318 cases were Covid-19 related. All relevant cases were given legal advice and referred to the related department where required.

Shehzad Roy, Ambassador & Spokesperson for Ministry of Human Rights on child rights.

Responding immediately to human rights impacts resulting from COVID-19, the 1099 Helpline has been revamped and upgraded to an MIS-Database for more effective response. It will now provide for a discrete SMS service for victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBC). A Mobile App will also be introduced for victims of violence and response staff will be increased to manage the Helpline on a 24/7 basis



The Ministry also identified human rights violation cases through print and electronic media monitoring across the country. A total of 6,094 cases of human rights violations were taken up with law enforcement agencies/police, NCHR and other relevant organizations for redressal during year 2019 and up to June 2020.

The Minister for Human Rights has personally taken cognizance of the following cases since:

- (i) Case on demolition of Family Victory Church in G-6, Islamabad: the police was directed to mediate between the Christian community and the Capital Development Authority (CDA), following which an settlement was reached.
- ii) Case of torture of 11-year-old housemaid in Rawalpindi: a medical examination was conducted and FIR was registered against the housemaid’s employers. The CCPO Rawalpindi has taken notice of the incident and suspended ASI for flawed investigation of the case.

MINISTER'S INITIATIVES

Notably, Dr. Shireen M. Mazari represented Pakistan at the Human Rights Council in Geneva on two occasions, including the 43rd Session of HR Council in Geneva, Switzerland in 2019. She also conducted key bilateral meetings with UN officials including High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Michelle Bachelet. Moreover, she also attended the Reykjavik Women Global Leaders Conference in 2019, as well as an International Women's Conference titled "Women in Crisis in Conflict Areas with Special Reference to Kashmir" in the Lord Mayors Council Hall Birmingham, UK. The Minister delivered a keynote speech at Meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs (on internalizing Human Rights violation in occupied Kashmir) at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), Islamabad. She also met with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Mr. Filippo Grandi in 2018. Moreover, the Minister met with Ambassadors from China, Italy, UAE and Netherlands.



Protect Our Children campaign event.

The Minister for Human Rights has held over three hundred and fifty meetings to ensure constant engagement of all stakeholders in the work of the Ministry of Human Rights. In this regard, she has held frequent meetings with inter alia: (i) civil society groups; (ii) foreign dignitaries; (iii) federal and provincial government representatives; (iv) members of the media fraternity; (v) representatives of international organizations; (vi) law enforcement personnel.



43rd session of the UN Human Rights Council.



Bilateral meeting with High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Michelle Bachelet at HRC43.

Minister Shireen Mazari has been actively advocating and lobbying against the illegal annexation of Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir by the Republic of India amongst the International Community. In August 2019, she wrote a letter to 27 UN Special Procedures Mandate Holders regarding the gross human rights violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir. She also sent a letter to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, urging for the institution a humanitarian corridor for the provision of emergency food and medical supplies to the citizens of Indian Occupied Kashmir. She also raised concerns of violations of human rights in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir with the European Union Special Representative on Human Rights at the 43rd session of the UN Human Rights Council. Most recently, Minister Shireen Mazari sent a letter to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, expressing grave concern over the illegal annexation of Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir by the Republic of India, and urging for intervention of the international community to address the issue. These initiatives and efforts have been integral in terms of highlighting the issue and raising awareness of the issue amongst the international community.



Protect Our Children campaign event.

Chapter three:

NEW INITIATIVES & FUTURE PROGRAMMES





BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In 2019, Ministry of Human Rights launched a new programme to incorporate United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Thus, the Ministry introduced a new approach for protection and promotion of human rights by adoption of internationally recognized principles under “Business and Human Rights Programme-Pakistan”. The Ministry entered into partnership with UNDP-Pakistan for conceptual evolution and a national consultative process. Under this programme, the Government of Pakistan shall demonstrate a strong partnership with all business sectors to bring ethical and responsible practices under BHR. The effective methodology and rapid progress by in initial phase by MoHR was recognized even by UN Working Group on BHR in Geneva. The Ministry is in final stages of drafting proposed National Action Plan.

SET UP OF A HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (HRIMS)

The establishment of Human Rights Information Management System (HRIMS) is one of very unique programme which is designed statistically measure and analyze human rights environment in Pakistan. This digital system shall use human rights indicators which are being developed in consultations by the Ministry with provincial government departments. This programme is being supported by UNDP-Pakistan. The Office of Human Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has been also associated in primary consultations on best international practices concerning human rights indicators. The Government of Pakistan has also provided budgetary support through PSDP allocations to this project. This system shall be linked to provincial systems that are being developed by the respective provincial authorities. The Government of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa has already achieved a functional digital platform with support of UNDP that is now being linked to federal system. The successful completion of this project shall result in establishment of an internationally recognized digital system which shall be a powerful tool for UN reporting mechanism while also providing evidence-based policy inputs to the federal and provincial governments.

STRENGTHENING OF PROVINCIAL OFFICES OF MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Ministry has undertaken training, capacity building and human resource development across its offices. Capacity building of its officers is imperative to strengthen the reporting and redressal mechanisms for human rights violations.

Ministry of Human Rights has partnered with the European Union to design trainings on Pakistan’s international human rights reporting obligations and human rights data and documentation. These trainings will bridge substantive and procedural knowledge-gaps with respect to Pakistan’s obligations. Furthermore, the Ministry will be better equipped to manage the data required for the reporting obligations.



TRAINING AND SENSITIZATION OF LAW ENFORCING AGENCIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Ministry of Human Rights concluded an initial training of 60 judges at the Sindh Judicial Academy through the Legal Aid Society. MOU has been signed with the SJA and additional training of all lower judiciary is scheduled this year. The training, titled Human Rights, Gender & Law, covered procedural and substantive elements of law contained within the constitution of Pakistan, the Pakistan Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Laws of Evidence. The training also had a special focus on sensitizing judges on gender related issues. This will be followed by training of lower judiciary in Balochistan.

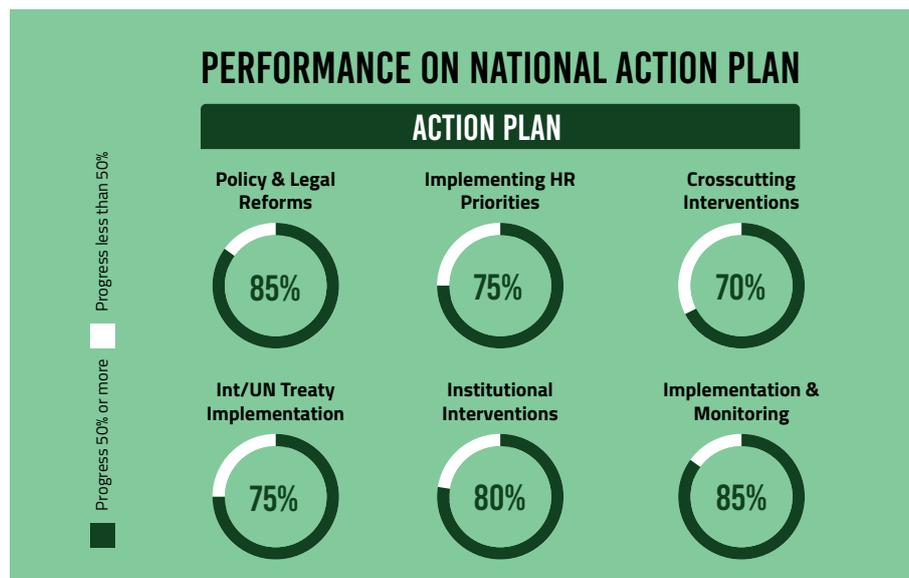
NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO BE REVISED AND UPDATED.

Action Plan on Human Rights 2016 was prepared by the Ministry of Human Rights to improve the human rights situation in the country. The Action Plan consists of six broader areas of interventions with 60 Actions on i) Policy, Legal Reforms & Access to Justice; ii) Implementing Key Human Rights Priorities: Rights of women, children, minorities and vulnerable population; iii) Cross cutting interventions for protection of Human Rights: education, sensitization and awareness raising; iv) International/UN Treaty Implementation; v) Establishment and strengthening of National Human Rights Institutions; and vi) Implementation and Monitoring Mechanism of the Action Plan.

It has been more than three years since the implementation of Action Plan kicked off with the collaboration of federal ministries & provincial departments and the Ministry of Human Rights is taking lead for its overall implementation.

A number of initiatives have been taken by the Ministry under Action Plan including policy interventions, legal reforms, capacity building of stakeholders, inclusion of human right in the curriculum at various levels, human rights violation redressal and financial assistance to victims and importantly the massive public awareness campaign for general public and duty bearers. Keeping in view the cross cutting nature of human rights realization, initiatives have proactively been taken by various social sector federal ministries and provincial departments to improve the overall situation of human rights in the country.

While reviewing the progress on implementation of Action Plan, it has been observed that implementation on all 60 Actions has been initiated with more than 75 percent progress on 40 Actions and 30 percent on 20 Actions being these Actions are to be implemented continuously. Thematic areas wise performance is given below:



On the basis of progress review, lesson-learned and new dimensions of international human rights priorities, the present government has modified Action Plan in the following major areas under the same 06 thematic priorities and 60 Actions:

- i. Immediate enactment of 10 laws related to: Rights of Persons with Disability; prevention of Torture and Custodial Death; Christian Marriage; Domestic Violence, rights of Senior Citizen; Prohibition of Corporal Punishment; Criminalization of Enforced Disappearances; Child Marriage Restraint; Reproductive Health Care and Rights.
- ii. Effective enforcement of 18 major laws including newly enacted: The Zainab Alert, Response and Recovery Act, 2020, ICT Child Protection Act, 2018, Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018 and Transgender persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018.
- iii. Establishment of legal aid Authority and Fund under Legal Aid and Justice Authority Act, 2020 for free legal aid to the poor victims of human rights violations
- iv. Implementation of Action Plan on protection of religious minorities against their persecution formulated by MOHR Working Group under NAP Action point 9,
- v. Implementation of recommendations on Jail Reforms-2020 made by Implementation Commission constituted by Islamabad High Court,
- vi. Attention given for working on UDHR Article 26(2): Education to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Education to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups,
- vii. 12 major development initiatives under PSDP of MOHR for the next three fiscal years: (Total budget estimates: Rs. 1,065 million)

- viii. Design and launch a comprehensive Media awareness Campaign on child abuse, women's rights including VAW, women's inheritance rights and protection of women and children from abuse and exploitation,
- ix. Establishment of Legal, Research and Monitoring Unit in MOHR for a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up
- x. Strengthening of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) for their effective functioning since all NHRIs have already been established

Keeping in view the progress review of Action Plan, the following areas of interventions will be focused more to galvanize provincial governments and federal line ministries for implementation of revised Action Plan:-

- i. Proactive role of Provincial Task Forces to review and monitor the initiatives for promotion and protection of human rights.
- ii. Provincial Strategies for implementation of Action Plan at the provincial level.
- iii. Review of legal framework for bringing amendments/new legislations in line with constitution Pakistan and GOPs national and international commitments.
- iv. Establishment of District Human Rights Committees to monitor the human rights situation at grass root level.
- v. Initiatives for human rights education, sensitization, awareness, research and communication for bringing behavioral change in the society and promote tolerance and interfaith harmony.
- vi. Capacity building of relevant stakeholders including police, prison and mid level judiciary.



Business & Human Rights consultation.



3.1

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGNS



REELS FOR RIGHTS 2020

Ministry of Human Rights has hosted an innovative digital film festival to address the event gap left by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown. The festival showcased films and documentaries on human rights concerns in Pakistan. The aim of the festival was to build a deeper understanding on human rights through the artistic medium of films.

CAMPAIGN REACH: ONGOING



WE THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN 2019

On 26th June the Ministry of Human Rights in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched We the Future - a nationwide media campaign with and for adolescents to communicate and advocate for their rights, concerns and needs. In this regard, 7 TVCs were developed and aired on national TV, as well.

CAMPAIGN REACH: 10,743,241 (10.7 MILLION)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020

The Ministry of Human Rights in collaboration with UN Women held an awareness raising event on 4th March 2020. The event included a panel discussion on generational equality and was moderated by Dr. Shireen M. Mazari. The event also included speeches from female trail blazers from ICT, Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, GB & KPK.

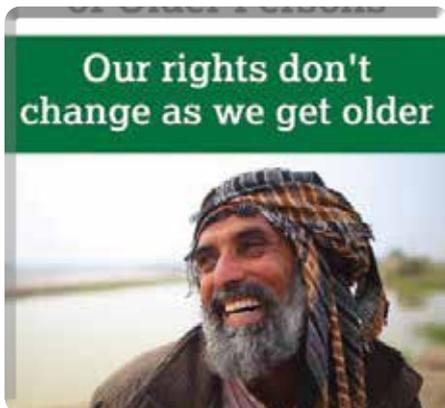


International Women's Day with female members of the Pakistan Armed Force & Zartaj Gul, Federal Minister for Climate Change

EVENT ATTENDANCE: 400+

GREEN ENVIRONMENT AND END OF PAPER BAGS CAMPAIGN 2020

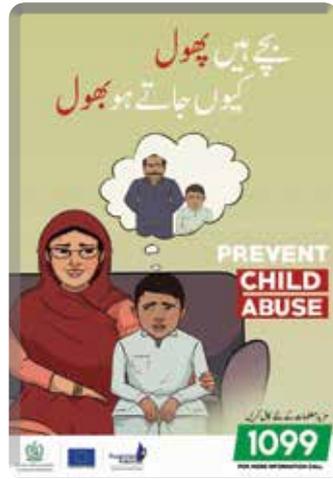
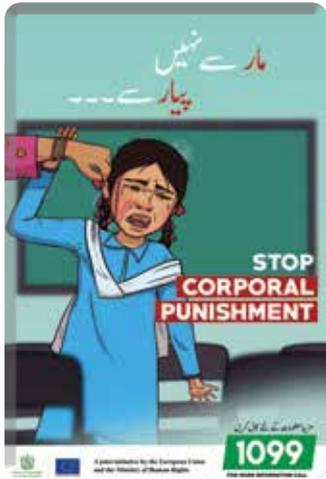
The Ministry of Human Rights launched an awareness raising 'GO GREEN' campaign. The campaign supported the right to a clean and healthy environment. The Ministry discouraged the use of plastic bags during a campaign event held with the Federal Minister for Climate Change.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR OLDER PERSONS 2019

Ministry of Human Rights undertook an awareness raising social media and outdoor campaign in collaboration with HelpAge International. The campaign included messaging to highlight the importance of including senior citizens in aid programmes, and rural and development initiatives.

OUTDOOR CAMPAIGN REACH: 2,000,000 (2 MILLION)



PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE CAMPAIGN AND SCHOOL INTERVENTIONS 2019

The Ministry of Human Rights developed and disseminated awareness raising posters and 1300 pole signs (in the Federal) to increase awareness on child physical and sexual abuse.

OUTDOOR CAMPAIGN REACH: 2,000,000 (2 MILLION)



PROTECT OUR CHILDREN CAMPAIGN 2019

The Ministry of Human Rights with goodwill ambassador Shehzad Roy undertook a campaign for awareness raising on child sexual abuse in Pakistan, three films were developed and disseminated across TV and social media.

CAMPAIGN REACH: 5,400,000 (5.4 MILLION)
SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSION COUNT: 18,000,000 (18 MILLION)

TRANSGENDER SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP FOR ICT POLICE 2019

The Ministry of Human Rights undertook a sensitization workshop for ICT Police. Posters were designed to enhance awareness on best practices by the police when engaging with the transgender community. These posters were disseminated across 200 police stations in ICT.

CAMPAIGN REACH: POSTER PLACED AT 200 POLICE STATION IN ICT



TRUCK ART ADVOCACY FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE GIRL CHILD 2019

The primary initiative of this advocacy and awareness campaign undertook a two- pronged approach towards informing and sensitizing the public. First, since trucks used for cargo-transport in Pakistan have a long traditional and indigenous history of being painted and embellished with artwork – the campaign collaborated with artists to use this messaging space as a tool to reach citizens from remote areas across the country.



Rabiya Javeri Agha, Federal Secretary Ministry of Human Rights, speaks on the role of art as a medium for social change at the Truck Art campaign launch.

Secondly, this approach simultaneously informed the general public and hard-to- reach populations exposed to the trucks travelling specified routes selected by the campaign. With the trucks as moving billboards with messaging to promote the rights of the girl, this campaign informed and sensitized both the truck drivers and the general public.

The Ministry of Human Rights launched the campaign on the International Day of the Girl. Twenty trucks were painted with positive messaging on the rights of the female child, including the Right to Education, the Right to Play, and the freedom from child-marriage & child labour.

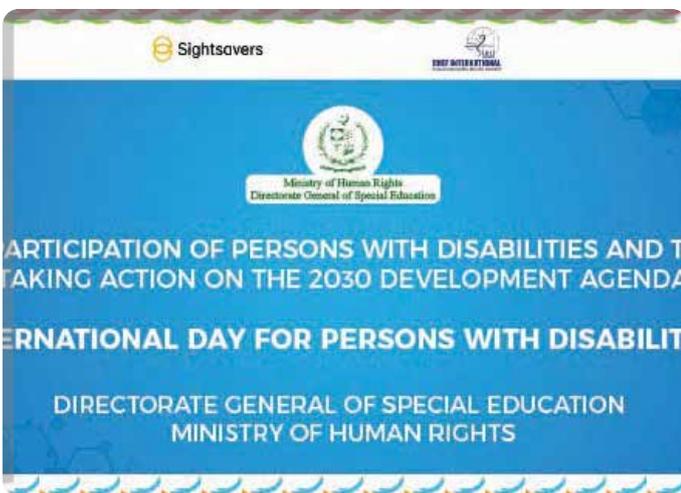


CAMPAIGN REACH: 7,300,000 (7.3 MILLION)



ELIMINATING ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 2019

The Ministry of Human Rights undertook a campaign against gender based and domestic violence and against women, in collaboration with Qibla Ayaz, Chairman of the Council of Islamic Ideology.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES 2019

The Ministry of Human Rights hosted an awareness raising event to promote the participation and leadership of persons with disabilities. The event included speeches from Ministry of Human Rights and European Union representatives.



DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER'S REGISTRY

The Ministry of Human Rights developed a comprehensive preliminary framework for the establishment of a National Sex Offenders Registry in Pakistan. Global best practices were adapted to Pakistan's context in order effectively to track and investigate sex offenders and reduce recidivism in society. The proposed framework institutes robust mechanisms for the categorisation and registration of offenders, public notification systems, and international arrangements for sharing criminal records.



MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS SELECTED PRESS RELEASES

Ministry of Human Rights launches an awareness campaign against child abuse

SAMAA | Digital - Posted: Feb 11, 2019 | Last Updated: 1 year ago

Ministry of Human Rights launches an awareness campaign against child abuse. A helpline number, 1099, has also been launched.

Human rights ministry averse to corporal punishment, IHC told

A bill prohibiting corporal punishment has been in limbo since last year.

Saqib Hashir | March 09, 2020

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Human Rights has asserted its opposition to corporal punishment in a reply submitted before the Islamabad High Court.

A divisional bench headed by Chief Justice Athar Minallah previously suspended Section 89 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) and banned corporal

Senate panel approves Zainab Alert Bill

From Jinnah | Updated 28 Feb 2020

Ministry of Human Rights, EU launch Young Expert Programme

Islamabad: Providing passionate young professionals an opportunity to gain human rights specific knowledge, skills and expertise, whilst working with state institutions and independent commissions in Pakistan, the Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR), under European Union's (EU) Horizon-e-Pakistan Project (HPP), launched Young Expert Programme on Monday.

The Young Experts Programme recruits inspired, talented and dynamic young graduates in the field of human rights through a rigorous and highly competitive selection process. The first cohort will comprise of 40 Young Experts (YEs) who will be engaged for a period of 12 months.

The Young Experts (YEs) will learn about Pakistan's legal system, domestic and international human rights obligations, and the processes and procedures of different state institutions and machinery. The programme will also enable the YEs to develop and strengthen their skills related to research, data analysis, policy and legislation, whilst bridging the capacity gaps of current institutions. The programme was inaugurated through an online orientation session organized for the first batch of the

Ministry of Human Rights Focusing on Protection of Children from Child Abuse

Posted 1 year ago by Sponsored

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN
PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

#ProtectOurChildren



DAWN
TODAY'S PAPER | AUGUST 24, 2020

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Ministry releases policy brief exploring gendered impact of Covid-19 in Pakistan

The Newspaper's Staff Reporter | 13 Apr 2020

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Human Rights on Sunday released the Gendered Impact and Implications of Covid-19 in Pakistan, a policy brief analysing the potentially disproportionate impact of the outbreak on women and girls.

Prepared with UNWomen and the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), the brief explores specific vulnerabilities facing women and girls as the coronavirus spreads and makes broad policy recommendations to mitigate immediate risks and prevent the exacerbation of existing gender gaps.

In a statement issued on Sunday, the ministry said the brief delves into the larger political, social and economic impact of Covid-19 and presents an analysis of the potentially disproportionate impact on women and

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Rights of PWDs Act 2020 lauded

Islamabad: The National Assembly of Pakistan passes 'The ICT Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2020.' Minister of Human Rights, Dr. Shireen Mazari, submitted the bill on 10 January 2020 to national assembly of Pakistan, says a press release.

Community Based Inclusive Development Network (CBIDN), on behalf of its member organisations and disabled community, expresses its gratitude to the Ministry of Human Rights and the honorable minister for taking lead on formulation and submission of The Disability Bill for approval. CBIDN-Pakistan acknowledges the support provided by the secretariat of legislative parliament and standing committee on human rights for taking 'The ICT Rights of Persons with Disability Bill' through the parliamentary process.

The Act formulated under the leadership of the Ministry of Human Rights in close consultation with the CBIDN-Pakistan, parliamentarians, Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs), disability related services providers, disability rights organizations and relevant government agencies. It has been highly demanded by persons with disabilities since long.

THE NEWS
16 Aug 04, 2020

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Home - Today's Paper - National

Shireen Mazari reaffirms commitment to protect citizens from torture, uphold Human Rights

Myra Zaman
June 26, 2020

mashable PAKISTAN

Social good

Human Rights Ministry is organizing Reels for Rights, a Digital Film Festival

Global Village Space

HOME NEWS ANALYSIS OPINION BUSINESS MEDIA & CULTURE LIFE STYLE TECH

Home - Human Rights - First female transgender officially represent Pakistan at UN CEDAW

First female transgender officially represent Pakistan at UN CEDAW

Aisha Mughal is part of the National Delegation at the United Nations' Convention to end all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). She is Transgender Rights Experts and Focal Person at the Ministry of Human Rights. She has been passionately working to ensure equal and safe public space for this section of society.

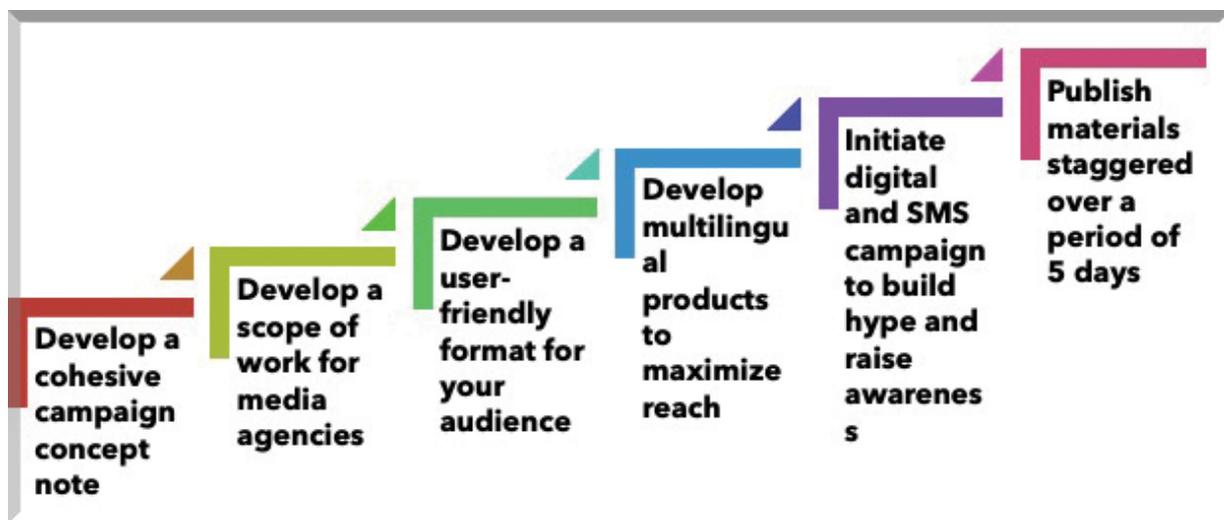
News Desk - February 13, 2020



3.2

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS DIGITAL INITIATIVES

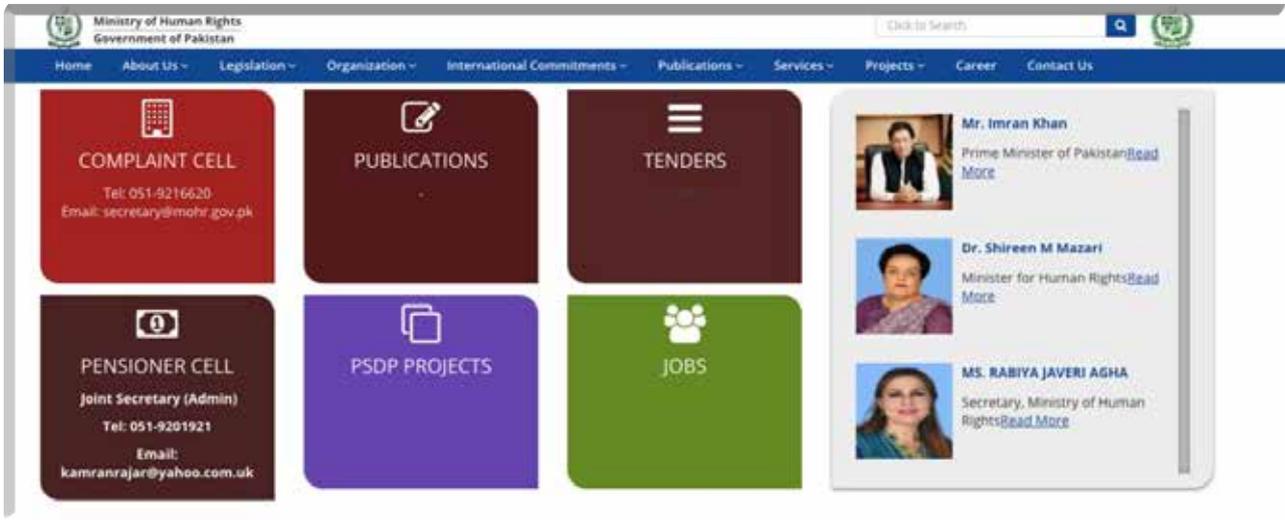
HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION RESOURCE PORTAL



The Ministry of Human Rights is developing Pakistan's first ever human rights resource portal this will be a one stop shop for researchers, academics, students and the general public to access Federal and Provincial legislative materials, along with Pakistan's international commitments and reports.



MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS UPDATED WEBSITE



The Ministry of Human Rights’ website has been updated and designed to include all Ministry of Human Rights initiatives, specifically the legislative bills presented to the National Assembly are available to the public. Moreover the website contains information relating to the 7 core international human rights treaties signed by Pakistan.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES

The Ministry of Human Rights recognizes the impact of social media in awareness raising for human rights. As such, the social media following for Ministry of Human Rights is 52,000 strong and growing everyday. This allows the ministry to communicate on development and awareness raising programmes. Moreover, the Ministry of Human Rights helpline 1099, which caters to public reporting of human rights violation is heavily represented through educational materials distributed on social media.





Chapter four:

CASES & ACTIONS BY MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS



The Federal Minister for Human Rights Dr. Shireen M. Mazari took notice of the following cases circulated through social media and received to her via WhatsApp and other social platform:

SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
1.	18-9-2018	Sheikhupura	Video regarding corporal punishment inflicted on a child (Zohaib).	Accused arrested on 19-9-2018, case was registered at Thana Sadar, District Sheikhupura
2.	26-9-2018	Talagang	Student was tortured by Principal of a Private (Ali Angel) School at Talagang. Video circulated on Facebook.	On the direction of Minister Education Department, Punjab acted against Principal. After visiting School, it emerged that Ali Angel School is unregistered. Accordingly, Education Department sealed the School and registered a FIR against Principal for alleged torture of the child.
3.	09-10-2018	District Toba Tek Singh	Viral video on Youtube in which a Teacher of Madrassa was shown indulging in an illicit act with a girl child.	District Police Jhang arrested accused Anwar ul Qamar on the same date as the incident happened in District Toba Tek Singh, and Jhang Police handed him over to Toba Tek Singh Police, where an FIR was lodged against the accused Anwar ul Qamar who confessed to this crime.
4.	14-10-2018	Attock	Through social media case of torture on a woman named Mahreen Bibi surfaced. Lady was tortured by her in-laws brutally in Attock City.	Accused were arrested under PPC 354(A) and the case is sub-judice in the Court.
5.	20-10-2018	Rawalpindi	11 years old Kinza Bashir housemaid working at House of Major Amara and Dr. Mohsin in Rawalpindi was allegedly tortured. Case circulated on social media.	Rawalpindi Police took ensure prompt action and brought accused couple to justice. CPO suspended the ASI who wrongly handled the case and sent a team to bring back Kinza Bashir and her parents from Samundri, Faisalabad to Rawalpindi for medical examination. After medical examination case has been registered against the couple.
6.	23-10-2018	Mitiari	A case of abduction of Hindu minority girl Monika after circulation on the social media.	Police Department was asked to furnish a report and inform Minister on progress of the case. On 23-10-2018 SSP Matiari informed that the girl has been recovered safely.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
7.	14-03-2019	Islamabad	Case of Kidnapping of Christian woman in Islamabad.	FIR registered in Police Station Khana. Accused arrested by Police. SHO PS Khana removed by IG Islamabad for negligence in the case.
8.	17-03-2019	Abbottabad	Case of rape and murder of three years old girl Faryal village Kayala Abbottabad.	DPO Abbottabad instructed to proactively solve the case and arrest the culprits.
9.	28-03-2019	Islamabad	Rape of a young girl allegedly by her three brothers.	ICT Police arrested the three accused brothers. The case is in Court.
10.	10-05-2019	Islamabad	The case of construction of Family Victory Church in G-6/2, Islamabad. CDA sent Machinery for demolishing construction of the church building.	The Police contacted to play mediatory role between the two communities and resolve the issue between the minority group and CDA. CDA eventually granted some time to the local community to shift the Church place.
11.	15-05-2019	Islamabad	Case of Farishta 10 years old child raped and murdered. Poly Clinic Hospital not administering postmortem.	Poly Clinic Hospital conducted the postmortem of Farishta's body. The Islamabad Police contacted for proactive investigation in the case. The SHO of Shahzad Town later suspended.
12.	16-05-2019	Mandi Bahaudin	Case of Child Abuse in Mandi Bahaudin Tehsil Malakwal.	Police registered FIR. Five people accused were held by Police.
13.	07-06-2019	District Toba Tek Singh	Case of Child Abuse by Qari at District Toba Tek Singh.	The Police arrested accused Qari Mushtaq.
14.	18-06-2019	Islamabad	Child Abuse Case reported by Complaint: Yasir Iqbal (Father of Child)	After intervention two suspects were arrested by the Police of Golra Police Station, Islamabad.
15.	21-06-2019	Islamabad	Death case of Pregnant woman who forced by her husband to drink Acid in Islamabad	The Police registered FIR and accused arrested.
16.	10-07-2019	Jacobabad	Nayab Umrani from Jacobabad. Her family members killed by opponent. Nayab Umrani requested the Minister for shifting the case from Sindh to Islamabad due to security threats.	The Minister forwarded the case to M/o Interior. The M/o Interior wrote a letter to Sindh Home Department for shifting the case to Islamabad.
17.	25-07-2019	Faisalabad	Case of 11 years old Christian child Badal Masih killed by his Boss in Faisalabad.	After intervention, SP Faisalabad furnished report FIR registered. Postmortem of the body was conducted and both accused persons were arrested by the Police.
18.	31-07-2019	Bangla Icha	Mai Hayata R/o Sumiani P.S. Bangla Icha. Her land was forcibly occupied by Meral Piyoo Maar and Police not registering FIR.	After intervention, the DPO directed SHO to register FIR.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
19.	26-09-2019	Islamabad	Haleema 2 nd Semester student at Bahria University Islamabad fell from the 4 th Floor and died.	Minister condemned irresponsibility and negligence of the Bahria University Islamabad through her tweet. She extended her support to the family of victim and contacted the Minister for Education Mr. Shafqat Mahmood to address the issue immediately.
20.	05-10-2019	Swat	Protection of Urusa Nawaz and her family surfaced on social media.	DPO Swat and Urusa Nawaz contacted by Ministry of Human Rights. DPO gives protection to Urusa and her family.
21.	19-10-2019	Jhang	Case of murder of Munsib Abbas. Complaint: Police is not cooperating and registering FIR.	The DPO Jhang contacted. FIR registered and Five accused arrested.
22.	21-10-2019	Lahore	Case of missing 14 yrs of child Saneeha D/o Nazir Masih from Youhanabad, Lahore. Complaint: Police is not registering FIR.	After intervention the Police registered FIR and started investigation of suspects at Nishtarabad Police Station, Lahore.
23.	06-11-2019	Lahore	Case of minor girl Nimra who is victim of abuse by her stepfather and brothers.	Punjab Child Protection Bureau directed to take notice of the case and rescue the child. The PCPB rescued the child and initiated investigation.
24.	10-11-2019	Timergara	Torture of two Minor girls, ages 5 and 7 respectively by a lady doctor in Timergara.	Case Registered.
25.	29-11-2019	Larkana	Two innocent girls were given as Wani and not allowed to meet their parents.	Ministry to lodge FIR against Jirga Members who made this unjust and unfair decision.
26.	1-12-2019	Sindh	Dr Fouzia Thebo brother tried to oppress her weaker brother and sisters and threat them to death	Meeting was arranged with IG Sindh along with DPO for reconciliation.
27.	4-12-2019	Village Samoot, District RWP	Murder of Mohsin Farooq of Village Samoot District Rawalpindi, who was murdered by his friends.	Case was referred to Regional Human Rights office Punjab and has been taken up by Regional office and Police.
28.	8-12-2019	Karachi	A 14-year-old Christian girl abducted from Karachi, converted to Islam and forced to marry her kidnapper.	The matter taken by Ministry and subsequently FIR registered under 365, 368 and 506 PPC.
29.	25-10-2019	Panun Aqil, Sindh	Afsana was raped in a mosque by her religious teacher from whom she was learning Quran.	FIR registered with the help of Ministry of Human Rights after 3 days of occurrence on 28 th October. The accused was arrested on 29 th October.
30.	20-12-2019	Karachi	A minor Girl of 3.5 years was raped/abused by unknown Rickshaw Driver in washrooms, Imambargah in Napier area.	FIR was registered and child for sent for medical examination. The initial Medico Legal confirmed abuse on the child's body and accused was arrested.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
31.	27-12-2019	Islamabad	A minor lost in G-11.	Ministry approached Ramna Police station. Child was found and reunited with her family.
32.	28-12-2019	Mansehra	Incident of multiple rape committed to 10-year-old boy by Madrassa Clerk in Mansehra.	Ministry of Human Rights took notice. FIR was registered and Madrassa got sealed. Accused was also Government employed teacher, and action against him was taken through Regional office of the Ministry.
33.	28-01-2020	Quetta	12-year-old boy Sarwar Khan booked in robbery case in Quetta ZarghoonAbad.	The case was taken up by Ministry to ensure that Juvenile Act is implemented and child not kept in lockup. SP has ordered an inquiry.
34.	04-02-2020	Multan	10-year-Old two girls in Multan got married with two men. (Child Marriage case)	Ministry of Human rights contacted Police. FIR lodged and grooms arrested on the same day. Due to the efforts of Ministry, girl's life was saved.
35.	09-02-2020	Peshawar	In Peshawar, family from Bunair district protested in front of Peshawar Press Club. Claiming that daughters are being abducted and police is not helping.	After the inquiry into matter, it came to the knowledge that was a false allegation and father was an accomplice in the murder of his own daughter.
36.	15-02-2020	Shikarpur	15-year-old boy in Shikarpur went missing from Madrassa.	As per direction of Ministry of Human rights at Karachi, SSP shikarpur DR Rizwan. SSP has formed a task force to investigate the case. DSP Atta Muhammad informed that the missing boy namely sheeraz was forced to attend madarsa and had escaped from there twice. Apparently, he left due to molestation by one of his teachers at madrassa. He has been found and returned to his parents.
37.	26-02-2020	Sheikhupura	In a robbery attempt a person died. Complaint received about non-registration of FIR.	Ministry took up the case and asked DPO to lodge FIR.
38.	29-02-2020	Kasur	Christian labor men aged 22 years beaten to death for polluting the water of tube-well in Kasur by local men.	After Ministry of Human rights intervention, section 302 of PPC has been added to FIR.
39.	01-03-2020	DI Khan	Gomal university DI Khan, Professor Salahudeen harassed female students.	Report from Regional Office of Human Rights has been asked by Ministry and according to the Report, VC of university has suspended the professor ordered an inquiry. Case to sexual harassment committee of the university under the Sexual Harassment Act
40.	02-03-2020	Shaikhupura	Person from Shaikhupura claimed that police is not taking any action regarding death of his father.	Ministry of Human Rights assured cutting of FIR and talked with DPO for speeding up the investigation.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
41.	10-03-2020	Mastung, Baluchistan	In Cadet college Mastung Baluchistan, a teacher's video gets viral showing him beating students.	Regional office furnished a report and took up case with relevant department showing teacher got suspended and further inquiry in process.
42.	11-03-2020	Muzaffargarh	Honor Killing of a girl and her son in Muzaffargarh.	FIR registered, both accused arrested and confessed to the crime.
43.	05-04-2020	Faisalabad	15-year-old Christian Transgender boy gang raped and murdered by local thugs in Faisalabad.	According to police the Trans died of natural circumstances in his own home. However, they conducted postmortem. Inquiry is in process.
44.	16-04-2020	Lahore	A case reported by a wife, in which she alleged her husband for threatening to kill her.	Minister office immediately called the aggrieved party and support protection extended to woman.
45.	20-04-2020	Vehari	A girl named Mahaman was beaten badly for stopping of rape attempt.	Minister office contacted relevant authority and registered FIR and ordered medical examination of accused.
46.	27-04-2020	Peshawar	A seven-year-old girl was shot and killed to death by her own uncle for making noise in their home in Peshawar	FIR registered, Police searching for accused who has absconded.
47.	29-04-2020	Tahree Mirwah, Khairpur Sindh	A Hindu family claimed that their daughter shutti was kidnapped and forcibly converted Islam to be married to 40 year old Muslim.	Police informed that girl is 20 year of age and stated this in front of court.
48.	03-05-2020	Bahawalpur	A person was slapped and threaten in hospital.	Deputy commissioner has suspended the person who slapped the victim.
49.	04-05-2020	Shah Jamal, Muzaffargarh	Girl was raped in her house	Ministry of Human Rights ensured into registration of FIR. Police are investigating.
50.	10-05-2020	Sandh, Lahore	Handicapped minor Christian girl abducted for sex slavery in Sandh, Lahore Pakistan. The family was provided with naked pictures of girl.	FIR was registered and case under investigation.
51.	12-05-2020	Rawalpindi	Medical examination of a gang raped girl aged 13 years was not done by police on time.	Two accused have been arrested on 28 th of April, DNA was also sent to PFSA and girl has recorded her statement under 164 that no rape happened with her and she does not want to follow the case.
52.	14-05-2020	Lahore	A 15-year old girl was blackmailed & raped for 18 months by her neighbor continuously.	FIR has been registered and under investigation.
53.	21-05-2020	Mianwali	A woman approached Ministry and daughter told that father is abusive and inappropriately touches his daughters.	Along with help of Regional office of Lahore and Mianwali Police, family was taken to safe location. Ministry offered stay in shelter home, but they opted to move out own their own.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
54.	25-05-2020	Johrabad, Khuskhab	Complaint against local SHO police station Saddar that he commits violence against citizens and accuses them falsely.	Ministry contacted DPO Khushkhab who ordered an inquiry into the matter. However, initially police have rejected there allegations.
55.	28-05-2020	Duniapur	A person tortured 12years old child.	Police registered FIR and arrested the accused person.
56.	02-06-2020	Rawalpindi	Child domestic violence against Zuhra shah committed by a family in Bahria town phase 8 Rawalpindi leads to her death.	Ministry took close notice of case. FIR has been lodged and accused arrested. Bail denied.
57.	02-06-2020	Karachi	Two girls burned in Karachi.	Regional office of Ministry visited them. MS Burnt center of Civil Hospital was contacted and checkup arranged. Provided funds to families of both girls in this case.
58.	03-06-2020	Rawalpindi	Audio of a domestic child violence was received by Ministry.	Ministry of Human rights went to house and recovered the kid. MoHR contacted the girl's family and shifted her to Shelter home. FIR was lodged and the owner of house arrested.
59.	06-06-2020	Lahore	In a family park, a person set free his dog who bit a child of 12-year-old.	Ministry contacted Police and they registered FIR.
60.	07-06-2020	Nowshera	19-year-old girl Hadiqa was tortured by SHO Thanna Galuzai She was accused of robbery worth 5 lac jewelery.	Constable was put into quarter guard. IG KP ordered an inquiry and SHO has been suspended.
61.	08-06-2020	Peshawar	Nadeem from a Christian community bought a house in a locality and people were against him due to his religion.	FIR registered. One of the accused was arrested. Since the family was receiving threats from that community, ministry arranged police guards for safety of family.
62.	14-06-2020	Muslim Bagh, Baluchistan	A woman tortured to death	Regional office stopped the burial and ordered postmortem. Case was registered by police. Police constituted two teams for arrest of accused. Both accused were employees of health department and are under arrest.
63.	14-06-2020	Karachi	A 13-year-old girl was raped and beaten by her uncle	Lodged FIR and police arrested two accused; father and uncle.
64.	15-06-2020	Thamp Dhazan, Baluchistan	Murder of a women during robbery in her house.	DPO Turbat, informed that FIR has been registered, and 4 suspects are arrested.
65.	17-06-2020	Lahore	A lawyer beaten to death by two persons in court cell.	A case was registered against the lawyer with the help of Ministry of Human Rights
66.	26-06-2020	Islamabad	A 16-year-old girl was a maid accused of robbery in Golra police station area.	Ministry of Human Rights quoted Juvenile Justice law that police cannot keep girl in jail since she is a minor. Girl was shifted to Women Police station and produced before court.



SR. NO	DATE & DAY	LOCATION	COMPLAINT/CASE	ACTION TAKEN
67.	30-06-2020	Okara	SHO of Hujra Shah Muqem forcefully confined the girl and allegedly tortured her.	Ministry helped to lodge a FIR against SHO. SHO was suspended and the matter is in court.
68.	06-07-2020	Raheem Yar Khan	A Christian man claimed that he has been beaten and forced to leave village on basis of his religion	After contacting with the concerned authorities in the village, Ministry came to know through help of police that Christian man was building a wall on government land for his own benefit and matter had nothing to do with religion.
69.	08-07-2020	Rawalpindi	Sadaf Naqvi found dead on her house. Her family claimed that she was tortured to death by her husband and it was not a suicide.	Ministry of Human Rights helped lodge a FIR and the suspect was arrested, Postmortem and forensic of body has been sent for investigation.
70.	08-07-2020	Rawalpindi	A mentally handicapped female was found by someone in satellite town RWP. She was also a victim of domestic violence.	Ministry of Human Rights talked to DC RWP to pick the woman from the location and to send her to a mental health facility. They took her to mental health institute in RWP for long-term care.
71.	10-07-2020	Khairpur	A man claimed that my Uncle who is state officer Shakkhar is missing.	SSP Khairpur, informed that they are working on case and the initial complaint has been registered.
72.	11-07-2020	Islamabad	A case on social media regarding murder of transgender in E-11	FIR registered. Police has held suspect including transgender who was living with deceased. Case under Process.
73.	18-07-2020	Khairpur	The heinous crime took place where a retired schoolteacher raped an 8-year-old boy.	Ministry of Human Rights get in contact with Police who lodged FIR. With the intervention of Ministry, some more relevant sections of PPC 375 and 328 A were added to the case.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

REPORT

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