PRESS RELEASE

Dated: 10th April 2005

Law Reform Bill 2005, A Welcome Initiative

Islamabad: The government decision to suggest reforms in existing Civil and Criminal Law is a welcome initiative, as it will facilitate a quick and speedy provision of justice for the people. This was stated in a press release by PCHR Secretariat. Commenting upon the recent Law Reform Bill, Chairman PCHR, Riaz Fatyana MNA, maintained that this laudable move taken by the government for reforming law would contribute towards redressing of almost all outstanding legal issues and grievances in dispensation of justice. He added that proposed amendments in Civil & Criminal Procedure Code would simplify the complicated legal proceedings reducing an element of delay in adjudication of cases as well as provide check against facetious litigation. Mr. Chairman added that the prominent feature of proposed Law Reform Bill 2005 is that it sets punishment for unfair investigation of case by police, and that the proposed law reforms would curb the malignant practice of dishonest investigation causing injustice and delay in redressing grievances of the common people.

Executive Director PCHR Kashmala Tariq MNA, while appreciating the law reforming initiatives of the government said that proposed amendments provide protection of women rights as women could be now released on bail.. Kashmala Tariq termed it a step further to curtail unlimited powers of police as the proposed amendments consider illegal confinement of a person by police as an offence and punishable with seven years imprisonment. She added that all the parties in the Parliament should join hands to support the passage of this Bill, because the bill fine-tunes the laws relating to death penalty, women rights, powers of attorney, procedure for summons of all types of courts, enhancing punishment for fraud and forgery of documents, and reducing the number of cases at all level of judiciary.

Chief Coordinator PCHR Shafique Chaudhry lauding the initiative of the government called the Law Reform Bill to be a good sign and the step taken in right direction and at right time especially when the country is in need of reforming laws for expeditious adjudication of cases so as to provide justice to the people without any delay.

Following numbers will be reachable round the clock for any information or help: 0300-8555570

Media Cell PCHR