

PRESS RELEASE

April 20, 2005

PCHR URGES PROMPT ACTION FROM GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE GIRL

ISLAMABAD: Hostaged young girl from Double Road Rawalpindi taken away by perpetrator some days before has not been recovered so far due to police apathy and their reluctance to take action against offenders and the mother of girl has warned of self immolation before Parliament if the action was not taken against the criminals. Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights (PCHR) while taking serious notice of the matter has urged the government to take necessary measures for the release of girl and action against the responsible promptly.

Chairman PCHR Mr. Riaz Fatyana Member National Assembly said in a press release here on today that it was a serious human rights violation case and the government should take immediate action to resolve the issue. "It is ironical that we are all commemorating Pakistan Women's Day but the situation is deteriorating day by day in terms of women rights as the illegal detention of a young girl shows the lack of interest on the part of present government to redress the grievances of people and especially that of women. Police has registered case against five alleged persons but they have arrested only one of them and kept him like a guest rather to launch necessary action against him and the other criminals, he added.

Executive Director PCHR Kashmala Tariq Member National Assembly expressed her concern on the issue and assured Sultana Bibi Mother of victim of raising the issue by PCHR at all forums and would do it best to provide all sort of legal assistance to the victim and her family and demanded the government to bring about radical changes in the existing laws so as to eliminate lacunas and work for the observance of the human

rights guaranteed in the Constitution of Pakistan and International Covenants to which Pakistan was signatory. She further added that all the governmental and non governmental organization should start a massive campaign for the observance of human rights through out the country.

Director Saad Rafiq told that it was a moment of sorrow that the government and its law enforcing agencies failed to recover kidnapped girl detained for so many days and they were setting like silent spectators to see the whole matter without doing something.

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

Media Cell PCHR