

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Experts show concern over lack of bonded labour laws implementation**

The status of implementation of bonded labour laws is very poor in Pakistan and the government is not giving any heed to implement the existing laws. Moreover, BLSA 2002 has become nonfunctional after the devolution of power plan as the whole law was moving around the office of the “District Magistrate” which has been abolished and no amendment has been made so far to shift the responsibilities of former District Magistrate to Sessions Judge or DCO.

This was the gist of a seminar on “Bonded Labour in Pakistan” organized by the Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights (PCHR) here. A number of experts also expressed their concern that half-hearted efforts of handling the bonded labour issue could affect the Pakistan's image at the international level.

Chairman PCHR, MNA Riaz Fatyana, expressed his concern over the status of implementation of bonded labour laws in Pakistan and maintained that the government must come out of slumber before it is too late to address the international commitments regarding labour rights.

Gul Farkhanda MNA, Dr. Rozina Tufail MNA and Parliamentary Secretary of Statistics Division, Mualana Rahmat Ullah MNA, Michael Semple, Ellen Golz First Secretary Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Farhan Sabih, (Chief, Governance Unit) UNDP, Brigadier Sarfraz, Managing Director Pakistan Baitul Maal, M. Awais But, M.Asif Javed, Shah Khawar Advocate, Dr. Alia Imam, Amber Saleem (Researchers), Saba Khan from HRCP, Yasir Saleem, M. Zubair Abbasi and Nazoola Ali were prominent among the participants.

Earlier, Chief Coordinator PCHR Ch. Shafique briefed the participants about the working of PCHR and objectives of the seminar.

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

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