



Government of Pakistan National Commission on the Status of Women

Press Release!

Dated: 12-12-2011

Subject: NCSW Welcomes the Passage of two Women's Rights Bill

The National Commission on the Status of Women welcomes the passage of two important women's rights bills - Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Bill and Acid Control and Acid Crimes Prevention Bill, recently passed by the upper house of parliament. This is another historical and unprecedented move by the present government. It shows the government's commitment towards women's empowerment and to promote gender equality in the country.

The women's commission has been consistently following up and lobbying with women legislators as well as male legislators with positive and progressive approach towards women's rights to table pending legislation regarding women. The Commission applauds both the houses of the parliament and those individuals who took up the matter with utmost devotion and sincerity; for the mile stone achieved. There has been a continuous struggle by the women's movement for years to bring to the forefront the heinous crimes committed in the name of 'customary practice and were demanding and lobbying for such type of legislation. On this occasion, the Commission salutes them for their efforts and congratulates all the supporters in the movement for human rights, social justice for achieving this important hall mark in the history. This will go a long way in ending customary practices against women in Pakistan.

The Commission believes that introducing legislation to combat violence against women is as important as implementation of the law itself. To curtail and root out violence against women, we hope that the Government and all other stakeholders will bring in necessary mechanisms and resources to implement the law in true spirit. Only successful, smooth and timely implementation can make the law more effective and beneficial to the victims of violence.