



Centre for Social Justice

Human Rights Observer

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Participating in Human Rights Protection

Dear readers,

Thank you for your encouraging response for this news service and showing your interest in receiving this. Please continue to send your feedback on developments and insights for this initiative to support the Human Rights Institutions in Pakistan.

After Pakistan submitted several outstanding State party's compliance reports to treaty monitoring bodies. Pakistan's review by the Child Rights Committee finished on June 3, 2016 on. Please click the link to follow; [CRC report](#) and a [comment](#) by Peter Jacob, if you missed seeing it before. Nevertheless, the fresh recommendations will be coming through in a couple of months.



Please also click on the hyperlinks to see Pakistan's state party's 21st to 23rd periodic reports due in 2014 ([CERD/CPAK/CO/21-23](#)) regarding compliance on the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the [concluding observations](#) given by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2009. The review of this compliance report is due in August 2016. *HRO Editorial Team*

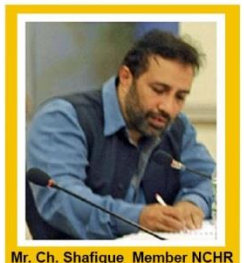
Developments in Brief

1. National Commission for Human Rights – NCHR Fact finding visit.

a) Member of NCHR Ms. Kishwar Shaheen Awan, Shafiqe Chaudhry and Isaac Masih carried out a fact finding visit to [Okara Military Farm](#), after the alleged accesses by police and administration against the office bearers of Anjuman Muzaraeen Punjab on May 18, 2016. The members of the Commission met all the [parties concerned](#) including the administration, police, military officers, farmers and their families. The Commission is due to make their report and observations public soon. Earlier Zohra Yousaf, the Chairperson of HRCP had drawn the attention of the government on the [human rights abuses](#) in Okara.

b) Another fact finding visit was carried out in [Mandi Bahauddin](#) on May 26, 2016 where the situation concerning some misunderstanding about a video message was source of tension and rumors for about a month.

The Commission member Shafique Chaudhry and Isaac Masih met with local administration, police and the local communities of Chak 44 Bosal. The Commission was informed that the situation was under control.



Mr. Ch. Shafique Member NCHR

c) NCHR has made progress in setting up the separate offices of the Commission. The national office has been set up in the 5th floor of the Evacuee Trust Complex, near the Marriot Hotel in Islamabad. The work regarding the provincial offices in Balochistan, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and FATA is on and most of them are expected to be functional in 2016 summer.

d) The member of NCHR, Mr. Ch. Shafique spoke at the consultation meeting on May 12, 2016, organized by the Centre for Social Justice and shared following updates and insights:

- Service rules and job description for Commission's employees are approved.
- NCHR's website will also be launched in June 2016.
- More sensitization is required regarding the role and mandate of the NCHR, especially in the government institutions.
- Civil society organizations should keep on interacting with the NCHR, not only for complaint submission, but must extend this area of engagement to policy advice, research, awareness and advocacy campaigns.

2. Punjab Commission on the Status of Women – PCSW

- PCSW has published the Gender Parity Report on Punjab, based on the data received from different government departments. It will not be on their web link for some technical issues (http://pcsw.punjab.gov.pk/research_publications)

However you can either ask for a hard copy from PCSW or send us an email pj@csjpak.org to have an electronic copy.

- The Commission launched its web-based Gender Management Information System (GMIS). The GMIS aims to provide data on approximately 300 indicators covering all key areas of women's lives that have implications on the formulation of provincial policy and strategic action for women's empowerment. Kindly follow the link below to access the system. Link: <http://irispunjab.gov.pk/GMIS.aspx>



3. Punjab Information Commission – PIC

- On CSJ's request, the PIC shared following year wise details of complaints lodged at the Commission and addressed:

Year	Complaints		
	Lodged	Addressed	Under Process
May14 - June15	1200	900	300
2015	692	289	403
2016	586	66	520
Total	2478	1255	1223

- From March 1 to May 17 2016 PIC has received total 375 complaints out of which 40 are resolved and rest are under process.

- The School Education Department of the Government of the Punjab has published information regarding the department under the Right to Information Disclosure. The information includes department's rules, functions, budget, and details of major projects, name, designation and contact details of the department's officials / employees. http://schools.punjab.gov.pk/proactive_information

Human Rights Institutions in News

- Mr. Azam Khan wrote about the NCHR's constraints in his article, published in Tribune on February 22, 2016. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1051795/limiting-powers-rights-watchdog-barters-autonomy-for-funds/%20http://www.pakistangenews.org/commission-on-womens-status/>

- Mr. M. Shahzad, in his write-up talks about PCSW's challenges regarding providing remedies of the complaints received, published in Tribune on April 4, 2016.

http://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11200705040342&EN_ID=11200705040105&EMID=11200705040054#.VynSMQ9gtvM.facebook

- Ms. Annam Lodhi also wrote about the challenges and constraints faced by the PIC, published in Pakistan Today on February 24, 2016. <http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2016/02/24/national/fighting-the-war-on-secrecy-on-a-shoestring-budget/>