

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

## PRESS RELEASE

**Islamabad the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2021:** National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights met under Acting Chairperson **Shazia Marri, MNA** in Parliament House, Islamabad.

2. The Committee adopted the Report of the Sub-Committee and recommended that the following Bills be passed from the National Assembly:-

- a) “The Protection against Harassment of Women at the work place (Amendment) Bill, 2019” moved by Mr. Amjad Ali Khan, MNA (Private Member’s Bill)
- b) “The Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Bill, 2019” moved by Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, MNA/Minister for Human Rights (Government Bill)
- c) “The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Protection (Amendment) Bill 2020,” moved by Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak, MNA (Private Member’s Bill)
- d) “The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2020” moved by Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, MNA/Minister for Human Rights (Government Bill).

and that, the following Bills may not be passed by the National Assembly:-

- a) “The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2019” moved by Ms. Uzma Riaz, MNA (Private Member’s Bill)
- b) “The Juvenile Justice System, (Amendment) Bill, 2019” moved by Ms. Uzma Riaz, MNA (Private Member’s Bill).

3. The Committee was told about the injustice carried to the Transgender community regarding violent attacks and misbehavior by the police and other departments all over the country. The Minister Dr. Shireen M. Mazari remarked that constitution of Pakistan guarantees the protection of fundamental rights and provides that there shall be no discrimination of any person on the basis of sex, gender identity or gender expression. The Parliament has also passed Transgender Persons [Protection of Rights] Act, 2018 to ensure protection of transgender persons rights in Pakistan. A special ward in PIMS hospital, Islamabad has been established to address the health problems of Transgender community and letter to provinces also been written in this regard. The Committee was told by the Secretary that SOPs for the Police departments have been issued for addressal of grievances by the Transgender community. A Sub-Committee was formed under the Convenership of MNA Ms. Shaista Pervaiz to investigate, probe and to look into the solutions of the problems of the Transgender community.

4. The Committee was perturbed to listen to the story of Ms. Haseeba Qambarani whose father and brother have been found missing. The Committee sympathized with her and opined that legislation in this regard should be done. The Minister Dr. Shireen M. Mazari said that the Government is aware of the enforced disappearances and that it is in the Charter of the PTI Government to address this sensitive issue. The Prime Minister will soon be meeting the relatives of the missing persons. The Committee was told by the senior officer of Government