

## D.O No. NCHR/31-MGD/PUNJAB/ GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS 23-D/1, FCC, SYED MURATIB ALI ROAD, GULBERG-IV LAHORE PH #: 042-99332116-8



MEMBER (PUNJAB)

Dated: 02/03/2023

Subject:

ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSION ON CHILD RIGHTS IN PUNJAB.

## Respected Chief Minister Sahib,

اسلام عليكم

The National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) is a statutory autonomous body set up under the NCHR Act XVI of 2012. The NCHR Act, 2012 stipulates a broad and overachieving mandate for the promotion and protection of human rights, as provided for in Pakistan's Constitution, domestic laws and international treaties. Amidst others, the primary function of the NCHR besides investigating allegations of human rights violations is also to advise the Federal and Provincial Government on legislative, policy and administrative measures pertaining to human rights.

- 2. The rights of the children in the province of Punjab with a population of over 120 million require special focus, especially when;
  - a) Over 6.50 million children are in child labour in the Province (UNICEF & Punjab Labour Department Survey Report 2019-20).
  - b) Over 10.00 million children are out of school; and
  - c) Consequent increase in violence and abuse against children in the Province.
- 3. The above situation warrants a very effective, holistic and forceful intervention at the highest level. Presently, various administrative departments/organizations of the provincial government are working for child protection/rights but seem to be working in silos and lack effective coordination which was required to tackle this challenging situation.

- 4. It is accordingly recommended that a high level Commission for the Child Rights under the Chairmanship of the Honorable Chief Minister and comprising of relevant Ministers, Chief Secretary, Inspector General Police and relevant Secretaries may please be constituted for ensuring basic rights to millions of children across Punjab.
- 5. Such a step would definitely indicate the resolve of the Punjab Government to fulfill its commitments under the National laws as well as under the International Covenants on the rights of child ratified by the Government of Pakistan.

Yours Sincerely,

(Nadeem Ashraf)

Mr. Mohsin Raza Naqvi, Honorable Chief Minister Punjab.