



Interactive session on “Human Rights and Policing-the experience of Public safety Commissions”

The society which is devoid of peace, is devoid of everything; therefore District Public Safety Commissions have vital responsibility on their shoulders of maintaining law and order situation, and Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights (PCHR) is eager to take up any set of recommendation, pertaining to problems being faced by District Public Safety Commissions (DPSC), to Parliament so as to facilitate the vibrant and effective functioning of Public Safety Commissions, said Senator Dr. Shehzad Waseem. As police order 2002 is a recently introduced system so it will take time to get implemented in its complete form and we need to work hard to make it a success story, said Senator Mir Muhammad Naseer Mengal. They were speaking while Co-chairing a session on ‘Human Rights and Policing- the experience of Public Safety Commissions’ organized by PCHR at its secretariat here in Islamabad. The session was attended by Mr. Shah Khawar Advocate, Secretary General, High Court Bar Association, Rawalpindi, Mr. Liaquat Banori Chairman SHARP, Mr. Shafique Chaudhary, Chief Coordinator PCHR, Hafiz Ahsaan Ahmad Khokhar, Chairman DPSC, Sheikhpura, Mr. Ghafar Kakar, Chairman DPSC Quetta, Dr. Abid Sultan, Member DPSC Bhakkar, Mr. Manzoor-ul-Hussan, Chairman DPSC Hafizabad, Dr. Muhammad Aslam, Chairman Rawalpindi and Mr. Alamdar Hussain Shah, Chairman DPSC Sahiwal.

In the beginning, Chaudhary Shafique, Chief Coordinator PCHR, introduced the participants to the aims and objectives of PCHR. Senator Dr. Shehzad Waseem said that the maintenance of law and order situation was the priority of Government and it had been concentrating on it. It was also the responsibility of Police to concede to its new role in Police order 2002. He said that he had become cognizant of the problems being faced by DPSC’s and he aimed to solve them not only through Parliament but also on personal basis as much as possible. Then, Senator Mir Muhammad Naseer Mengal pledged to facilitate the DPSC’s suggestions at all levels of policy and decision making. Hafiz Ahsaan Ahmad, Chairman DPSC Sheikhpura said that in Punjab, except four Districts, DPSC’s had been formed but not functioning smoothly and properly owing to the lack of Government’s will to run them. He said that they were not provided the required infrastructure and Human Resource. Moreover, despite their continuous insistence, the Chief Minister had not met them so far. Mr. Ghafar Kakar, Chairman DPSC Quetta was of the view that the Quetta was the only District where DPSC had been formed properly and Police had assured them of their cooperation. He said that Quetta was the only District where Policing plan had been

delivered to them. However, they had been encountering the infrastructural and financial constraints. Dr. Muhammad Alam, Chairman DPSC Rawalpindi said that he had somewhat different experience, for the District Police of Rawalpindi had ensured their full cooperation and assistance in this regard. Nevertheless, all the representatives of DPSC's were mutually agreed over the fact that disbursement of funds had not taken place and almost all of them had been running this system from their own pockets. Mr. Shah Khawar, Secretary General, High Court Bar Association, Rawalpindi said that the police order had not gone beyond district level so far. National safety commission should call upon the meeting of DPSC's as it would activate the whole system from District up to province and federal levels. The session was ended with a vow by Senator Dr. Shehzad Waseem to address the concerns of DPSC's representatives by putting forward their recommendations at all the concerned levels.

