

Thursday March 8, 2012

March highlights women's achievements



ISLAMABAD: Prominent activists, member of different organisations and students participated in the 'Women March' on Wednesday from the National Press Club to the Super Market to celebrate the International Women's Day.

The march was organised by the Islamabad Crescent Lions Club (ICLC), LOK Parya, Faces Pakistan and ACTION Network in collaboration with the Federal Directorate of Education.

Prominent women rights activists and ACTION leadership, including Jamil Asgher Bhatti, Nasira Jamil, Khawja Zia, Tahira Abduallah, Sibtain Raza Lodhi and Waseem Wahiga, led the march.

ICLC President Nasira Jamil and ACTION Chairman Jamil Asgher Bhatti addressed the gathering at the end of the march.

They said that if every International Women's Day event held in 2012 included girls in some way, thousands of minds could be inspired globally. The major goal of the march was to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women and to create awareness among youth of Pakistan.

It was attended by a large number of students, civil socie-

ty members, parliamentarians and rights activists.

It was part of the '10 days of Activism for Women Right', organised by ACTION from March 1, which included candlelight demonstrations, debates among girls from universities, girls' health seminar, a day with orphan girls, eye & MECH camp, women mushaira, essay-writing competition, painting competition, seminar on psychosocial rehabilitation and economic empowerment of women with disabilities and inter-faith perspective of women rights.

ACTION - Advocacy for Change Through Innovative Options and Networking is the coalition of the Islamabad Crescent Lions Club, Aurat Foundation, LOK PARYA, FACES Pakistan, International institute for Disaster Risk Management - IDREAM, Omeed Development Organisation, DEEP Development Organisation, Islamabad Leo Club, and Anjuman Saqafat-e-Pakistan.

The collaborators will be Federal Directorate of Education, Federal Directorate of Special Education, Muqtadra Qaumi Zaban and the National Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine. **STAFF REPORT/APP**