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Women protection collective responsibility of society: Rubaba

Staff Report

QUETTA: Provincial Parliamentary Secretary for Health Dr. Rubaba Buledi has said that the provincial government has protected women, prevented harassment, passed and implemented laws related to women, set up special women's desks in provincial departments and police stations, and five public places in Quetta.

The government is implementing a comprehensive policy to set up special places for prayers and breastfeeding. She expressed these views at a ceremony to report on harassment of women in public places in collaboration with UN Women and the Women's Foundation.

Provincial Ombudsman for

Harassment Cell for Women Sabira Islam, Resident Director Women Foundation Alauddin Khilji, Provincial Coordinator UN Women Ayesha Wadud, Gender Specialist Dr Rashida, Member Ideological Council Qari Abdul Rashid and other departments were present. Officers and representatives of NGOs were also present on the occasion.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Health said that all members of the society have a collective responsibility to protect women and abide by the law, as well as women in education, health and other fields. She said that the establishment of women police station is a positive step towards the protection of women. She said that the provin-

cial government should work for the protection of women. The Department of Health has set up a special desk for prevention of harassment where female employees can register their problems and grievances without any fear or hassle. She said that breast feeding corners have also been set up in treasury care hospitals. She said that the provincial government was taking steps to provide facilities to women, children and deprived sections of the society.

Rubaba said that women who constitute half of the population keeping in mind the need to take coordinated strategies to address issues such as harassment. In this regard, a grievance cell has been set up to address harassment of

women and other issues. Addressing the ceremony, Sabira Islam said that in Islam and the traditions of our province, the dignity of women is considered the most precious. Because our society is religious, traditional and tribal, public places are unsafe for women. Tragedy is a concern for our society. He said that a cell is active in the office of the provincial ombudsman for harassment of women in the workplace and other issues while a harassment cell has been set up in all provincial departments and districts where women can lodge complaints.

She said that the police and the administration have an important role to play in the protection of women. Be-



sides, people belonging to all schools of thought in the society also have their own religious views for the protection of women.

The event was addressed by the Resident Director, Women's Foundation, Alauddin Khilji, Provincial Coordinator, UN Women,

Ayesha Wadud, Dr. Rashida, Qari Abdul Rashid and others. Health Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi in collaboration with UN Women and Women's Foundation also unveiled the report of statistics on harassment of women in public places in five cities of the country.

Dr. Rubaba said that all the members of the provincial assembly, regardless of the government and opposition benches in the fields of education and health in Balochistan agreed that quality education and health facilities should be provided to every person in the province.