

The Sindh Women Workers Agriculture Act, 2019

The Sindh Women Workers Agriculture Act, 2019 aims to acknowledge women's roles in agriculture, promote their rights, ensure their decision-making participation, and enhance their well-being and that of their children. The law mandates that female agricultural workers are protected from all forms of harassment and abuse. Furthermore, they should not face discrimination based on sex, land ownership, caste, religion, ethnicity, or residential status concerning employment opportunities, wages, or working conditions.

This brochure is developed and designed @ <https://maher.consulting>
It was a part of first ever Gender Parity Report for Sindh developed by MAHER Consulting. The activity was supported by Oxfam in Pakistan through their program Women Leadership in Public Life. You can read the gender parity report by clicking the link.

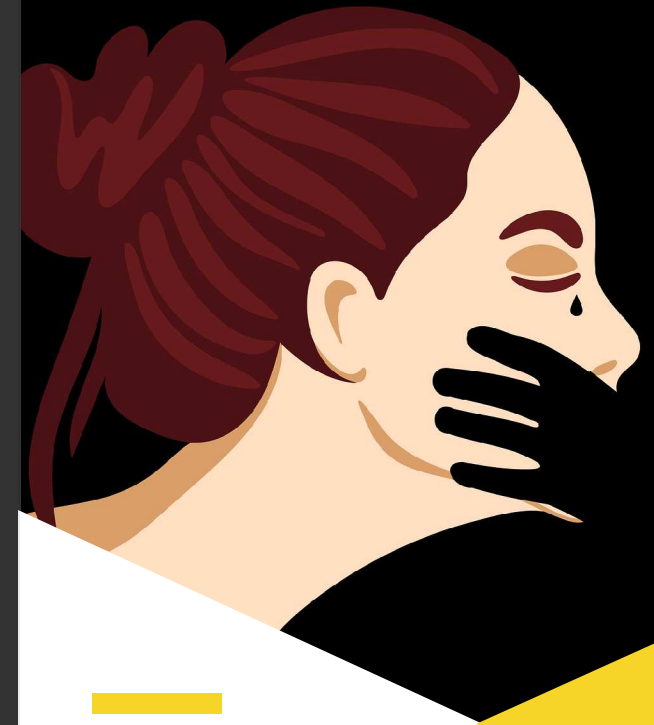
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Women Leadership in Public Life

The project seeks to enhance the quality of life for women in Sindh, ensuring they have equal rights and amplified roles in public leadership. It strives to foster a supportive environment where women can exercise their rights, obtain essential protection, access legal assistance, and utilize referral services to address any infringements on their rights. Furthermore, the project advocates for a Rights Based Approach, strengthening the capabilities of duty bearers such as the Women Development Department and the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women. Simultaneously, it collaborates with Community-Based Organizations that represent women and amplify their voices to protect their rights.

A community guide for protection of women rights in Sindh



Violence Against Women

Legislation in Sindh

The Sindh Commission on the Status of Women Act, 2015

The Commission is empowered to review governmental policies, programs, and laws related to gender equality and women's empowerment. It can recommend amendments, encourage research on women-related issues, liaise with NGOs and similar bodies, monitor international instruments affecting women, and oversee the redressal of women's rights violations. Furthermore, the Commission manages its own strategic planning, budgeting, and remuneration for advisors.

The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2010

The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2010 safeguards women from workplace harassment. Harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual behaviors or communications that disrupt work or create a hostile environment. Organizations must form an Inquiry Committee, including at least one woman, to investigate complaints. If an accused is found guilty, penalties range from minor (like censure or withholding promotion) to major (such as dismissal or fine), with possible compensation for the complainant.

The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013

The objective of the law is to restrain the solemnization of child marriages. According to Section 3 of the law, a male above eighteen years of age who contracts a child marriage (a girl under 18 years) shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment, which may extend to three years but shall not be less than two years and shall be liable to fine. The law fixes similar punishment for anyone who performs conducts, directs, brings about, or in any way facilitates any child marriage.

The Sindh Criminal Law (Protection of the Minorities) Act, 2015

According to the law, no minor can change their religion until they reach the age of maturity. Any claims made by a minor regarding religious conversion are considered void unless the family decides to change their religion collectively. The act imposes severe penalties for forceful conversions: a minimum of five years to life imprisonment and a fine payable to the victim. Those facilitating marriages under forced conversion face at least three years imprisonment and a victim-compensatory fine.

The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2013

The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2013 aims to prevent and safeguard women, children, and vulnerable individuals from domestic violence. Domestic violence includes gender-based physical and psychological abuse by someone in a domestic relationship with the victim. The act penalizes various offenses: emotional, psychological, and verbal abuse lead to at least six months imprisonment or a minimum 10,000 rupees fine; stalking incurs a one-year sentence or 20,000 rupees fine; sexual abuse warrants at least two years imprisonment or a 50,000 rupees fine; unauthorized entry into a victim's residence is penalized with a minimum one-month imprisonment. Other related offenses align with the 1898 Code of Criminal Procedure.

The Sindh Criminal Law (Protection of the Minorities) Act, 2015

The law aims to safeguard the financial and social rights of home-based workers in the informal sector. Registered home-based workers are entitled to the same benefits, compensations, and grants as those covered under various Sindh Labour Laws, including medical, maternity, and death provisions.