

## PA Youth Caucus to focus on peace, development

LAHORE: Punjab Assembly Youth Caucus plenary meeting on Tuesday announced to focus youth issues and legislation, as the meeting also discussed recent Child Marriage Act.

The caucus, comprising of young members of Punjab Assembly from all political parties, would be focusing on youth issues, policy-making and legislation at Punjab level, in collaboration with Bargad Youth Development and UNFPA. Punjab Minister for Youth Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan, who is patron in chief of the caucus, administered oath from the elected office bearers of PA youth caucus. The office bearers of first youth caucus of the Provincial Assembly include

Sardar Vickas Hassan Mokal (Chairman Youth Caucus), Mary Gill (Vice Chairperson), Mian Irfan Daultana (general secretary) and Nabeela Hakim Ali Khan (treasurer).

Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan, Punjab minister for youth, is patron-in-chief of youth caucus and Sarfaraz Afzal, Punjab parliamentary secretary for youth affairs, is patron of the caucus. The oath of the caucus says that members would be fulfilling responsibility democratically and will be doing sincere efforts for youth development above political affiliations and as a member of the assembly would not create a hurdle for any good cause for youth welfare and development. In the plenary and agenda setting meeting on Monday the caucus discussed Child Marriage Restraint Act of Punjab Assembly and if there were any flaws on the existing law.

Rana Mashood, addressing the meeting, said that it was first such caucus in Pakistan on youth issues. He said that it was an opportunity for young assembly members to take up youth issues and focus on politics directing youth. He said the caucus, together, we can work for peace giving new directions to youth. Mokal, chairman of the caucus, said that they would focus their agenda on youth developments and legislations required for youth. He said that the members of youth caucus should highlight youth issues of their constituencies on the floor of the house.

 Staff Report

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