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PUNJAB ASSEMBLY YOUTH CAUCUS TO FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT: RANA MASHOOD

Muzaffar Ali

Wednesday, April 01, 2015 - Lahore—Punjab Assembly youth caucus plenary meeting, on Tuesday, announced to focus youth issues and legislations. 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, policymaking 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 of Punjab include Sardar Vickas Hassan Mokal (Chairman PA youth caucus), Mary Gill (Vice Chairperosn), Mian Irfan Daultana (general secretary) and Nabeela Hakim Ali Khan (treasurer). Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan, Punjab minister for youth, is pattern-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 n 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, <u>addressing</u> the meeting, said that it was first such caucus in Pakistan on youth issues. He said that it was an opportunity for young assmebly members to take up youth issues and focus on politics <u>directing</u> youth. He said the caucus, togather, we can work for peace giving new directions to youth.