

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

Islamabad, 15th May, 2015: The Standing Committee on Law, Justice & Human Rights met today in the Parliament House, Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk, MNA to consider the following agenda:-

- i) To consider the Hindu Marriage Bill, 2015 (Government Bill).
- ii) To consider the Hindu Marriage Bill, 2014 (moved by Mr. Ramesh Lal, MNA).
- iii) To consider the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (moved by Ms. Asiya Nasir, MNA) [Amendment of Article 51 of the Constitution].
- iv) Any other item with permission of the Chair.

2. The Committee considered the Hindu Marriage Bill, 2015 (Government Bill) as well as the Hindu Marriage Bill, 2014 (moved by Mr. Ramesh Lal, MNA) during the meeting. The Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights was of the view that the proposed Private Members Bill is beyond the legislative competence of the Parliament as its application has been extended to whole of Pakistan. After the 18th Amendment, the Concurrent Legislative List has been abolished. Thus this subject has become domain of Provincial Assembly after the eighteenth amendment. Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights, therefore, moved a summary seeking approval of Prime Minister to oppose the private Member Bill and to introduced the Government's own Bill in the Parliament. Prime Minister of Pakistan was pleased to approve the proposal of the Ministry.

3. The Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights also obtained a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony and conducted a series of consultations with relevant federal Ministries/divisions and National Commission on the Status of Women and finalized a draft for Hindu Marriage Bill 2015.

3. MNAs Mr. Muhammad Moeen Wattoo, Ms. Kiran Haider, Syed Ayaz Ali Sherazi, Mr. Muhammad Ayaz Soomro and Eng. Ali Muhammad Khan Advocate attended the meeting in which Movers Mr. Ramesh Lal, MNA, Ms. Asiya Nasir, MNA, Dr. Darshan, MNA, Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani, MNA and Mr. Sanjay Perwani, MNA were also present in the meeting.



(M. RIAZ AWAN)
DS (C-II)