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Campaign to help women get identity cards

By Our Reporter

ISLAMABAD, July 19: The National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) and an NGO on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding to help unregistered women in getting their computerised national identity cards (CNICs).

Under the MoU signed between Nadra Deputy Chairman Tariq Malik and Naeem Mirza, chief operating officer of Aurat Foundation, the NGO will help Nadra in running public awareness programmes to encourage unregistered women to obtain CNICs.

Aurat Foundation will provide grants through competitive process to local

NGOs and community based organisations, which will mobilise their resources to achieve the objective in close coordination with Nadra.

“In the past three years Nadra has increased women registration by 74 per cent. However, we need to reach out to more women,” said Tariq Malik.

The official, elaborating plan to increase women’s registration, said it CNICs would help them access their social, economic and political rights. He said out of the 86 million CNICs, 37 million have been issued to women so far.

Mr Malik hoped that Aurat

Foundation would help Nadra in registering the remaining women especially in far flung areas where registering them is a challenge due to little or no awareness among local communities about their rights and CNIC benefits. He said Nadra would send female only mobile units to register women in selected districts.

The official said if needed Nadra may waive some conditions of documentation for eligible deserving citizens for processing their CNIC applications, but also added that strict verification would be carried out to ensure that database’s authenticity is not compromised.