

Press Release
“Cases of violence against women in Pakistan”
Reported in the 3rd Quarter (July – September) of 2008

13 November, 2008, Islamabad

Islamabad, November 13: Aurat Foundation launched its 3rd quarterly report of 2008 on the “Situation of Violence against Women in Pakistan” at Islamabad Press Club, in a Press Conference. The report is a collection and compilation of statistics on the incidents of violence against women during July to September 2008 under its national programme ‘Policy and Data Monitor on Violence against Women’ for the elimination of violence against women in Pakistan.

Violence against women is a persistent and ongoing problem in Pakistan and around the world. It affects women’s social and economic equality, physical and mental health, well-being and economic security.

Decision-makers require a clear understanding of the nature and severity of social problems in order to develop effective responses.

The report “Situation of Violence against Women in Pakistan” aims to identify the number of cases of violence against women in Pakistan thus it aims to create a more informed and supportive environment, mobilize social pressure. This data of violence against women would in the long run provide policy and law reform input to federal and provincial governments, political parties and legislators through consultative processes on developing policy framework and institutional mechanisms for ending violence against women.

In third quarter the total number of 2531 incidents of violence against women reported in the four provinces of Pakistan and in capital territory Islamabad. Out of which 1592 cases in Punjab; 402 in Sindh; 251 in NWFP; 220 in Balochistan and 66 in Islamabad). Almost all these cases are reported cases among 2531 cases only FIR of 1953 cases i.e. 77.16% were registered, 323 i.e.13% cases were not registered and there is no evidence found in media regarding the FIR status of remaining 265 i.e.10% cases.

Out of the total 2531 cases of, 441 cases of murder were reported (242 in Punjab; 50 in Sindh; 129 in NWFP; 18 in Balochistan; 2 in Islamabad); 143 cases of ‘honour’ killings (21 in Punjab; 70 in Sindh; 2 in NWFP; 49 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad); 38 cases of attempt to murder (8 in Punjab; 11 in Sindh; 2 in NWFP; 16 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad); 601 cases of abduction (508 in Punjab; 31 in Sindh; 17 in NWFP; 17 in Balochistan; 28 in Islamabad); 282 cases of hurt and body injury (120 in Punjab; 21 in Sindh; 51 in NWFP; 87 in Balochistan; 3 in Islamabad); 75 cases of domestic violence (44 in Sindh; 17 in NWFP; 13 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad); 216 cases of suicide (137 in Punjab; 49 in Sindh; 24 in NWFP; 4 in Balochistan; 2 in Islamabad); 47 cases of attempted suicide (35 in Punjab; 5 in NWFP; 7 in Balochistan); 175 cases of rape (127 in Punjab; 44 in Sindh; 1 in NWFP; 1 in Balochistan; 2 in Islamabad); 115 cases of gang-rape (100 in Punjab; 13 in Sindh; 2 in Islamabad); 46 cases of sexual assault (31 in Punjab; 13 in Sindh; 1 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad); 26 cases of custodial violence (24 in Sindh; 2 in Islamabad); 7 cases of burning (6 in Punjab; 1 in Sindh); 8 cases of acid throwing (7 in Punjab; 1 in Islamabad); 109 cases of torture (95 in Punjab; 1 in NWFP; 8 in Balochistan; 5 in Islamabad); 9 cases of threat to violence (2 in Sindh; 7 in Islamabad);

1 case of Vanni in NWFP; 192 cases of violence were of miscellaneous nature in the four provinces and Islamabad.

Overall, Violence against women cases in this quarter (2531) is far more than the cases in the previous two quarters i.e. (1705 in April – June & 1321 in January – March). There had been a sharp increase, particularly in Punjab because in this quarter beside the 9 regular national papers, 2 regional newspapers published from district Multan and Faisalabad have been added, that's why the wave of violence in this quarter is much higher than the last two quarters. In third quarter, cases of abduction (601) is much more higher than the first two quarters.(in first quarter 246 and in the second quarter 356 women were abducted), whereas ratio of suicide was also quite high in this third quarter (216), as compared to the first two quarters i.e. (66 & 126 respectively), and cases of murder were also high (441), as compared to last two quarters.

***Number & Percentage of Cases of VAW in Pakistan
(1 July - 30 September 2008)***

Category of Crime	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balouchistan	Islamabad	Total Number of Cases	% of Cases of the Total
Murder	242	50	129	18	2	441	17.42
'Honour' killing	21	70	2	49	1	143	5.65
Attempt to murder	8	11	2	16	1	38	1.50
Abduction (kidnap)	508	31	17	17	28	601	23.75
Hurt & body injury	120	21	51	87	3	282	11.44
Domestic violence	0	44	17	13	1	75	2.96
Suicide	137	49	24	4	2	216	8.53
Attempted suicide	35	0	5	7	0	47	1.86
Rape	127	44	1	1	2	175	6.91
Gang-rape	100	13	0	0	2	115	4.54
Sexual assault	31	13	1	0	1	46	1.82
Custodial violence	0	24	0	0	2	26	1.03
Burning	6	1	0		0	7	0.28
Acid throwing	7	0	0	0	1	8	0.32
torture	95	0	1	8	5	109	4.31
Threat to Violence	0	2	0	0	7	9	0.36
Vanni	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.04
Miscellaneous	155	29	0	0	8	192	7.59
Total	1592	402	251	220	66	2531	100

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