

**Action Points - Consultation with Stakeholders on Accelerating
Implementation of the Punjab Free and Compulsory Education (PFCE)
Act, 2014 17th December 2019 at Lahore**

The consultation on the implementation of the Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2014 was held on 17th December 2019 at Faletti's Hotel, Lahore.

Over 50 stakeholders were present for the meeting and took an active part in the discussion. Ms. Aisha Nawaz Chaudhry (Chairperson - Punjab Standing Committee on School Education), Ms. Uzma Kardar (Chairperson - Punjab Standing Committee on Gender Mainstreaming), Ms. Ayesha Iqbal (MPA), Ms. Sumaira Samad (Secretary – Department of Literacy and Non-Formal Education Punjab), Ms. Aasiya Khurram Agha (Advisor – Minister for School Education Punjab) and representatives from School Education Department, Women Development Department, Private Schools Association, civil society organizations and academia attended the event.

Following are the action points from the consultation:

- A technical advisory committee will be formed to expedite the notification of PFCE Act 2014.
- The members of the committee will be parliamentarians/chairperson of standing committees/ member of standing committees, representatives of School Education Department, Women Development Department, teacher's union, private schools associations, civil society organizations and youth organizations.
- Office of the Minister for School Education Punjab to play its role in the notification of the Act which is a pre-requisite for the formulation of the rules of business of the PFCE Act 2014.
- Meeting with parliamentarians and other stakeholders for finalizing the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the technical committee and notification of the committee through the Office of the Minister for School Education Punjab.
- Parliamentarians to play their role as lobbyists for accelerating the notification of the PFCE Act 2014.
- School Education Department Punjab to lead the efforts as custodian of the Act.
- Private sector and teachers unions to contribute to the whole process and play their role in the implementation of the Act. For this purpose, a meeting will be organized with the representatives of private school associations/alliances to ensure their active role in the technical advisory committee.

- Private school associations will draft rules of business for private schools keeping in view the PFCE Act 2014.
- ITA will be provide the technical assistance for devising the rules of the Act.

In addition to the aforementioned points, participants have also taken a pledge to:

- i. Support and take necessary actions for the notification of PFCE Act 2014.
- ii. Facilitate the formulation of the “Rules of Business” of the PFCE Act 2014.
- iii. Champion 12 years of free and compulsory education for all girls and boys.
- iv. Ensure education for all girls from pre-primary up to secondary level.
- v. Increase the budget for education, especially for areas where there is evidence of girls facing discrimination in access to quality education.
- vi. Address challenges in access to education ranging from poverty, puberty, safety/protection, gender equality and disabilities.
- vii. Undertake practical steps to encourage acquisition of skills and employment for decent work.
- viii. Undertake efforts to have consistent definition of all children as per UNCRC and constitution of Pakistan.