

Pray for Victims of Violence

Girl raped in mosque

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE, June 2: A 10-year-old girl was allegedly raped by unidentified men in a Gawalmandi

Violence against women on the rise: report

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD, July 15: A report launched by a civil society organisation on the situation of violence against women has shown a sharp increase in incidents of aggression against women in the last three months across the country.

The report launched by the Aurat Foundation at a seminar here on Tuesday is a collection of the incidents of violence against women from April to June under its national programme "Policy and data monitor on violence against women".

The data has been collected from different sources and one of the main sources is daily Urdu and English newspapers.

was as high as 1,705 compared with 1,321 between January to March.

Highest number of cases, 828, of violence were registered in Punjab, Sindh followed with 301 cases, NWFP with 278, Balochistan with 233 and 65 cases occurred in Islamabad between April 1 and June 30.

Out of the total 1,705 cases, 356 cases were of murder, 135 cases of honour killings, 17 cases of attempt to murder, 356 of abduction, 205 of hurt and body injury, 64 of domestic violence, 126 of suicide, 24 cases of attempted suicide, 107 of rape, 66 of gang-rape, 42 of sexual

tion of women, also Percentage of hurt and injury was 11.4 and killing 7.9.

According to the report alarming increase was in the number of suicides in the first quarter under this programme 66 women committed suicide, while in the second quarter 126 women taken their lives.

Similarly, in the first quarter 90 women were murdered name of honour while in the second quarter 126 women were killed in the name of honour. The report said that more than 100 killings had happened in Punjab and 35 cases between April and



TAXILA: The torture victim along with her children.—Dawn

TV artiste calls for rapists' arrest

By our correspondent

HYDERABAD: A television artiste on Friday demanded justice and action against those responsible, including her father-in-law, of raping her.

Addressing a news conference here at the Hyderabad Press Club, Perveen Mughal, a resident of Korangi, Karachi, accused three people of raping her and getting a fake FIR of her husband Irfan Shah's kidnapping registered with the Mehmoosabad Police Station in Karachi to implicate her in the case.

She told newsmen that she married Irfan Shah on May 19 in Sehwan at her own free will and they started living in a rented flat in Qasimbabad.

On June 3, she said, some 20 people knocked the door of their flat who introduced themselves as officials of the Mehmoosabad Police Station and told her that she had kidnapped Irfan Shah.

She said she, along with her husband, was taken to the Qasimbabad Police Station, where a police official subjected her to sexual assault.

On her resistance and shouting, a team of a private TV channel arrived on the spot but she was taken



HYDERABAD: TV artiste Perveen Mughal addresses the press club here on Friday.

to Karachi in a vehicle without allowing her to speak to the television team, Perveen said.

She said the policemen tortured and pressured her husband and got some papers signed from him forcibly.

Perveen said two police officials raped her on the first floor of the Mehmoosabad Police Station and later the father of Irfan Shah also raped her.

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Domestic violence victim seeks justice

By Our Correspondent

TAXILA, June 5: A victim of domestic violence and torture on Thursday sought justice, safety for her life as well as her parents as her in-laws are hurling death threats at all of them.

She called upon Prime

Govt to set up women crisis centres

By Our Correspondent

HYDERABAD, July 11: The government plans to establish women crisis centres in each district of the province and create awareness among masses regarding their rights and assist them

medically treated as this act was a mental disorder.

Appreciating efforts of the Govt's Managing Committee, she desired the rescue teams to reach each and every distressed

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Much is spoken about women's issues in Pakistan. Pakistani women are speaking out more than ever, becoming progressive leaders in government and many of our other institutions. March 19th 2008 hailed the election of our first ever female Speaker of the Parliament. However, the simple fact is that **violence against Pakistani women is rising**. The increase in recorded numbers of grievous injuries, rape, honour killings, etc cries out for justice and protection for our female population.

Sadly, the words of **our founding father Mohammed Ali Jinnah** addressing this issue in 1944, today ring true more than ever:

“We are the victims of evil customs. There is no sanction anywhere for the deplorable condition in which our women have to live.”

Prayer points:

- 1.** Advocates on behalf of women without voices
- 2.** Leaders (including women) committed to equality and justice for women