

## **Performance of Youth Standing Committee on Information**

The members of the Youth Standing Committee on Information include:

Chairperson Anam Javed Cheema (YP29- Punjab11), Minister Hannan Ali Abbassi (YP15-KP04), Shadow Minister Owais Bin Laiq (YP45-SINDH 08) , Bilal Jamaee (YP 44-SINDH07), Syed Shan-e-Hussain (YP 43-SINDH06) , Muneeb Afzal (YP09-ICT-02), Mir Waheed Ikhtlaq (YP11-GB01).

At the first session the committee was formed and the office holders took charge of their duties. The committee discussed its agenda for the coming year that incorporated the formation of a media policy, Rights of journalists and bringing at fore reforms for education on mass communication.

In the second session the committee proposed formation of an **independent commission** to ensure a system for checks and balances on all forms of media. The Commission was named as “*Pakistan Press Commission* “.The objectives of the Commission were to articulate policies that will look after the rights of the journalists and at the same time ascertain accountability of the media.

Inadequacies of laws on media were discussed and all members were asked to develop lucid policies and propose coherent recommendations for all laws that are to be implemented at national level.

The committee is also working on a Bill for **National media policy** which will be brought in the house during next session .This policy has also been discussed with Federal Secretary for Information Ministry.

The committee is also working on a bill for **Rights on access to Information** to decide what information content should be shared with the general public and what information content can have detrimental repercussions.

### **Achievements:**

- This is so far the first youth parliament that received maximum media attention and remained in spot light through coverage on print and electronic media.
- A six month **report** on performance of youth parliament “*Youth Parliament Akhbarat kay aine main*” was compiled and presented to the Executive Director PILDAT Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Speaker Youth Parliament Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jozegzai. This was a 40 page report which had clippings of all the news that had been printed in the newspapers in the last six months.
- A **report** on the comparison of the performance of the present youth parliament with the previous youth parliaments was compiled in which all the data on the workings of

the previous parliaments was accumulated and tabulated to form a comparison , similar to a report made on performance of National Assembly

- The minister and the Chairperson had a meeting with the Federal Secretary for Information Ministry to discuss the current media policy.
- All the members of the Youth Parliament who are from Islamabad/Rawalpindi went live on various TV channels like Dawn News , Aag TV, Waqt TV, PTV, ATV etc to discuss various issues pertinent to media policies, political instability, power crisis, terrorism, inflation and unemployment; and also to bring fore efforts of youth parliamentarians in creating political awareness among youth.
- Members of the committee met with several political figures including Speaker National Assembly Ms. Fehmida Mirza, Mr Aitzaz Ahsan , Mr Shahid Hussain Bhutto, Mr Haider Abbas Rizvi etc.