

Pakistan OBSERVER

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2010

Literacy promotion top priority: Kaira

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD—Minister for Information and Broadcasting Qamar Zaman Kaira said on Thursday that promotion of literacy was the motto of the present elected government as no nation can make strides in the comity of nations without education.

He was speaking as the chief guest at an exhibition of logo designs for the National Literacy Year 2010-11, organized by National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) at Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA). He said that it was unfortunate that literacy rate in our country was quite low and that Nafeesa Shah as chairperson of the NCHD was facing a difficult task.

The minister said that she is a very talented and hard working lady who had the potential to deliver. He said that it was good sign that the NCHD has used art for promotion of literacy in the country. He said that there was no doubt that education was the top priority of the government, but due to scarcity of resources and some other urgent requirements, the hands of the present regime were tied.

Kaira told the audience that after the passage of National Finance Commission Award and 18th Constitutional Amendment, several sectors are being shifted to the provinces and education is one of them.

Chairperson NCHD Nafisa Shah, MNA said that the commission works with provincial and local governments in supporting education. "Along with providing additional teachers and transitory schools to fill the gaps present in the delivery system, the NCHD is promoting adult literacy by establishing adult literacy centers throughout Pakistan." Director General NCHD Zulfiqar Ahmad, during his welcome address, said that year 2010-11 were officially announced as the National Literacy Year by the Prime Minister.

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