

Aurat March 2023 Demands



1. We demand that all workers, whether working in factories, farms and homesteads, as sanitation workers, or in homes as domestic workers, be given a living wage, based on access to safe housing, quality education and affordable healthcare for themselves and their families. As a first step, we demand *immediate* enforcement of minimum wage across all sectors, and for all actors who refuse this to be fined under the law.
2. We demand a cut in public expenditure (civilian and non civilian expenditure), and an end to lavish spending like golf clubs, housing schemes and the like. We also ask for a cut in the extravagant benefits of bureaucrats, and the extraneous expenditure of civilian governments, especially by means of duplicate ministries & divisions at the federal and provincial level. We demand this money to be immediately routed to the people of Pakistan, particularly for rehabilitation of flood hit families.
3. We demand immediate relief and rehabilitation for the flood affected victims. Right now, where millions are hungry and shelterless across the provinces, we demand from the State, the provision of social security and protection through monthly stipends for all women and the khawaja sira community in view of their basic needs like food, shelter, basic health costs as per Article 38 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973.
4. We demand that the government take notice of the continuing practice of bonded labour in Sindh & Balochistan a huge number of whom are from scheduled caste minority communities. We demand shutting down all private jails and the abolition of this practice as per constitutional guarantees and provincial laws. We further demand from the government that the accumulated debt payable to landlords or kiln owners by farmers be forgiven, especially in light of the 2022 floods.
5. We demand the establishment of shelters/safe houses and subsidized shelters for women (cis and trans), khawaja siras, trans men and non binary persons in each district in Sindh. With this, we also demand increased funding for existing *Dar-ul-Amans* and shelters, and an increase in the number of functional shelters. We further demand improvement in the quality of crisis and shelter services, including the adoption of policies fully consistent with survivors' freedom of movement.
6. We demand that the federal government uphold the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2018 in its original form, including Chapter II section 3, which protects the right for a person to be recognized as transgender as per their self perceived gender identity. We also demand from the government to take action against the escalating violence, including extreme mob violence, which is used to intimidate and murder members of this marginalized community.
7. We demand an end to forced conversions and child marriages in Sindh. These practices violate the constitutional guarantees that protect religious freedom and dignity of persons, and the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013.

