

Business Recorder

March 16, 2010

Draft Consumers Protection Act to be tabled in Sindh Assembly: Bukhari

RECORDER REPORT

KARACHI: Sindh government will soon introduce draft Consumers Protection Act (CPA) in Sindh Assembly, as the consumers across the province are still deprived of their rights.

This was stated by Shoaib Ahmed Bukhari, Provincial Minister for Bureau of Supply and Price Control, while addressing a seminar on "World Consumers Right Day" organised by Consumers' Association of Pakistan (CAP) here at a local hotel on Monday.

He said in the absence of relevant laws, there was no check on the skyrocketing prices of kitchen items in the province, where the profiteers were overcharging consumers by 15 to 100 percent on the daily use items.

Not only the prices, but also the quality of the commodities was not being checked by any authority in the province, he added.

However, he said, the con-

sumers were also needed to know that without their support and contributions the prices fixed by district governments, especially the City District Government Karachi (CDGK), could not be implemented.

He suggested that the consumers should cut or reduce the use of those items, which are being sold on higher prices, so that the profiteers could be compelled to reduce the prices.

Shahid Hassan Siddiqui, an economist, while addressing the seminar said that like the consumers of commodities, the customers of banks were deprived of their rights, as the banks were not sharing their profit with the customers.

The banks should introduce SME system to facilitate the small customers, he urged.

The seminar was also addressed by Rizwan Ahmed Siddiqui, country manager, Coca-Cola, Dr Shahida Wizarat, economist and Kaukab Iqbal, chairman CAP.