RESOLUTION NO. 611

At our current trajectory, Pakistan's population is projected to reach approximately 390 million by 2050, placing unprecedented pressure on the country's resources.

Recognizing that a runaway population growth rate is one of our most ignored and disregarded challenges, we the members of the Senate of Pakistan recognize that immediate and concerted action must be taken to address the crisis.

It is noted that the 2023 Population and Housing Census recorded Pakistan's population at 241.49 million, with an annual growth rate of 2.55 percent; this is the highest in South Asia.

It places inordinate pressures on the food available to every child, where 40 % of children under five years are stunted, because they were unable to access the right nutrition at the right time;
it places undue pressure on the resilience of every household struggling with water insecurity in a century of extreme climate vulnerability;
it impacts the resources available to educate every child, in a country where 26 million children are out of school, it damages the quality and quantity of our human capital;

It severely compromises the health and well being of mothers unable to space births, or the many unable to survive.

In short, the crisis has reached our kitchens, our schools, and our hospitals.

Therefore, we are concerned that the growing gap in access to voluntary family planning, women's reproductive healthcare, child nutrition and education threatens public health in mounting cases of distress and deprivations, widens a faultline of inequalities, and chronically undermines sustainable development;

We further emphasise that serious attention to population planning is fundamental to Pakistan's socioeconomic development;
We agree that the responsibility to ensure that our demographic dividend does not turn into a demographic time bomb lies across the board, across provinces, political parties, communities, genders,and faiths.

This House, therefore, urges the Government of Pakistan to take all necessary steps in coordination with provincial governments, parliamentarians, public and private officials, media practitioners, ulema, community leaders and others in a whole of country approach, to bring down the population growth rate through intensive information campaigns, expansion of family planning services, scaling of the LHW programme, the creation of budgetary incentives, and a focused expansion of service delivery in existing reproductive health services.

Moved by Senator Sherry Rehman, on her own behalf and on behalf of Senators Haji Hidayatullah Khan, Kamil Ali Agha, Manzoor Ahmed, Jan Muhammad, Kamran Murtaza, Rana Sana Ullah Khan and Syed Ali Zafar Unanimously Passed by the House on Thursday, the 29th October, 2026.