

(17)

[AS PASSED BY THE SENATE]

A

BILL

to amend the National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013 (XIX of 2013) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the National Counter Terrorism Authority (Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 6, Act XIX of 2013.- In the National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013 (XIX of 2013), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 6, in sub-section (4), the words "each quarter of" shall be omitted.

3. Amendment of section 8, Act XIX of 2013.- In the said Act, in section 8, after sub-section (6), the following new sub-section (7) shall be added, namely:-

"(7) The Executive Committee may meet as and when required but it shall meet at least once in each quarter of a year."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Ever since the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) Act was passed, the Board of Governors has not met even once; the Board of Governors headed by the Prime Minister and including about twenty-five members rarely has time to meet. The Board of Governors is a policy making and review body. It should meet whenever it is necessary for it and at least once a year. The existing provision that Board of Governors must meet every quarter is unrealistic and this is one reason that it has not met even once during the past over one year. The Executive Committee which is the implementing body should be required to meet at regular intervals. In the existing law there is no mention of how often the Executive Committee should meet. This has left a lacunae in the law.

The existing amendment seeks to remove the lacunae, binds the Executive Committee to meet at any time as and when necessary and at least once in each quarter of a year. Also the Board of Governors has been mandated to meet as and when required and at least once in a year.

SENATOR FARHATULLAH BABAR

Member-in-charge