

[AS PASSED BY THE SENATE]

A

BILL

*to provide for the welfare and integration of communities*

**WHEREAS** Protection and security of the inhabitants and to fulfil the basic needs of citizens is a responsibility of the State and the contribution by an individual is moral and ethical responsibility to stand by the fellow citizens for basic needs and problems.

It is hereby enacted as follows: -

**CHAPTER-I  
PRELIMINARY**

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Islamabad Community Integration Act, 2020.

(2) It shall extend to the Islamabad Capital Territory.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.-** (1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, -

(a) "Act" means the Islamabad Community Integration Act, 2020;

(b) "Committee" means the Rifahi Committee and its sub-committee established under section 3;

(c) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Committee;

(d) "Government" means the Federal Government;

(e) "Managing Body" means the Managing Body of the Rifahi Committee;

(f) "Member" means a member of the Rifahi or Rifahi sub-committee;

- (g) "Patwar Circle" means village or a group of villages form a Patwar Circle and is headed by a Patwari;
- (h) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Rifahi Committee;
- (i) "Sub-sector" means one sub-sector in Islamabad Capital Area, as designated by the Capital Development Authority;
- (j) "Treasurer" means the Treasury officer of the Rifahi Committee; and
- (k) "Vice Chairperson" means the Vice Chairperson of the Committee.
- (l) "Employee" means the staff of the Committee.

**CHAPTER-II**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES**

**3. Establishment of the Rifahi Committees.-** (1) Within one year of the commencement of this Act, the Federal Government shall establish Committees to be known as the "Rifahi Committees" and Rifahi sub-committees.

(2) There shall be a "Rifahi Committee: for every two hundred house as may be prescribed, comprising of twenty Members each.

(3) There shall be a Rifahi sub-committee of everyone hundred houses in urban areas or a village in the rural area comprising of 10 members each.

(4) A Member of the "Rifahi sub-committee" shall be elected for every ten houses of a Sub-sector in the urban' areas and similarly for ten -houses in a village in rural areas, as may be prescribed.

(5) The Chairperson of the Rifahi committee shall be the Member of the Rifahi Committee of that area.

(6) The Members of the Rifahi Committee shall be chose by election for a term of five years.

(7) The election will be held on non-party basis and voting by the residents of the concerned Union Council.

(8) Either Chairperson or the Vice chairperson may be a woman.

(9) If a member of the Rifahi Committee is unable to perform as member of the Committee, the Committee may remove such member or by the resignation to the Chairman committee.

(10) Any casual vacancy of a member shall be filled in. by election on non-party basis through voting between the members.

(11) The Rifahi Committee shall have powers-to co-opt-members from amongst persons who are experts in their respective fields for advice on particular matters under its consideration.

(12) The Rifahi Committee shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire and hold property, both movable and immovable and shall sue and be sued by the said name.

**4. Office bearers of the Rifahi Committees.-** (1) The Rifahi Committees shall consist of,-

- (a) Chairperson
- (b) Vice Chairperson
- (c) Treasurer
- (d) Secretary

(2) The office beareas of the Rifahi sub-committees hall be as follows:

- |                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| (a) Chairperson | Member |
| (b) Secretary   | Member |

(3) The office bearers shall be elected through voting by the Members from amongst themselves.

**5. Qualification of Members.-** A person shall be eligible to be a member of the Rifahi Committee, if he, -

- (a) is a citizen of Pakistan;
- (b) is sane and of sound mind;
- (c) has not been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude;
- (d) has not at any time been adjudicated insolvent;
- (e) has not at any time been disqualified for employment in or dismissed from Government service;
- (f) is not acting in contravention of the provisions of this Act;
- (g) has no financial interest in any aspect of the Committee, or has no conflict of interest, directly or indirectly, with the Committee; and
- (h) is a voter member of the concerned Union Council.
- (i) is minimum 26 years old.

**6. Meetings of the Rifahi Committee.-** (1) The meetings of the Rifahi Committee shall be held monthly, and shall be presided over by the Chairperson or, in his absence, by a Vice Chairperson. One third of the total members shall constitute the quorum.

(2) All decisions of the Committee shall be taken by simple majority of the members of the Committee present in the meeting. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in case of a tie.

(3) Decision of the Committee shall be recorded by the secretary of the Committee, who shall circulate such decisions for confirmation to Chairperson and the members within fifteen day so each meeting...

**CHAPTER-III**  
**POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

**7. Powers and Functions of the Rifahi Committee.-** (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and rules, the Committee shall exercise such powers and perform such functions, as may be necessary for carrying the purposes of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality: of (the fore-going sub-section, the Committee shall.

- (a) facilitate the formation of co-operatives for Improving economic well being reduction of poverty and consumer protection;
- (b) report cases of handicapped destitute and of extreme poverty to the Union Council after extending immediate help for survival and shelter.
- (c) advise the Local Union Council about the interests of its residents and help formulation of suitable policy measures, which will enhance the quality of life of the residents;
- (d) keep a watch for the safety and security of the residents and save their property from encroachment through neighborhood watch mechanism and inform the local police station;
- (e) discharge any functions that may be entrusted by the Local Councils;
- (f) Improve the spread of education especially the admission of street children in the primary and Middle Schools and to co-operate in the programs to readmit the dropouts back to schools;
- (g) campaign to stop the activities against law such as begging, child-labor, use of liquor and drugs, gambling and domestic violence;

- (h) prevent and abate nuisance and harassment of all forms in public ways, street and public places and inform the concerned departments;
- (i) mobilize voluntary resources, including physical labor, property and cash contribution;
- (j) develops ties for slaughtering, drinking and bathing of cattle with the consultation of Capital Development Authority.
- (k) Manage burial places and cremation grounds.
- (l) prevent domestic violence of all forms including violence on domestic workers and in case an incident is reported to the committee or to any member, take prompt action and report to the concerned police station;
- (m) prevent child, abuse by apply different techniques including awareness among parents and children;
- (n) provide opportunities to people with disabilities equal to their non-disabled counterparts;
- (o) discourage discrimination 'based on race, sex, religion, sect, cast etc;
- (p) work for welfare of youth, Children, women and senior citizens;
- (q) Prevent honor killing by arranging seminars on it;
- (r) Settle disputes between community members on the basis of their respective belief and also coordinate with police conciliatory committees.
- (s) Arrange Jobs/labor work for destitute, transgender, or any other neglected segment the community.

- (t) discourage corporeal punishments in schools, madrasas, and any other educational institutions;
- (u) arrange regular learning sessions for all the participants of the community especially focusing community development;
- (v) create awareness on cooperation in day to day matters and especially in the cases of natural disasters and calamities;
- (w) provide and improve basic health facilities, and ensure the proper working of the existing health units in union councils by regular inspections, and allocating due funds;
- (x) prevent all forms of cruelty in the community including against animals;
- (y) raise awareness on clean lines, hygienic health habits, protection of environment and benefits of plantation; and
- (z) educate residents of a community on security and safety and achieving safe, and secure neighborhoods.
- (zc) Control and Focus on professional beggars in the local streets of the area;

#### **CHAPTER-IV "FINANCES"**

**8. Fund.**— There shall be established Fund to be known as the Community Integration Fund which shall consist of:

- (a) Funds received from the Federal Government, Provincial Government or Municipality, or from, general public donations
- (c) Contribution received from the residents shall only be in shape of cheque.
- (c) Sharing of funds between, the Local Councils and the Rifahi Committees, as per mutually agreed terms, based on tasks performed for and on behalf of Local Councils.

**9. Receipt of sum sand with drawls.-** (1) Each Rifahi Committee shall have a Bank Account which shall be opened in National Bank of Pakistan.

(2) All sums received to the Rifahi Committee shall immediately be deposited In the Bank.

(2) After the approval of the Rifahi Committee, funds may be drawn with the joint signatures of any two office bearers from .amongst,. Treasurer, Chairperson, Vice chairperson or Secretary as may be decided by resolution of .the Rifahi Committee.

(3) The financial matters of the Rifahi sub-Committee as prepared by its members shall be dealt by the Rifahi Committee and the members of the Rifahi sub-Committee shall provide assistance in 'preparation' of those matters

(4) The audit of the committee should be after every 2 years through Auditor General of Pakistan.

#### **CHAPTER-V MISCELLANEOUS**

**10. Head office of the Committee.-** Head office of the Committee shall be based at Union Council level.

**11. Office and Employees.-** To carry out the purpose of this Act, the Committee may, with the approval of Federal Government, appoint advisors, consultants and experts, having specialization and expertise in the related field and other officers and employees on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.

**12. Report.-** The Committee shall submit annual report to the Mayor or Chairman Capital Development Authority or Chief Commissioner Islamabad Capital Territory.

**13. Power to make rules.-** The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for caring out the purposes of this Act.



### **STATEMENT OF OBJECT AND REASONS**

It is a strategy for social change by introducing "Rifahi Community System". Establishing small community units i.e. one sub-sector in a locality in urban area and one village in the rural area with cooperation based mechanism. The cooperation is giving social responsibility to one person to take care of hunger, non-availability of medicine, acute frustration owing to social estrangement and isolation especially among the economically vulnerable widows and orphans. To start with, this program can be introduced within the ranks of party workers.

The Greatest Law Giver on the face of this earth outlined the role of human relationship that "after pronouncing faith in God the second duty is to love and serve the human beings".

To fulfil basic needs of the citizens is the responsibility of the State. Simultaneously, the contribution by an individual is moral and ethical responsibility to stand by the fellow citizens for basic needs and problems.

Saying of Hazrat Umer-e-Farooq (R.A)

'If a dog dies of starvation by the bank of Tigris I will be held responsible'

The present endeavour is how to translate human spirit to help each other and how to invoke sense of sympathy for the fellow human beings in distress. Few steps are envisaged;

Travel down to the grass root level and start from the smallest possible collective Unit where the framework is provided for cooperation based on voluntary contribution, systematic maintenance of accounts and mechanism of helping the most needy from within this group so that none dies of hunger, non-availability of medicine and acute frustration owing to social estrangement and isolation.

This was not only envisioned but also this framework was put on ground by as a great man as Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him); when He (P.B.U.H) established the welfare State of Medina.

In our present perspective, such a tiny unit can be given any name like "Rifahi Committee". The concept can be enlarged furthermore to a sizeable extent. The security, the protection and well-being of the community is the purpose of this Act.

**SENATOR RANA MAQBOOL AHMAD**  
Member-in-Charge