

INTRODUCED ON 19-12-2016
[AS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follow:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2016.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Substitution of Article 251 of the Constitution.- In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for Article 251, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"251. National Languages.- (1) The National languages of Pakistan are Urdu and the languages of federating units, namely; Balochi, Pashto, Punjabi and Sindhi.

(2) The official language of Pakistan shall be English until arrangements are made for Urdu to come at par with it.

(3) The Federal Government shall establish a fund for the development and promotion of national languages.

(4) Provincial Assemblies may, by law, prescribe measures for the teaching and promotion of any language in addition to the national languages."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Since, Balochi, Pushto, Punjabi and Sindhi languages of Federating units, have not been given there due status in the Constitution of Pakistan and a number of movements are going on in the country demanding grant of national status to these Languages, therefore, it has become imperative to give those languages the status of national languages of Pakistan. Additionally it is important that all these national languages are developed through a Federal level fund as well as provincial sources.

**SENATORS SASSUI PALIJO AND
MUKHTIAR AHMED DHAMRAH @
AAJIZ**

Members-In-Charge