

<sup>As</sup>  
**[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]**

**A**

**BILL**

further to amend the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997

**WHEREAS** it is expedient further to amend the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997 (XXV of 1997), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.** - (1) This Act may be called the Control of Narcotic Substances (Amendment) Act, 2021.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment of section 21, Act XXV of 1997.** - In the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997 (XXV of 1997), in section 21, in sub-section (1), in clause (d), for the full stop "." occurring at the end, a colon ":" shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

**"Provided that for the arrest at public place, any police-officer shall have the power to arrest any person for cognizable offence provided in this Act."**

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Section 21 of the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997 prescribes that an officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector of Police or equivalent would arrest the accused. And sometimes at public place a Police-officer, below the rank of sub-inspector by arresting a culprit, violates the mandate of this Section. The objective of this amendment is to authorize any police-officer on duty at the place to arrest the accused as due to paucity of time apprehension of narcotics being removed or the culprit having chance to escape may occur.

**SENATOR SHAHADAT AWAN**  
**Member-in-Charge**