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~~[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]~~

A
BILL

further to amend the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933 (II of 1933) in its application to the extent of Islamabad Capital Territory, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement. - (1) This Act may be called the Children (Pledging of Labour) (Amendment) Act, 2022

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Substitution of section 4, Act II of 1933.- In the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933 (II of 1933), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, for section 4, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"4. Penalty for parent or guardian making agreement to pledge the labour of a child.- Whoever, being the parent or guardian of a child, makes an agreement to pledge the labour of that child, shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than twenty thousand rupees and may extend to fifty thousand rupees."

3. Substitution of section 5, Act II of 1933.- In the said Act, for section 5, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"5. Penalty for making with a parent or guardian an agreement to pledge the labour of a child.- Whoever makes with the parent or guardian of a child an agreement whereby such parent or guardian pledges the labour of the child shall be punishable either with fine which shall not be less than one hundred thousand rupees and may extend to five hundred thousand rupees or with imprisonment which shall not be less than one month and may extend to three months, or with both, and in case of second or subsequent conviction, either with fine which shall not be less than five hundred thousand rupees and may extend to one million rupees or with imprisonment which shall not be less than six months and may extend to two years, or with both."

4. **Substitution of section 6, Act II of 1933.**- In the said Act, for section 6, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"6. Penalty for employing a child whose labour has been pledged.- Whoever, knowing or having reason to believe that an agreement has been made to pledge the labour of a child, in furtherance of such agreement employs such child, or permits such child to be employed in any premises or place under his control, shall be punishable either with fine which shall not be less than one hundred thousand rupees and may extend to five hundred thousand rupees or with imprisonment which shall not be less than three months and may extend to six months, or with both, and in case of second or subsequent conviction, either with fine which shall not be less than five hundred thousand rupees and may extend to one million rupees or with imprisonment which shall not be less than one year and may extend to two years, or with both."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND REASONS

The deterrence provided in the existing law to restrain and get rid of the social evil of child labour has unfortunately failed to control it effectively. In order to have better oversight mechanism, the penalties in the law are required to be enhanced for effective control of child labour.

2. This Bill is designed to achieve the above objectives.

**SENATOR SHAHADAT AWAN
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE**