

[AS PASSED BY 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, 2022

(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 subsection (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 entry, search, seizure and arrest at public place an officer not below the rank of Assistant Sub Inspector of police or equivalent authorized by the Federal Government or Provincial Government shall have the power to proceed under 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. In some instances, at a public place, a Police Officer, below the rank of sub-inspector violates the mandate of this Section by arresting a culprit. The objective of this amendment is therefore to authorize an Assistant Sub-Inspector or equivalent on duty for entry, search, seizure and arrest at a public place 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