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BILL

*A Bill to provide for the establishment of the Al-Ala University*

Whereas it is necessary to provide for the establishment of the Al-Ala University (AAU), in the private sector and to provide for matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- 1) **Short Title and Commencement.**— 1) This Act may be called as the Al-Ala University Act, 2022.  
2) It shall come into force at once.
- 2) **Definitions.**- In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:
  - a) "AAU" means Al-Ala University;
  - b) "Academic Council" means the Academic Council of the AAU as specified in section 23;
  - c) "Acquired Land" means leased or rented or purchased land by AAU or MASET;
  - d) "Affiliated Institution" means Educational institution authorized by the AAU to conduct academic programs, research and development projects as approved by the AAU;
  - e) "Authority" means any of the Authorities of the AAU as specified in section 17;
  - f) "Board" means Board of Governors of the AAU as specified in section 20;
  - g) "Board of Trustees" means members of board of Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust (MASET);
  - h) "Chancellor" means the Chancellor of the AAU as specified in section 9;
  - i) "Constituent college" means a college maintained and administered by the AAU;
  - j) "Director" means Head of a teaching Institute or sub-campus of the AAU;
  - k) "Dean" means the head of a Faculty or the head of an academic body granted the status of a Faculty by this Act or by the Statutes or Regulations;
  - l) "Government" means the (Federal) Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
  - m) "MASET" means Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust;
  - n) "Patron" means the Patron of the AAU;
  - o) "Prescribed" means prescribed by Statutes, Regulations or Rules made under this Act;
  - p) "Registrar" means the Registrar of the AAU;
  - q) "Search Committee" means the Search Committee constituted by the Chancellor for making recommendations for appointment of the Vice-Chancellor;
  - r) "Statutes", "Regulations" and "Rules" mean respectively the Statutes, the Regulations and the Rules of AAU made under this Act and for the time being in force.
  - s) "Teachers" include Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, Lecturers, engaged whole-time by the Institute or by a constituent or affiliated college and such other persons as may be declared to be teachers by Regulations; and
  - t) "Teaching Department" means a teaching department established and maintained by the AAU;
  - u) "Treasurer" means the Treasurer of the AAU;
  - v) "Trust" means Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust;
  - w) "University" means Al-Ala University (AAU) as constituted under this Act; and
  - x) "Vice-Chancellor" means the Vice-Chancellor of the AAU.

- 3) **Establishment and incorporation of the University.-** (1) There shall be established a University to be called to be called as Al-Ala University (AAU).
- 2) The University shall be a body corporate by the name of "Al-Ala University", having perpetual succession and a common seal with power to acquire, purchase, hold, and dispose any property or investment, construct and demolish buildings in its acquired (leased or rented or purchased) land and shall by the said name sue and be sued.
- 3) The University shall consist of the following, namely:
- a) the Patron, Chancellor, Board of Trustees, Vice-Chancellor, Board of Governors, the Registrar, the Treasurer, the Controller of Examinations, the Deans and Academic Council;
  - b) the members of such councils, committees and other advisory bodies as the respective Boards or authorities may establish from time to time;
  - c) the teachers, researchers and persons recognized as students in accordance with terms prescribed from time to time; and
  - d) such other officers and members of the staff as may be specified by the respective Boards from time to time.
- 4) The principal seat of the University shall be at Islamabad and it may set up its sub campuses, colleges, institutes, offices, virtual campuses, research/study centers and other facilities at such places in Pakistan and abroad as Board of Governors may determine. The additional sub campuses shall be setup in other parts of the country only after their evaluation by the Higher Education Commission to determine whether they meet the eligibility criteria fixed by the Commission.
- 5) In particular and without prejudice to the authority granted to any of the Commission by the law, the Government, any Council or an authority or auditor appointed by the Government shall have no power to question any of the policy or statues or rules or regulations approved by the Chancellor or the Board of the University. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the AAU shall have academic, financial and administrative autonomy, including the powers to start any academic programme, department or approve faculty in its main campus, sub campuses, virtual campuses or affiliated college/institutes/approved bodies or to employ officers, teachers and other employees on such terms as approved by the Chancellor or the Board of the University.
- 4) **Powers, Purposes and Functions of the University.-** The AAU shall have the powers;
- a) to provide instructions to make provisions for teaching, training, research, demonstration and development of technologies in fields of Applied Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences, Law, Humanities, Medical Sciences, Management Sciences and such other branches of knowledge and learning at all levels of undergraduate, graduate, masters, post-graduate, doctorate, post doctorate, associate degree programs, certificates, associate and post graduate diplomas (BS/BSc, MSc, MS/MPhil, PhD, ADP, PGD etc.) for the advancements and dissemination of knowledge in such manner and by such means as the Board may approve; to prescribe courses of studies to be conducted by it; to prescribe criteria of admission, migration and examination of students and to admit and examine students;
  - b) to select and examine students and to award and confer degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions to persons who have been registered with the AAU and have passed its examinations under prescribed conditions of the AAU; to confer in the prescribed manner honorary degrees or other academic distinctions on such persons as the Chancellor may approve on the recommendation of the Board of Governor and to collaborate in joint degree program, sandwich program and exchange program with national and international universities/bodies;

- c) to initiate research collaboration programs with national and international universities/bodies/funding agencies, to provide for such instructions for persons not being students of the AAU, as it may prescribe, and to grant certificates and diploma to such persons; to provide career counselling and job search services to students and alumni; to maintain linkages with alumni; to establish any number of sub-campuses, virtual campuses, study centers, hospitals and medical colleges in Islamic Republic of Pakistan as well as abroad as the Board may determine; to establish requirements and procedures for distance learning programs with the approval of the Chancellor; to develop and implement fund-raising plans; to provide and support the academic development for the faculty of the AAU; to confer degrees on persons who have carried out independent research under prescribed conditions;
- d) to affiliate itself or associate with other universities, institutions, colleges, schools, hospitals, research centers, public authorities and private organizations for better of its functions and responsibilities; to affiliate already running or newly established educational institutions or colleges or registered bodies under the management of the Government or of a regularly constituted body or registered firm or company or trust or society or partnership or any other entity in jurisdiction of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan with the approval of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor to conduct academic programs, research and development projects and after duly registering their students with AAU to examine these students and award and confer degrees, diploma, certificates and other academic distinctions as per Examination rules and regulations of AAU;
- e) to accept the examinations passed and the period of study spent by students of the AAU at other universities and places of learning equivalent to such examinations and periods of study in the AAU, as it may prescribe, and to withdraw such acceptance;
- f) to select and promote faculties; to pursue research; to create posts for research, extension, administration and other related purposes and to appoint persons thereto; to recognize selected members of the teaching staff of affiliated colleges or educational institutions admitted to the privileges of the AAU or such other persons as it may deem fit as AAU Teachers; to institute and award financial assistance to students in need, fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, medals and prizes under prescribed conditions;
- g) to establish teaching departments, schools, colleges, faculties, museums and other centers of learning, teaching, research and development and to make such arrangements for their maintenance, management and administration;
- h) to institute and maintain halls of residence and to approve or license hostels and lodgings; to maintain order, discipline and security on the campuses of the AAU; to promote the extra-curricular and recreational activities of such students, and to make arrangements for promoting their health and general welfare;
- i) to demand and receive such fees and other charges as it may determine; to make provision for research, advisory or consultancy services and technology incubation, and with these objectives to enter into arrangements with other institutions, public or private bodies, commercial and industrial enterprises under prescribed conditions;
- j) to enter into, carry out, vary or cancel contracts; to receive and manage property transferred and grants, contributions made to the AAU and to invest any fund representing such property, grants, bequests, trusts, gifts, donations, endowments or contributions in such manner as it may deem fit; and
- k) to provide for the printing and publication of research and other works; to decide teaching methods and strategies in order to ensure the most effective educational and other programs and to do all such other acts and things, whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not, as may be requisite or expedient in order to further the objectives of the AAU as a place of education, learning, research and development.

- 5) **University Open to All.**- (1) Subject to the reasonable restrictions as may be prescribed by the AAU, the University shall be open to all persons and admission to the AAU shall not be denied based on gender, religion, race, creed, color, domicile or nationality.
- 2) The AAU shall establish financial aid programs for students in need, to the extent considered feasible by the Board of Governors given the resources available, so as to enable admission and access to the AAU and the various opportunities provided by it to be based on merit rather than ability to pay.
- 6) **Teaching and Examinations.**- (1) All recognized teaching in various courses shall be conducted in the prescribed manner, and it may include lectures, tutorials, discussions, seminars, demonstrations as well as practical work in laboratories and workshops and other methods of instruction.
- a) The teaching in any prescribed course and the curricula for teaching shall be such as may be prescribed.
- b) A discipline to be called Islamic Studies and Pakistan Studies shall be offered, as a compulsory subject at the Bachelor's level, provided that non-Muslim students may opt for Ethics and Pakistan Studies.
- c) The degree, diploma or certificate at the AAU shall only be granted to a student after fulfilling the prescribed requirements for the said degree, diploma or certificate.
- d) A continuous examination and evaluation system for all students registered at AAU shall be maintained by University Controller Examination Office as approved by the Board of Governors.
- 7) **Officers of the University.**-The following shall be the principal officers of the University, namely:—
- a) the Patron;
- b) the Chancellor;
- c) the Vice-chancellor;
- d) the Deans;
- e) the Heads/Directors of teaching Departments/Institutes
- f) the Registrar;
- g) the Treasurer;
- h) the Controller of Examinations; and
- i) such other persons as may be prescribed by the Statutes or Regulations to be the officers of the University.
- 8) **The Patron.**-(1) The President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall be the Patron of the AAU.
- 2) The Patron, or in his absence the Chancellor, shall preside at the Convocations of the AAU.
- 3) The Patron may cause a visit and inspect;
- a) the buildings, laboratories, libraries and other facilities;
- b) the teaching, research, curriculum, examinations; and
- c) such other matters as may be specified by him.
- 4) The Patron shall communicate to the Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor/Registrar his views with regard to the result of the visit for better of AAU functions. The Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor/Registrar shall communicate to him such actions, if any, as have been taken or may be proposed to be taken upon the results of the visit and inspection.

- 9) **Chancellor.-** 1) The Chairman of the Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust (MASET) shall be the Chancellor of the AAU.
- 2) The Chancellor may remove Vice-Chancellor/Registrar/Treasurer/Members of the Board of Governors and other staff working at AAU on the grounds that such person,-
- a) has become of unsound mind; or
  - b) has been convicted by a court of law for an offence involving moral turpitude; or
  - c) has absented himself from three consecutive meetings without just cause; or
  - d) has been guilty of misconduct, including use of position for personal advantage of any kind, or gross inefficiency in the performance of functions.
- 3) The Chancellor may set aside a decision or action of the Vice-Chancellor/Board of Governors/any other authority of AAU, which, in the opinion of the Chancellor is against the objectives of the AAU or against the interest of academic excellence, religious or cultural ideology or national integrity and may issue directions and the Vice-Chancellor/Board of Governors and every staff of AAU shall comply with such directions.
- 4) Every proposal to confer an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.

10) **Vice-Chancellor.-** 1) There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the AAU who shall be an eminent member of the society.

2) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the chief academic and administrative officer of the AAU, and shall have overall responsibility for the direction, organization, administration, and programs of the AAU in accordance with the guidelines and general policies formulated by the Board of Governors, and for the implementation of the decisions and policies of the Board.

3) A Search Committee for the recommendation of persons suitable for appointment as Vice-Chancellor shall be constituted by the Chancellor and shall consist of two eminent members of society, two AAU Teachers, and three academic of eminence not employed by the AAU. The persons applied for appointment as Vice-Chancellor shall be considered by the Search Committee, and of these a panel of three, in order of priority, shall be recommended to the Chancellor for appointment of one as a Vice-Chancellor: provided that the Chancellor may decline to appoint any of the three persons recommended and seek recommendation of a fresh panel.

4) The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed for a renewable tenure of maximum four years. The tenure of an incumbent Vice-Chancellor may be renewed by the Chancellor. Before hiring of permanent Vice-Chancellor the Chancellor can appoint any person as Vice-Chancellor for a duration of maximum of two years.

5) At any time when the office of the Vice-Chancellor is vacant, or the Vice-Chancellor is absent or unable to perform the functions of his office due to illness or some other cause, the Chancellor may himself act as Vice-Chancellor or give charge to any of the senior Professor of AAU who shall act as Vice-Chancellor.

6) The Vice-Chancellor shall also have the following powers, namely:

- a) to submit plan of work and budget estimated of the AAU for the consideration of the Board of Governors;
- b) to direct the activities connected with the execution of the programs for instruction, training, research, demonstration and services, etc;
- c) to authorise expenditure provided for in the approved budget;
- d) sanction by re-appropriation an amount for an unforeseen item not provided for in the budget of the AAU;
- e) to re-appropriate funds within the approved budget within the limits as prescribed and report it to the Board of Governors in the next meeting;

- f) to appoint, with the approval of the Board of Governors where necessary, teachers, officers, and members of the staff of the AAU and such other persons as may be necessary in prescribed manner so as to ensure the highest intellectual and moral qualities in the person appointed;
  - g) to create and fill temporary posts on contractual basis maximum up to three years;
  - h) direct a teacher, officer or other employee of the AAU to take up such assignment in connection with examination, administration or any other activities in the AAU as he may consider necessary;
  - i) take disciplinary action against a teacher or any other employee of the AAU in the prescribed manner;
  - j) suspend, punish or remove, in accordance with prescribed procedure, teacher or employee of the AAU with the approval of the Chancellor;
  - k) to submit to the Board of Governors in accordance with the rules of procedure framed by it, reports on the activities of the AAU and the execution of the plans of work;
  - l) to exercise and perform such other powers and functions as may be prescribed;
  - m) to delegate, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, any of his powers under this Act to an officer or officers of the AAU; and
  - n) to exercise such other powers as may be prescribed.
- 7) The Vice-Chancellor may, in an emergency that in his opinion requires immediate action ordinarily not in the competence of the Vice-Chancellor, take such action and forward, within seven days, a report of the action taken to the Chancellor; the Chancellor may direct such further action as considered appropriate.
  - 8) The Vice-Chancellor shall present an annual report before the Board of Governors within six months of the close of the academic year, the annual report shall present such information as regards the academic year under review as may be prescribed, including disclosure of all relevant facts pertaining to;
    - a) academics;
    - b) research;
    - c) administration; and
    - d) finances.
  - 9) The report under sub-section (8), shall be made available, prior to its presentation before the Board of Governors, to all officers and AAU teachers and shall be published in such numbers as are required to ensure its wide circulation.
- 11) **Deans.-** 1) There shall be a Dean for each Faculty who shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Faculty, and shall be nominated by the Chancellor from amongst the three senior most Professors in the Faculty, on the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor in prescribed manner.
    - 2) The Dean shall hold office for the maximum three years.
    - 3) In the absence of Dean of any faculty, senior most Dean of other faculty shall act as an acting Dean after approval of Vice-Chancellor.
    - 4) The Dean shall exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed.
  - 12) **Head of Department.-** 1) There shall be a Teaching Department for each subject or group of allied subjects as may be approved and each Teaching Department shall be headed by a Head of Department.
    - 2) The Head of a Department shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from amongst the senior teachers of the Department.

- 3) The Head of a Department shall hold office for the maximum three years.
- 4) The Head of a Department shall under the general supervision of the Vice-Chancellor and the Dean exercise all administrative, financial and academic powers and such other duties or powers as may be delegated to him.
- 5) The Head of a Department of Teaching Department shall plan, organize and supervise the work of the Department in accordance with the provisions of this Act and shall be responsible to the Dean of the Faculty in which the Department is comprised for the work of his/her Department.

**13) Registrar.-** 1) There shall be a Registrar of the AAU to be appointed by the Chancellor, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. Before hiring of permanent Registrar the Chancellor can appoint any person as Registrar for a duration of maximum of two years and in the absence of the regularly appointed Registrar, the Chancellor may give charge to any faculty member or member of Board of Trustees to act as Registrar.

2) The experience as well as the professional and academic qualifications necessary for appointment to the post of the Registrar shall be as may be prescribed.

3) The Registrar shall be a full-time officer of the AAU and shall;

- a) be the administrative head of the secretariat of the AAU and be responsible for the provision of secretariat support to the Authorities of the AAU;
- b) be the custodian of the common seal of the University;
- c) maintain a register of registered graduates in the prescribed manner;
- d) supervise the process of election, appointment or nomination of members to the various authorities and other bodies in the prescribed manner; and
- e) perform such other duties as may be prescribed.

2) The term of office of the Registrar shall be a renewable period of maximum three years.

**14) Treasurer.-** 1) There shall be a Treasurer of the AAU to be appointed by the Chancellor, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed and before the regular appointment or in absence of the Treasurer, the Chancellor can appoint any person as Treasure for a duration of maximum of two years.

2) The experience, professional and academic qualifications necessary for appointment to the post of the Treasurer shall be as may be prescribed.

3) The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the AAU and shall;

- a) manage the assets, liabilities, receipts, expenditures, funds and investments of the AAU;
- b) prepare the annual and revised budget estimates of the AAU for approval and incorporation in the budget to be presented to the Board of Governors;
- c) ensure that the funds of the AAU are expended on the purposes for which they are provided;
- d) provide necessary information of the approved budget allocation to the departments in the start of every fiscal year;
- e) plan the budget for expansion/business development plan of the AAU.
- f) have the accounts of the AAU audited annually so as to be available for submission to the Chancellor within four months of the close of the financial year; and
- g) perform such other duties as may be prescribed.

4) The term of office of the Treasurer shall be a renewable period of maximum three years.

**15) Controller of Examinations.-** 1) There shall be a Controller of Examination of the AAU to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed and before the regular appointment or in absence of the regular Controller of Examination, the Vice-Chancellor can appoint any person as Controller of Examination for a duration of maximum of two years.

2) The minimum qualifications necessary for appointment to the post of the Controller of Examinations shall be as may be prescribed.

3) The Controller of Examinations shall be a full-time officer of the AAU and shall be responsible for all matters connected with the conduct of examinations, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed.

4) The Controller of Examinations shall be appointed for a renewable term of maximum three years.

**16) Other officers.-** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the terms and conditions of service and powers and duties of other officers of the AAU shall be such as may be prescribed.

**17) Authorities of the University.-** 1) The following shall be the Authorities of the University, namely:

- a) the Board of Trustees;
- b) the Board of Governors; and
- c) the Academic Council.

2) The Board of Trustees, Board of Governors and the Academic Council may set up other committees or sub-committees other than mentioned in this Act with the approval of Chancellor, by whatever name described, as are considered desirable. Such committees or sub-committees shall be Authorities of the AAU.

**18) The Board of Trustees.-** 1) The Board of Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust will be the Board of Trustees for AAU.

2) The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the Trust and shall have all the necessary powers to run and control the affairs of the Trust. The Chairman may nominate any member of the Board of Trustees to act as Chairman in his absence.

3) The Board of Trustees shall meet at least once a year on dates to be fixed by the Chairman.

4) The quorum for general meetings shall be one half of the total members, and for meeting of amendments will be three fourth. A fraction being taken as one.

5) In case of equal votes, Chairman would have an extra vote.

**19) Powers and functions of the Board of Trustees.-** 1) The Board of Trustees (Board of Meher Ali Shah Educational Trust, registration No.4121/1) shall exercise the powers and perform the following functions, namely:

- a) to hold, to control and lay down the policies for the administration of the property, funds and investments of the AAU, including the sale and purchase or acquisition of immovable property, and borrow or raise funds for the purposes of the AAU upon such security as may be required;
- b) to undertake responsibility for the financial viability of the AAU including responsibility for ensuring effectiveness of its operation, continuity and preservation of the autonomy of the AAU;
- c) to consider and pass the resolutions for the annual report, plan of work, statement of accounts and annual budget estimates as recommended by the Board of Governors;
- d) to approve the draft Statutes proposed by the Board of Governors;



- e) to nominate members of the Board of Governors and other authorities as prescribed in this act;
- f) to delegate powers to an authority or officer or committee;
- g) to transfer and accept transfer of movable or immovable property on behalf of the AAU;
- h) to admit educational institutions to the privileges of the AAU and withdraw such privileges;
- i) to take all necessary actions and measures as may be necessary for the purpose for the better of AAU;
- j) to renovate or demolish existing buildings, construct new buildings for educational and residential purposes in acquired land(s) (leased or rented or purchased) of AAU or MASET after the approval of maps and building plans and architecture plans and structure designs from the Chairman;
- k) to arrange for the inspection of the Academic Departments;
- l) to appoint members to the various Authorities, Committees and Bodies in a prescribed manner;
- m) to co-ordinate with private, semi government or government agencies of Islamic Republic of Pakistan and of other countries by extending and receiving cooperation, assistance and consultancy to achieve the objective of AAU;
- n) to affiliate, co-operate with or join as a member or otherwise collaborate and maintain contacts and contracts with other organizations and institutes established or to be established in Islamic Republic of Pakistan or in other countries of the world having aims and objectives similar to those of the AAU; and
- o) to setup welfare and rehabilitation centers, clinics, hospitals, and hostels, in order to meet objectives of the Trust.

**20) The Board of Governors.-** 1) The Board of Governors shall exercise general supervision and control of administrative, academic and financial affairs of the AAU, to lay down the policies of the AAU not expressly vested in any Authority or officer by the Act, and shall consist of the following, namely:

- a) Chairman of the Board of Trustees;
  - b) Vice-Chancellor of AAU;
  - c) Registrar of AAU;
  - d) Treasurer of AAU;
  - e) All Deans of AAU;
  - f) Members, not more than six, nominated by Board of Trustees;
  - g) Three members of Board of Trustees to be nominated by the Chancellor;
  - h) one member of the Government not below the rank of Additional Secretary from the Ministry of Education;
  - i) Members, not more than three, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from eminent educational institutions and industries;
  - j) one person nominated by the Higher Education Commission not below the rank of an officer of BPS-20.
- 2) The Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Governors, and in his absence, the Vice-Chancellor shall head the meeting.
  - 3) Registrar shall act as a secretary.
  - 4) The members of the Board of Governors, other than the Chairperson, shall hold office for a term of three years, and shall be eligible for re-appointment on the expiry of their term unless the Board of Trustees for reasons to be recorded terminates his / her membership earlier.
  - 5) The office of a member of the Board of Governors shall become vacant if he or she resigns or fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board of Governors without sufficient cause or leave of absence, or if his/her nomination is changed by the person nominating him/her.

6) Board of Governors shall lay down rules of procedure and may amend or modify them from time to time with approval of Chancellor.

**21) Business of the Board of Governors.-** 1) The Board of Governors shall meet at least once during a year on dates to be fixed by the Chairperson Board of Governors.

2) A special meeting may be called at any time by the Registrar with the approval of Chancellor, or on a request in writing by not less than five members of the Board of Governors to consider a matter of urgent nature.

3) In case of a special meeting, not less than five clear days' notice of a special meeting shall be given to the members of the Board of Governors and the agenda of the meeting shall not be restricted to the matters for which such a special meeting is called, and the agenda may be annexed to such notice.

4) The decisions of the Board of Governors shall be expressed in terms of the views of the majority of members present and voting and, if the members are equally divided, the Chairperson Board of Governors shall have the power to exercise a second or casting vote.

5) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Governors shall be one half of its membership, a fraction being counted as one.

**22) Powers and Functions of the Board of Governors.-** 1) The Board of Governors shall exercise and perform the following powers and functions:

- a) to formulate or approve the principles and the plans governing the activities and operations of the AAU so as to ensure that the academic staff maintain quality in their research and educational work;
- b) to make and amend already established rules and regulations of the conduct of AAU;
- c) to prepare and have prepared and revised from time to time rules and regulations for the efficient and effective operation of the AAU;
- d) to review and approve the creation of any standing component of the AAU, such as standing committees and councils and other administrative bodies necessary, to assist or improve the working of the AAU;
- e) to consider plans of work on annual budget of the AAU submitted by the Vice-Chancellor for the Approval of the Board of Trustees;
- f) to require and consider reports submitted by the Vice-Chancellor; relating to the activities of the AAU and the execution of the plans of work and to direct the Vice-Chancellor to submit reports relating to any matters referred by the Board of Governors;
- g) to create such academic and administrative posts as it may deem necessary and to approve appointments to such posts as it may specify;
- h) to appoint from amongst its members such committees or sub-committees as may in the opinion of the Board of Governors lead to its more efficient and effective operation;
- i) to take all such initiatives as it may consider necessary or desirable for the efficient and effective management and functioning of the AAU;
- j) to make admission policies for main campus, sub-campus, virtual campus, affiliated colleges/institutes and to devise admission charges, registration charges, examination charges and any other charges as may deem necessary;
- k) to make affiliation policies to grant affiliations to educational institutions or colleges or registered bodies under the management of the Government or any other entity of Islamic Republic of Pakistan; to approve programs or disciplines in which affiliated institutions or colleges may take admissions; to devise affiliation charges, registration charges, examination charges and other charges as may deem

necessary, and to perform other similar arrangements through which institutions or colleges or individuals may become associated with the AAU;

- l) to propose drafts of Statutes for submission to the Board of Trustees for approval;
  - m) to approve new faculties or departments or programs or disciplines of any other field of knowledge or trainings facilities;
  - n) to renovate or demolish existing buildings, construct new buildings for educational and residential purposes in acquired land(s) (leased or rented or purchased) of AAU after the approval of maps and building plans and architecture plans and structure designs from the Chancellor;
  - o) to lay down its rules of procedures, by approval of Board of Trustees; and
  - p) to perform such other functions as have been assigned by the provisions of the Act or may be assigned to it by the Statutes.
- 2) No Statute, Regulation or proceeding of the Board shall be invalid by reason of any vacancy or defect in the constitution of the Board.
  - 3) The Board of Governors may delegate any of its powers to the Vice-Chancellor subject to such conditions as it may deem fit to impose.
  - 4) Before the formation of the Board of Governors, the Chancellor shall exercise all the authorities/powers of the Board, and any rules, regulations, statues and policies approved by the Chancellor shall remain permanent until they are amended by the Chancellor himself.

**23) Academic Council.-** 1) There shall be an Academic Council of the AAU consisting of the following:

- a) the Vice-Chancellor who shall be its Chairperson;
  - b) two members nominated by the Chancellor;
  - c) all the Deans;
  - d) two Principals of constituent colleges nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
  - e) two Principals of affiliated colleges nominated by the Chancellor;
  - f) all the Head of Teaching Departments;
  - g) all Professors and Associate Professors of the AAU;
  - h) two Assistant Professors and two Lecturers to be nominated by the Board of Governors;
  - i) the Controller of Examinations;
  - j) six eminent persons from different fields of education or industry to be nominated by the Board of Governors;
  - k) the Registrar as Secretary; and
  - l) the Treasurer of AAU.
- 2) Members of the Academic Council appointed by nomination shall hold office for three years.
  - 3) The Academic Council shall meet at least once in a year. The quorum for a meeting shall be one half of its members, a fraction being counted as one.

**24) Powers and functions of the Academic Council.-** 1) The Academic Council shall be the principal academic body of the AAU and shall, subject to the provisions of the Act and the Statutes, have the power to lay down proper standards of instruction, research and examinations and to regulate and promote the academic life of the AAU.

2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers, and subject to the provisions of the Act and the Statutes, the Academic Council shall have the power to;

- a) advise the Board of Governors on academic matters;
- b) regulate the conduct of teaching, research, publications and examinations;
- c) regulate the admission of students to the courses of studies and examinations in the AAU;
- d) regulate the conduct of discipline of the students of the AAU;

- e) approve the policies and procedures pertaining to the quality of academic programs, teaching and research;
- f) approve academic programs;
- g) approve policies and procedures pertaining to continuing education and professional development trainings and programs;
- h) recommend the policies and procedures for affiliation of other educational institutions;
- i) propose schemes for the constitution and organization of Faculties, Teaching Departments and Boards of Studies;
- j) institute programs for the continued professional development of AAU Teachers at all levels;
- k) recognize the examinations of other universities or examining bodies as equivalent to the corresponding examinations of the AAU;
- l) regulate the award of studentships, scholarships, exhibitions, medals and prizes;
- m) frame academic Regulations for submission to the Board of Governors;
- n) prepare an annual report on the academic performance of the AAU; and
- o) perform such functions as may be prescribed.

3) The Board of Governors has the power to exercise all the authorities/powers of Academic Council.

**25) Constitution, Functions, and Powers of the Authorities.-** The constitution, functions and powers of the Authorities for which no specific provision has been made in this Act shall be such as may be prescribed by Board of Trustees.

**26) Appointment of Committees by Certain Authorities.-** The Board of Trustees, the Board of Governors and the Academic Council may from time to time appoint such standing, special, or advisory committees as they may deem fit, and may place on such committees, persons who are not members of the Authorities appointing the Committees.

**27) Statutes.-** 1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, Statutes may be made to regulate or prescribe all or any of the following matters, namely:

- a) the contents of and the manner in which the annual report to be presented by the Vice-Chancellor before the Board of Governors shall be prepared;
- b) the University fees and other charges;
- c) the constitution of any scales of pay and other terms and conditions of service of officers, teachers and other employees of the AAU and the constitution of their pension, insurance, gratuity, provident fund and benevolent fund for AAU employees;
- d) the maintenance of the record of registered graduates;
- e) affiliation and disaffiliation of educational institutions or colleges and related matters;
- f) the establishment of Faculties, departments, institutes, colleges, sub-campuses and other academic divisions;
- g) the powers and duties of officers and teachers;
- h) conditions under which the AAU may enter into arrangements with other universities, public authorities or private organizations, educational institutions or registered bodies under the management of government or regularly constituted body (registered firm or company or trust or society or partnership or any other entity) or public bodies for purposes of education, research and advisory services;
- i) conditions for appointment of Emeritus/National Professors and award of honorary degrees;
- j) efficiency and discipline of AAU employees;
- k) constitution, functions and powers of the Authorities of the University; and

- 1) all other matters which by this Act are to be or may be prescribed or regulated by Statutes.
- 2) The draft of Statutes shall be proposed by the Board of Governors to the Board of Trustees which may approve or pass with such modifications as the Board of Trustees may think fit or may refer back to the Board of Governors, as the case may be, for reconsideration of the proposed draft. However, statutes made by Board of Trustees will be the statutes of AAU.
- 3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Statutes set out to this Act shall be deemed the Statutes framed under this section, and shall remain in force until they are rescinded or replaced by new Statutes approved by the Board of Trustees.

**28) Regulations.-** 1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, the Academic Council may make regulations for all or any of the following matters namely:

- a) the courses of study for degrees, diplomas and certificates of the University;
  - b) the manner in which the teaching in the University shall be organized and conducted in the University, sub-campus, virtual campuses and affiliated colleges;
  - c) the admission and expulsion of students to and from the AAU rolls;
  - d) the conditions under which students shall be admitted to the courses and the examinations of the AAU and shall become eligible for the award of degrees, diplomas and certificates;
  - e) the conduct of examination in the AAU, sub-campus, virtual campuses and affiliated colleges;
  - f) conditions under which a person may carry on independent research to entitle him to a degree;
  - g) the institution of fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions, medals and prizes;
  - h) the use of the Library; and
  - i) all other matters which, by the Act or the Statutes are to be or may be prescribed by Regulations.
- 2) Regulations shall be proposed by the Academic Council and shall be submitted to the Board of Governors which may approve them or withhold approval or refer them back to the Academic Council for reconsideration. A Regulation proposed by the Academic Council shall not be effective unless it receives the approval of the Board of Governors. However, the regulations made by Board of Trustees shall be the regulations of AAU.

**29) Rules.-** 1) The Authorities and the other bodies of the University may make rules consistent with this Act, Statutes or the Regulations, to regulate any matter relating to the affairs of the AAU which has not been provided for by the Bill or that is not required to be regulated by Statutes or Regulations, including rules to regulate the conduct of business and the time and place of meetings and related matters.

2) The Board of Trustees may make Rules to regulate any matter relating to the affairs of the AAU which under this Act are not specifically required to be provided for by the Statutes or the Regulations.

**30) University Fund.-** The AAU shall have a Fund to which shall be credited its income from fees, charges, donations, trusts, bequests, endowments, contributions, grants and all other sources, and which shall be under the control of the Board of Trustees.

**31) Audits and Accounts.-** 1) The Accounts of the AAU shall be maintained in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Board of Trustees, and shall be audited each year within four months of the closing of the financial year of the AAU by a Chartered Accountant appointed by the Board of Trustees.

2) The accounts, together with the report of the auditor thereon, shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

- 3) The auditor's report shall certify that the auditor has complied with the standards of audit as per requirement of Board of Trustees and certification laid down by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan.
- 32) **Opportunity to Show Cause.**- Except as otherwise provided by law no officer, teacher or other employee of the AAU holding a permanent post shall be reduced in rank, or removed or compulsorily retired from service for cause arising out of any act or omission on the part of the person concerned unless he or she has been given a reasonable opportunity of showing cause against the action proposed to be taken.
- 33) **Appeal.**- Where an order is passed punishing teacher or other employee of the AAU or altering or interpreting to his disadvantage the prescribed terms or conditions of his service, he/she shall, where the order is passed by any officer or teacher of the AAU other than the Vice-Chancellor, have the right to appeal to the Vice-Chancellor against the order, and where the order is passed by the Vice-Chancellor, have the right to appeal to the Chancellor.
- 34) **Benefits and Insurance.**- The AAU may constitute for the benefit of its officers, teachers and other employees schemes, as may be prescribed, for the provision of post-employment benefits as well as health insurance while in service.
- 35) **Flaws in the Constitution of Authorities.**-Where there is a flaw in the constitution of an Authority, as constituted by this Act, the Statutes or the Regulations on account of the abolition of a specified office or because an organization, institution or other body outside the AAU has been dissolved or has ceased to function, or because of some other similar reason, such flaw shall be removed in such manner as the Chancellor may direct.
- 36) **Proceedings of Authorities not Invalidated by the Vacancies.**-No act, resolution or decision of any Authority shall be invalid by reason of any vacancy on the Authority doing, passing, or making it or by reason of any want of qualification or invalidity in the election, appointment or nomination of any de facto member of the Authority, whether present or absent.
- 37) **Removal of Difficulties.**-1) If any question arises as to the interpretation of any of the provisions of this Act, it shall be placed before the Chancellor whose decision thereon shall be final.
- 2) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any of the provisions of this Act, the Chancellor may make such order as may appear to him to be necessary for removing the difficulty.
- 3) Where the Act makes any provision for anything to be done but no provision or no sufficient provision has been made as respect to the authority by whom or the time at which, or the manner in which it shall be done, then it shall be done by such authority at such time, and in such manner as the Chancellor may direct.
- 38) **Indemnity.**- No suit or legal proceedings shall lie against the AAU and MASET or any Authority, officer or employee of the AAU or any person in respect of anything, which is done in good faith under this Act.
- 39) **Bar of Jurisdiction.**-No court shall have jurisdiction to entertain any proceedings, grant any injunction or make any order in relation to anything done in good faith or purported to have been done or intended to be done under this Act.
- 40) **Faculties.**- There shall be a faculty for a teaching department or a group of teaching departments. The AAU shall include the following faculties:
- a) Faculty of Applied Sciences and Engineering;
  - b) Faculty of Social Sciences, Law and Humanities;
  - c) Faculty of Medical Sciences;
  - d) Faculty of Management Sciences; and

- e) any other faculty as approved by the Board of Governors.

**41) Board of Faculties.-** 1) There shall be a Board of each Faculty consisting of:

- a) the Dean;
  - b) the Professors, Associate Professors and Head of the Departments comprised in the faculty;
  - c) one member from concerned Faculty, to be nominated by the concerned Board of Studies;
  - d) three Teachers to be nominated by the Academic Council by reason of their specialized knowledge of Subjects which, though not assigned to the Faculty, have in the opinion of the Academic Council, important bearing on the subjects assigned to the Faculty; and
  - e) three members may be nominated by Board of Trustees of eminence personality in education or industry as co-opted members
- 2) The members, mentioned in clauses (c), (d) and (e) of sub-section (1) shall hold office for three years.
- 3) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of a Faculty shall be one half of the total number of members, fractions being counted as one.
- 4) The Board of each Faculty shall, subject to the general control of the Academic Council and the Board of Governors, have the powers,
- a) to coordinate the teaching and research in the subject assigned to the Faculty;
  - b) to scrutinize the schemes of courses and syllabi proposed by the Board of Studies comprised in the Faculty, and forward them to the Academic Council along with its observations; and
  - c) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

**42) Board of Studies.-**1) There shall be a Board of Studies for each subject or group of subjects as may be prescribed by the Regulation.

2) Each Board of Studies shall consist of:

- a) the Head of the Teaching Department concerned;
  - b) all Professors and Associate Professors in the Teaching Department concerned;
  - c) two AAU Teachers (Assistant Professor or Lecturer), other than Professors or Associate Professors of relevant department, to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor; and
  - d) three experts, other than AAU Teachers, to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- 3) The term of office of members of the Board of Studies, other than ex-officio members, shall be three years.
- 4) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Studies shall be one half of the total number of members, a fraction being counted as one.
- 5) The Head of the AAU Teaching Department concerned shall be the Chairperson and Convener of the Board of Studies.
- 6) The functions of the Board of Studies shall be:
- a) to advise authorities on academic matters connected with instructions, research and examinations in the subjects concerned at AAU and associated institutions;
  - b) to propose and/or amend curricula and syllabi for all degree, diploma and certificate courses in the subject or subjects concerned;
  - c) to propose internal and/or external panel of examiners for examination, if any;
  - d) to propose supervisors for research students and to determine the subject of their thesis/project;
  - e) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by Regulations; and

f) to propose subject experts for Selection Board.

**43) Board of Advanced Studies and Research.-** 1) There shall be a Board of Advanced Studies and Research consisting of:

- a) the Vice-Chancellor, who shall be the Chairperson and in his absence senior most Dean shall be the Chairperson;
  - b) the Deans;
  - c) three AAU Professors, other than Deans, to be appointed by the Board of Governors;
  - d) three AAU Teachers having research qualifications and experience, to be appointed by the Academic Council; and
  - e) the Professors Emeritus/National, if any.
- 2) The term of the office of the members of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research, other than ex-officio members, shall be three years.
- 3) The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research shall be one half of the total member of members, a fraction being counted as one.
- 4) The functions of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research shall be:
- a) to advise the Authorities on all matters connected with the promotion of advanced studies and research in the AAU;
  - b) to propose Regulations regarding the award of research degrees;
  - c) to approve supervisors for research students and to determine the subject of their thesis, on the recommendation of Board of Studies;
  - d) to approve panels of examiners for research examination after considering the proposals of the Board of Studies in this behalf; and
  - e) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by Statutes.
- 5) Chairperson of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research shall be the responsible for finalizing the externals from the proposed panel of examiners.

**44) The Selection Board.-** 1) There shall be a Selection Board consisting of:

- a) the Vice-Chancellor who shall be the Chairperson;
  - b) one member of the Board of Trustees nominated by the Chairman of Board of Trustees;
  - c) one member of the Board of Governors nominated by Board of Governors;
  - d) two persons of eminence nominated by the Board of Trustees, provided that none of them is an employee of the AAU;
  - e) the Dean of the Faculty concerned;
  - f) the Head of the Teaching Department concerned; and
  - g) one subject expert to be nominated by the Board of Studies, from a standing list of experts.
- 2) The members of the Selection Board, other than ex-officio members, shall hold office for three years.
- 3) The quorum for a meeting of the Selection Board shall be one half of the total members.
- 4) No member of the Selection Board who is a candidate for the post to which appointment is to be made shall take part in such proceedings of the Selection Board.
- 5) The Selection Board for teaching and other posts shall consider the applications received in response to an advertisement, and recommend to the Board of Governors the names of suitable persons for appointment to teaching or other posts, as the case may be, and may also recommend:
- a) the grant of a higher initial pay in a suitable case for reasons to be recorded;
  - b) the appointment of an eminently qualified person to a Professorship in the AAU on terms and conditions other than those prescribed; and
  - c) cases of move-over and award of increments/cash award on the basis of research or academic contribution as prescribed.



- 6) In the event of unresolved difference of opinion between the Selection Board and the Board of Governors, the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor whose decision thereon shall be final.
  - 7) In case of urgent appointment Chancellor can appoint any staff or teaching faculty member on recommendation of Registrar.
- 45) **Discipline Committee.**-1) The Discipline Committee shall consist of:
- a) a Chairperson of Discipline Committee to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor;
  - b) two Professors to be nominated by the Academic Council;
  - c) two Professors to be nominated by the Board of Governors; and
  - d) the teacher or officer-in-charge of students' affairs by whatever name called (Member/Secretary).
- 2) The term of office of the members of the Committee, other than ex-officio members, shall be two years.
  - 3) The quorum for a meeting of Discipline Committee shall be one half of the total members and fraction shall be counted as one.
  - 4) The functions of the Discipline Committee shall be:
    - a) to propose Regulations to the Academic Council relating to the conduct of AAU students, maintenance of discipline and breach of discipline; and
    - b) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The main functions of higher education and universities are predominantly two-fold. One is as educational establishments and the second as generators of knowledge and technology. Keeping in view the afore-mentioned importance this Bill aims at providing the framework for establishment of Al-Ala University for the provision of best facilities to the upcoming professionals in terms of dedicated faculty, labs the library, research intensive culture and an environment of higher education by equipping students with knowledge with an approach to solve interdisciplinary problems.

**SENATOR KAUDA BABAR  
SENATOR DILAWAR KHAN  
SENATOR SARFRAZ AHMED BUGTI  
MEMBERS-IN-CHARGE**