

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

to amend Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Book Registration Ordinance, 2002

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance, 2002 (XCVIII of 2002), in the manner ad for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows: -

1. **Short title and commencement.** - (1) This Act shall be called the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration (Amendment) Act, 2023.
(2) it shall come into force at once.
2. **Amendment of section 2, Ordinance XCVIII of 2002.**- In the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance, 2002 (XCVIII of 2002), hereinafter referred to as the said Ordinance, in section 2, -
 - (a) clause (e) shall be omitted;
 - (b) after clause (f), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely; -
 - (fa) "ministry" means the ministry of division to which business of information and broadcasting stands allocated;" and
 - (c) in clause (m), for the word "Federal Government", wherever occurring, the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted.
3. **Amendment of section 39, Ordinance (XCVIII of 2002).** - In the said Ordinance, in section 39, for the words "Federal Government", the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted.

Subject: **STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

In the light of Honorable Supreme Court's decision in the Mustafa Impax Case, the Federal Cabinet, in case No. 419/19/2017 dated 08-09-2017 directed that all Ministries/Divisions should make amendments in respective Acts/Rules and replace the words "Federal Government" with appropriate authorities. Hence, it is expedient to amend the "Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance (Amendment), Bill 2023". In the Ordinance the words "Federal Government", wherever occurring, the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted.

2. It is informed that the above-mentioned decision has been ratified by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 1st February, 2023 under Case No. 15/03/2023.


Minister In-Charge