

As
[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

Bill

further to amend the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Act, 1992

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Act, 1992 (I of 1992) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Act may be called the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of Section 4, Act I of 1992.— In the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Act, 1992 (I of 1992) hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 4, in clause (a), for the expression "invalid, infirm", the words "differently abled" shall be substituted.

3. Amendment of Section 5, Act I of 1992.— In the said Act, in section 5, in sub-section (2), for clause (iii), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(iii) seven non-official Members to be appointed by the Federal Government one each from the Provinces, Islamabad Capital Territory, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan:

Provided that at least three of the non-official Members shall be women;"

4. Amendment of Section 11, Act I of 1992.— In the said Act, for section 11, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"**11. Head office of the Board.**— The head office of the Board shall be at Islamabad and it may set up offices at such place or places in the country."

5. Amendment of Section 14, Act I of 1992.— In the said Act, in section 14, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(2) Simple majority of the total membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for each meeting and all decisions of the Board shall be taken by the majority of its members present and voting. In case of equality of votes, the Chairperson (*Ameen*) or, as the case may be, the Member presiding over a meeting shall have a casting vote:

Provided that if the quorum is not present at a meeting, it shall be postponed and a new meeting shall be convened within two weeks with a written notice to all Members of the Board and in such meeting, the Board may take decisions even if the quorum is not complete."

6. Amendment of Section 20, Act I of 1992.— In the said Act, in section 20, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(2) Within one hundred and eighty days from the end of each financial year, a copy of the report referred to in sub-section (1) together with a copy of the audit report referred to in section 18 shall be laid before each House of the Parliament."

7. Insertion of new Section 25, Act I of 1992.— In the said Act, after section 24, the following new section 25, shall be added, namely:-

"**25. Removal of difficulties.**— If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any provision of this Act, the Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make such provision(s) as may appear to it, necessary for the purposes of removing such difficulty."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The proposed amendments in the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Act, 1992 pertain to several aspects, including increase in Members of the Board, the requirement to present reports to the Parliament, the procedure for conducting Board meetings, and the introduction of a new provision designed to address potential challenges. The overarching objective of these proposed changes is to boost the operational efficacy of the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Board, enabling it to more effectively fulfil its designated functions as outlined in the Act.

SENATOR SHAHADAT AWAN
Member-in-Charge