

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

further to amend the Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Act, 2015

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Act, 2015 (X of 2015) in the manner and for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Act may be called the Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 7, Act X of 2015.— In the Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Act, 2015 (X of 2015), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 7, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(2) The Election Commission shall delimit Union Council into nine wards for the election of members on general seats."

3. Substitution of section 11, Act X of 2015.— In the said Act, for section 11, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"11. Union Council.— A Union Council shall consist of the following members elected under Chapter V:-

- (i) Chairman and Vice Chairman, as joint candidates;
- (ii) nine general members;
- (iii) one woman;
- (iv) one peasant or worker or businessman or technocrat;
- (v) one youth member; and
- (vi) one non-Muslim."

4. Amendment of section 12, Act X of 2015.— In the said Act, in section 12, in sub-section (3), the expression "to (vii)", occurring for the first time, shall be omitted.

5. Substitution of section 15, Act X of 2015.— In the said Act, for section 15, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

"15. Election of the members of the Union Councils.—

(1) All nine general members of each Union Council shall be directly elected by the voters registered in the concerned Union Council.

(2) Save as otherwise provided, in the first meeting of the Union Council to be convened and presided over by the Secretary of the Union Council and to the exclusion of any other business, the general members of the Union Council shall elect through secret ballot one women, one peasant or worker or businessman or technocrat, one youth member and one non-Muslim member mentioned at serial number (iii) to (vi) of section 11 of this Act:

Provided that election of the members shall be conducted in the prescribed manner.

(3) After the completion of the process of the election under sub-section (2), the Secretary of the Union Council shall convene and preside meeting of the Union Council to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman as joint candidate from members mentioned at serial number (ii) to (vi) of section 11 of this Act:

Provided that the electoral college for the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman as joint candidate shall be members mentioned at serial number (ii) to (vi) of section 11 of this Act:

Provided further that election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be conducted in the prescribed manner."

6. Amendment of section 17, Act X of 2015.— In the said Act, in section 17, in sub-section (3), for the expression "the Representation of the People Act, 1976 (LXXXV of 1976)", the expression "the Elections Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017)" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The brief facts leading to amendment in Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Act, 2015 are that Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Act was promulgated in 2015 to establish an elected Local Government System. The term of Local Government of ICT expired on 14.02.2021 and the Federal Government and the Election Commission are obligated to conduct the elections within 120 days in terms of Section 219 (4) of the Elections Act, 2017.

2. In order to complete necessary arrangements for conduct of Local Government Elections in Islamabad, the ECP asked for issuance of notification regarding number of reserved seats of Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI) **and amendment in Section-17 of the ICT Local Government Act, 2015 to the effect that "the Representation of the People Act, 1976" should be replaced with "Elections Act, 2017".**

3. As Representation of the People Act, 1976 (LXXXV of 1976) has been repealed under the Section 241 (d) of the Elections Act, 2017, therefore, Section 17(3) of the ICT Local Government Act, 2015 is required to be amended and words **"the Representation of the People Act, 1976 (LXXXV of 1976)** are to be substitute with words **"the Elections Act, 2017".**

-Sd-
(SYED MOHSIN RAZA NAQVI)
Minister for Interior