[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

further to amend the Pakistan Study Centres Act, 1976

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Pakistan Study Centres Act, 1976 (XXVII of 1976), in the manner and for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. **Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act shall be called the Pakistan Study Centres (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of section 2, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the Pakistan Study Centres Act, 1976 (XXVII of 1976), hereinafter referred to as "the said Act", in section 2,-

(i) In clause (c), for the words "University Grants", the words "Higher Education" shall be substituted; and

(ii) after clause (d), the following shall be inserted, namely:-

"(da) "division concerned" means the Division to which the business of the Act stands allocated;".

3. **Amendment of section 4, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 4, in clause (e), for the words "Federal Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

4. **Amendment of section 5, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 5, in clause (f), for the words "Federal Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

5. **Amendment of section 6, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 6, in sub-section (1), in clause (g),-

(a) after the words "experts", the comma and words ",out of which one shall be female" shall be inserted;

(b) for the words "Federal Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted; and

(c) in sub-section (3), for the words "Federal Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

6. **Amendment of section 7, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 7,-

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "Federal Government", wherever occurring, the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted; and

(b) in sub-section (4), for the word "Chairman", the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of section 8, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 8, in sub-section (1), in clause (c) after the word "experts", the comma and words ",out of which one shall be female" shall be inserted.

8. **Amendment of section 10, Act XXVII of 1976.**—In the said Act, in section 10, for the words "Federal Government", wherever occurring, the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECT AND REASONS

Cabinet Division communicated Honorable Prime Minister's directives to ensure "33% women representations in all Federal Boards, Statutory Bodies, Public Sector Organizations and Allied Committees under Federal Government (Task No. T16367C)". In order to ensure the compliance of the above, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training has started process of making necessary amendments in the existing laws of the autonomous organizations under the ambit of the Ministry.

2. There is a dire need to bring adequate amendments in the existing Pakistan Study Centres Act No, XXVII of 1976. The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid object.

-Sd-
Dr. Khalid Maqbool Saddiqui
Federal Minister for
Federal Education and Professional Training
Islamabad