The following Bill/ Report have been introduced/presented in the National Assembly on 1st January, 2020.

NA BILL NO. 1 OF 2020

A BILL

A Bill to amend the Pakistan Academy of Letters Act, 2013

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Pakistan Academy of Letters Act, 2013 (IV of 2013) for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

(27)

Price: Rs. 10.00

[5019(2020)/Ex. Gaz.]
1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Pakistan Academy of Letters (Amendment) Act, 2019.

   (2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of section 2, Act IV of 2013.**—In the Pakistan Academy of Letters Act, 2013 (IV of 2013), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 2,—

   (a) in clause (i), the word “and”, occurring at the end, shall be omitted; and

   (b) in clause (j), for the full stop at the end, a semi colon and the word “and” shall be substituted and thereafter the following new clause shall be added, namely:—

   “(k) “secretary” means secretary of the Division concerned.”.

3. **Amendment of section 4, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 4, in sub-section (1),—

   (a) for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted;

   (b) for clause (b), the following shall be substituted, namely:—

   “(b) Joint Secretary of the Division concerned”;

   (c) in clause (f), for the expression “FATA, FANA, NA”, the words “Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan” shall be substituted.

4. **Amendment of section 7, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 7, in sub-section (2), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted.

5. **Amendment of section 8, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 8,—

   (a) in sub-section (2), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister or a person authorized by him” shall be substituted; and

   (b) in sub-section (4), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister or a person authorized by him” shall be substituted.
6. **Amendment of section 10, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 10,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister or a person authorized by him” shall be substituted; and

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of section 12, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 12,—

(a) in clause (w), for the word “Ministry”, the word “Division” shall be substituted; and

(b) in clause (y), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted.

8. **Amendment of section 13, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 13, in sub-section (1), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted.

9. **Amendment of section 16, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 16, in sub-section (2), for the words “Chairman of the Academy”, the words “secretary of the Division concerned” shall be substituted.

10. **Amendment of section 18, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 18, for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned” shall be substituted.

11. **Amendment of section 19, Act IV of 2013.**—In the said Act, in section 19, for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Division concerned in consultation with the Establishment and Finance Divisions and all other concerned ministries and divisions” shall be substituted.

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**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

The Federal Cabinet in its meeting held on 08-11-2017, in case No. 419/199/2017, decided that all Ministries and Divisions should in consultation with Law & Justice Division, make amendments in the respective Acts/ Rules and replace the words “Federal Government” with appropriate authority(ies).
The amendments in the Pakistan Academy or Letters’ Act, 2013 through this bill namely “Pakistan Academy of Letters (Amendment) Act, 2019” will bring clarity in the statute. Besides decentralizing of powers and their conferment at appropriate levels. It will help to avoid un-necessary delays and will speed up the decision making. Moreover, un-called for references to the Federal Cabinet will also be avoided. Therefore it is deemed imperative to introduce this Bill.

MINISTER-IN-CHARGE,

Pursuant to rule 235 (4) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007, the following report of the Standing Committee, presented to the National Assembly on 1st January, 2020 is published for information.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW AND JUSTICE ON THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice, have the honour to present this report on the Bill further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan [The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019] (Government Bill) referred to the Committee on 7th November, 2019.

2. The Committee comprises the following:—

1. Mr. Riaz Fatyana Chairman
2. Mr. Atta Ullah Member
3. Mr. Lal Chand Member
4. Mr. Muhammad Farooq Azam Malik Member
5. Ms. Kishwer Zehra Member
6. Ms. Maleeka Ali Bokhari Member
7. Mr. Muhammad Sana Ullah Khan Masti Khel Member
8. Malik Muhammad Ehsan Ullah Tiwana Member
9. Agha Hassan Baloch Member
10. Mr. Sher Ali Arbab Member
11. Ms. Shunila Ruth Member
12. Mr. Saad Waseem Member
13. Rana Sana Ullah Khan Member
14. Ch. Mehmood Bashir Virk Member
15. Mr. Usman Ibrahim Member
16. Khawaja Saad Rafique Member
17. Syed Hussain Tariq Member
18. Syed Naveed Qamar Member
The Committee considered the Bill as introduced in the National Assembly placed at (Annex-A), in its meeting held on 27th November, 2019. Note of Dissent of Ms. Aliya Kamran, MNA is placed at Annex-B.

The Committee recommended that the Bill as introduced in the National Assembly may be passed.

Sd/- (TAHIR HUSSAIN),
Secretary.

Sd/- (RIAZ FATYANA),
Chairman.

Islamabad, the 12th December, 2019.

Annex ‘A’

AS REPORTED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE

A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of Article 48 of the Constitution.—In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in Article 48, in clause (4), for the expression “Cabinet, the Prime Minister, a Minister or Minister of State”, the words “Cabinet or the Prime Minister” shall be substituted.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In Order to bring uniformity and to remove the contradiction form the Constitution of Pakistan, clause (4) of Article 48 is proposed to be amended to bring it in conformity with clause (1) thereof which was amended by the Constitution (Eighth Amendment) Act, 1985 (XVIII of 1985).

The Bill is designed to achieve the aforesaid object.

DR. MUHAMMAD FAROUGH NASEEM,
Minister for Law and Justice.
Minister-in-Charge.

Annexure “B”

NOTE OF DISSENT

Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 48)

It is a universal norm that each and every person and institution is accountable. To cover their mistakes, they seek exemption through this amendment so that nobody may challenge their issues in the court.

No such exemption is available anywhere in the world. Every person is answerable under the law. This amendment is just to save them from accountability under the law.

Sd/-
ALIA KAMRAN,
Member, National Assembly (NA-329).

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.