

[AS REPORTED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE]

A

BILL

further to amend the Maritime Security Agency, Act, 1994

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Maritime Security Agency Act, 1994 (X of 1994), for the purposes hereinafter appearing:

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Maritime Security Agency (Amendment) Act, 2012.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of long title, Act X of 1994.**- In the Maritime Security Agency Act, 1994 (X of 1994), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in the long title, after the word "the", the word "Pakistan" shall be inserted.

3. **Amendment of preamble, Act X of 1994.**- In the said Act, in the preamble, after the word "a", the word "Pakistan" shall be inserted.

4. **Amendment of section 1, Act X of 1994.**- In the said Act, in section 1, in sub-section (2),-

(a) after the word "the", the word "Pakistan" shall be inserted;

(b) after the word "the", occurring for the second time, the word "Pakistan" shall be inserted.

5. **Amendment of section 2, Act X of 1994.**- In the said Act, in section 2,-

(a) in clause (a), after the word "the", the word "Pakistan" shall be inserted; and

(b) in clause (c), the words "Maritime Security" shall be omitted.

6. **Amendment of section 3, Act X of 1994.**- In the said Act, in section 3, in sub-section (1), for the word "Maritime", the word "Pakistan Maritime" shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of Schedule, Act X of 1994.**- In the said Act, in the Schedule, for the word "Maritime", the words "Pakistan Maritime" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

- a. Maritime Security Agency (MSA) is an attached department of Ministry of Defence to enforce national laws and international agreements on and under Water in the Maritime Zones of Pakistan.
- b. The draft Bill will enable the Maritime Security Agency (MSA) to be called as Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA). Thus, conveying/facilitating its recognition as a Law Enforcement Agency (LEA).
- c. The main objective of the change is to establish identity of the agency as a national government organization both at national and international levels.
- d. Other countries are following similar practice/designation e.g. US Coast Guard, Indian Coast Guard, and Sri Lankan Coast Guard.
- e. The change in nomenclature will be brought through a change/amendment in Act of Parliament 1994.

The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid objectives.

SYED NAVEED QAMAR,
Minister for Defence,
Member-in-Charge.