

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

BILL

further to amend the Political Parties Order, 2002 to enhance women's meaningful representation in political process within the Political Parties, Parliament, Provincial Assemblies and Local Government.

WHEREAS It is expedient further to amend the Political Parties Order, 2002 (Chief Executive's Order No. XVIII of 2002) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Political Parties Order (Amendment) Bill, 2013.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Insertion of new Article 8A, Order, XVIII of 2002.**- In the Political Parties Order, 2002 (Chief Executive's Order No. XVIII of 2002), hereinafter referred to as the said Order, after Article 8, the following new Article shall be inserted, namely:-

"8-A. Nomination of Women as Candidates: Every political party shall make a selection of a minimum of ten-percent women candidates for elective offices for general seats."

3. **Amendment of Article 10, Order, XVIII of 2002.**- In the said Order, in Article 10, after sub-Article (1), the following new sub-Article shall be inserted, namely and the existing sub-Article shall be re-numbered as sub-Article (3) and (4):

"(2) Every Political Party shall have a minimum of 33 percent quota for women in the Party's elected general council and in any associated party committee and forum at the Federal, Provincial and Local levels of the party, wherever applicable, and to whatever names these may be referred to."

4. **Amendment of Article 11, Order, XVIII of 2002.**- In the said Order, in Article 11, in sub-Article (1), after the proviso, the following new proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided further that women members shall be elected to a minimum of 10 percent of these elected offices."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

1. The National and International Commitments of Government of Pakistan including the Constitution, the National Policy for the Development and Empowerment of Women (NPDEW) 2002, Convention on Elimination of All kinds of discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Article 23, and International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) underscore attainment of non-discriminatory and equal opportunities for women in the public and political spheres as inextricably linked to human right, democracy and inclusive sustainable development and human security.

2. The Bill seeks to protect and strengthen women's representation in the political and legislative process.

Sd/-

Dr. Nafisa Shah
Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho,
Members, National Assembly