

**[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]**

**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 purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2016.  
(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Insertion of new proviso in Article 92 of the Constitution.**- In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in Article 92, in clause (1), after second proviso, the following new proviso shall be inserted, namely  
"Provided further that there shall be seventeen percent of women in the total strength of cabinet who shall be appointed among the women members of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)."

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Gender equality doesn't just improve the lives of individual women, girls and their families; it too makes economic sense, strengthens democracy, and enables long-term sustainable progress. No country will reach its full potential if its female citizens do not enjoy full equality. To recognize the importance of women in a society, 17 percent constitutional quota of women in the National Assembly was added in 2002 to achieve gender balance in legislatures. However, it could not help the real political empowerment and democratic participation of women in the country. Today hundreds of individuals holding cabinet or cabinet level portfolios at the moment in the national and provincials' cabinet. This reflects that women are under-represented in cabinet. To give real political empowerment and democratic participation of powers to women by appointing them in cabinet, as they can use their strength in the prosperity of the country. Therefore, this amendment will make sure true representation of women in national politics.

**Sd/-**

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Members, National Assembly.**