

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A  
BILL

further to amend the Employment of Children Act, 1991 (No. V of 1991)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Employment of Children Act, 1991, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

- 1. Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Employment of Children (Amendment) Act, 2016.  
(2) It shall come into force at once.
- 2. Amendment of section 2 Act V of 1991.**- In the Employment of Children Act, 1991 (No. V of 1991) in section 2, in paragraph (iii), for the word "fourteenth", the word "sixteenth", shall be substituted.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

The International Labour Organization ILO's Convention No. 138 on the minimum age of employment emphasizes the close relationship between education and the minimum age for admission to employment or work. It states that the minimum age "shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years". However, recent research suggests that only 60% of States that have fixed both a minimum age for admission to employment and an age for the end of compulsory education have aligned the two ages. There is a clear need for greater coordination of national policies and strategies on the issue of child labour and education. As Pakistan is signatory of Convention, 1973, Pakistan should link the minimum age for admission to employment with the compulsory education. R146-Minimum Age Recommendation, 1973 also emphasizes on member states that they should take as their objective the progressive raising to 16 years of the minimum age for admission to employment.

Sd/-

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