

[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. **Amendment of Article 224A of the Constitution.**- In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in Article 224A.-

(i) in clause (1):-

(a) for the words "within three", occurring in the fourth line, the words "prior to five", shall be substituted.

(b) the word "immediately" occurring in the sixth line and the words "or the Senate, or both" occurring in the eighth line, shall be omitted.

(ii) in clause (2):-

(a) for the words "within three", occurring in the third and fourth line, the words "prior to five", shall be substituted.

(b) the word "immediately" occurring in the fifth line, shall be omitted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Article 52 of the Constitution provides that the National Assembly shall continue for a term of five years from the day of its first meeting and shall stand dissolved at the expiration of its term. Thus the Members cease to be Members, on the dissolution of the Assembly. As such a question arises that once Members cease to act as Member, how can they take part in the proceedings of the Committee comprising Members of National Assembly and Senate, and however, they rank as Members, National Assembly of Pakistan. Hence, it seems an anomaly in the provisions of the Constitution. Likewise, the process of nominating the caretaker Prime Minister or Chief Ministers starts when the Assembly stands dissolved and both offices remain vacant for 3-5 days. This amendment will also make sure that a caretaker government will be nominated on the very day when National Assembly completes its tenure.

Sd/-

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Member, National Assembly