

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A
BILL

further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860)

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code 1860 (Act XLV of 1860), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;
It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Pakistan Penal Code (Amendment) Act, 2016.
(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Insertion of section 369A, Act XLV of 1860.**- In the Pakistan Penal Code 1860, (XLV of 1860) hereinafter referred to the said Act, after section 369, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:-

“369A- Kidnapping of newly born child from hospital, etc.- Whoever kidnaps any newly born child from a hospital or medical facility, with malafide intention shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to twenty five years, and shall also be liable to fine up to five hundred thousand rupees, in addition to that, punishment would also be extended towards the administration of related hospital or medical facility with a fine determined by the court.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The cases of abduction of children in Pakistan are being reported from all parts of the country. Children are being abducted for ransom, smuggling, forced begging and many other heinous purposes. Pakistan is among the top five most dangerous countries in the world for kidnapping for ransom. Children are also being kidnapped by terrorists to augment their financial resources and to add children to the growing army of suicide bombers.

Abduction or kidnapping of an infant is traumatic both for parents and the child victim. It is a kind of abduction apart from kidnapping for ransom and so on. Abduction is a criminal offence in Pakistan. Keeping in view the rising number of abduction of infants from hospitals, all over the country, there should be strict punishment including heavy fines against the kidnappers, as well as fines upon the administration of relevant hospital or Medical Centre.

This Bill seeks to achieve the said purpose.

Sd/-

**MS. BELUM HASNAIN,
Member, National Assembly.**