

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE WOMEN IN DISTRESS AND DETENTION FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

I, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Human Rights, have the honor to present this Report on the Bill further to amend the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 (XV of 1996) [The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2017] (Government Bill) referred to the Committee on 28th September, 2016.

2. The Committee comprises of the following:

| | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Mr. Babar Nawaz Khan | Chairman |
| 2. | Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub | Member |
| 3. | Sayed Essa Nori | Member |
| 4. | Begum Tahira Bukhari | Member |
| 5. | Ms. Farhana Qamar | Member |
| 6. | Ms. Phyllis Azeem | Member |
| 7. | Ms. Surriya Asghar | Member |
| 8. | Ms. Kiran Haider | Member |
| 9. | Ms. Asiya Naz Tanoli | Member |
| 10. | Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi | Member |
| 11. | Ms. Amra Khan | Member |
| 12. | Dr. Fehmida Mirza | Member |
| 13. | Dr. Shazia Sobia | Member |
| 14. | Ms. Musarat Rafique Mahesar | Member |
| 15. | Ms. Munaza Hassan | Member |
| 16. | Mr. Sajid Nawaz Khan | Member |
| 17. | Mr. Kanwar Naveed Jameel | Member |
| 18. | Ms. Kishwer Zehra | Member |
| 19. | Ms. Aliya Kamran Murtaza | Member |
| 20. | Mrs. Naseema Hafeez Panezai | Member |
| 21. | Minister for Human Rights | Ex. Officio Member |

3. The Committee considered the Bill as introduced in the National Assembly placed at Annexure-A, in its meetings held on 20th October, 2016, 8th November, 2016 and 11th May, 2017 and made the following amendments therein:-

Clause 2

In clause 2,-

- (1) in sub-clause (i), in the proposed section 6, in sub-section (1), in paragraphs (b) and (d) for the word "female", the word "women" shall be substituted; and
- (2) sub-clause (ii) shall be omitted.

4. The Committee unanimously recommends that the Bill as amended placed at Annexure-B may be passed by the National Assembly.

Sd/-
(JAWAD RAFIQUE MALIK)
Secretary
Islamabad, 28th September, 2017

Sd/-
(BABAR NAWAZ KHAN)
Chairman
Standing Committee on Human Rights

[AS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A
BILL

further to amend the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 (XV of 1996) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act shall be called the Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Act, 2016.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of section 6, Act XV of 1996.-** In the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 (XV of 1996), in section 6.-

(i) in sub-section (1), for clauses (i) to (viii), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| “(a) Minister-in-charge of the administrative Division; | Chairperson |
| (b) One female member each of the National Assembly and the Senate to be nominated by the Speaker and the Chairman respectively; | Members |
| (c) Secretary of the administrative Division; | Member |
| (d) One female prominent social worker from each Province to be nominated by the Provincial Governments; and | Members |
| (e) An officer in BS-20 or above of the administrative Division. | Member -cum- Secretary”; |

(ii) in sub-section (7), for comma and words “, Ministry of Human Rights”, the words “of the administrative Division” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Women in Distress and Detention Fund was established under the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 (XV of 1996). The objects of this Fund are to provide financial and legal assistance to the women languishing in jails on account of different allegations and those who face extreme hardships.

2. In view of the Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act, 2010 (X of 2010) and consequently reallocation of business of various Ministries and Divisions, it is expedient to amend the said Act for appropriate operation of the Fund, which is beneficial for all classes of women throughout the country.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid objective.

Sd/-

Mr. KAMRAN MICHAEL
Minister for Human Rights

[AS REPORTED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE]

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BILL

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| (i) | Minister-in-charge of the administrative Division; | <i>Chairperson</i> |
| (ii) | One woman member each of the National Assembly and the Senate to be nominated by the Speaker and the Chairman respectively; | <i>Members</i> |
| (iii) | Secretary of the administrative Division; | <i>Member</i> |
| (iv) | One woman prominent social worker from each province to be nominated by the Provincial Governments; and | <i>Members</i> |
| (v) | An officer in BS-20 or above of the administrative Division. | <i>Member -cum-Secretary</i> |

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