

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

Subject: - REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ON THE PRESS, NEWSPAPERS, NEWS AGENCIES AND BOOKS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

I, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting have the honor to present this report further to amend the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Book Registration Ordinance, 2002 (XCVIII of 2002) [The Press, newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2023] (**Government Bill**), referred to the Committee on 27th March, 2023.

2. The Committee comprises the following:-

1.	Ms. Javaria Zafar Aheer	Chairperson
2.	Mr. Armaghan Subhani	Member
3.	Mr. Saad Waseem	Member
4.	Rana Iradat Sharif Khan	Member
5.	Mr. Nadeem Abbas	Member
6.	Ms. Zaib Jaffar	Member
7.	Ms. Maiza Hameed	Member
8.	Mr. Kiran Imran Dar	Member
9.	Dr. Nafisa Shah	Member
10.	Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Behan	Member
11.	Ms. Naz Baloch	Member
12.	Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro	Member
13.	Prof. Dr. Shahnaz Naseer Baloch	Member
14.	Mr. Nasir Khan Musa Zai	Member
15.	Ms. Asiya Azeem	Member
16.	Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, <i>Minister for Information and Broadcasting</i>	Ex-officio Member

3. The Committee considered Bill, as introduced in National Assembly, placed at Annexure-A, in its meetings held on 24th May and 13th July, 2023, and recommended that the Bill as introduced may be passed by the National Assembly.

Sd/-
(TAHIR HUSSAIN)
Secretary
Islamabad, the 1st August, 2023

Sd/-
(JAVARIA ZAFAR AHEER)
Chairperson

A

Bill

to amend Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Book Registration Ordinance, 2002

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance, 2002 (XCVIII of 2002), in the manner ad for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows: -

1. Short title and commencement. - (1) This Act shall be called the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration (Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) it shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 2, Ordinance XCVIII of 2002.- In the Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance, 2002 (XCVIII of 2002), hereinafter referred to as the said Ordinance, in section 2, -

(a) clause (e) shall be omitted;

(b) after clause (f), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely; -

(fa) “**ministry**” means the ministry of division to which business of information and broadcasting stands allocated;” and

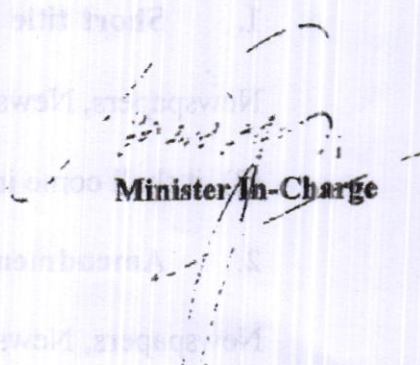
(c) in clause (m), for the word “Federal Government”, wherever occurring, the words “Prime Minister” shall be substituted.

3. Amendment of section 39, Ordinance (XCVIII of 2002). - In the said Ordinance, in section 39, for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister” shall be substituted.

Subject: STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In the light of Honorable Supreme Court's decision in the Mustafa Impax Case, the Federal Cabinet, in case No. 419/19/2017 dated 08-09-2017 directed that all Ministries/Divisions should make amendments in respective Acts/Rules and replace the words "Federal Government" with appropriate authorities. Hence, it is expedient to amend the "Press, Newspapers, News Agencies and Books Registration Ordinance (Amendment), Bill 2023". In the Ordinance the words "Federal Government", wherever occurring, the words "Prime Minister" shall be substituted.

2. It is informed that the above-mentioned decision has been ratified by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 1st February, 2023 under Case No. 15/03/2023.


Minister in Charge