

BILL No 65

**A
Bill**

*further to amend the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Journalist
Welfare Endowment Fund Act, 2014.*

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Journalist Welfare Endowment Fund Act, 2014 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XII of 2014), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. Short title and commencement.--- (1) This Act may be called the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Journalist Welfare Endowment Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of the Preamble of Act No. XII of 2014.--- In the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Journalist Welfare Endowment Fund Act, 2014 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XII of 2014), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, for the Preamble, the following shall be substituted, namely:

“WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the establishment of Journalists Welfare Endowment Fund in the Province of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, for the welfare of the deserving journalists working in electronic media, newspapers and news agencies enlisted in the media list of Government.”.

3. Amendment of section 2 of the Act No. XII of 2014.--- In the said Act, in section 2,-

(a) for clause (a), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(a) **“Bank”** means the Bank of Khyber;”;

(b) for clause (e), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(e) **“deserving journalist”** means a bonafide full-time working journalist, working in electronic media, newspapers and news agencies, who is or has been member of a press club enlisted with the Directorate General of Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and who is in need of assistance for his welfare under this Act;”;

(c) after the existing clause (e), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:

“(e-i) **“electronic media”** means different news and current affairs channels enlisted on central or provincial media lists;”;

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(d) for clause (g), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(g) **“family”** means family of a deserving journalist including his or her spouse, as the case may be, dependent son and daughter under twenty five years of age and dependent parents;”;

(e) in clause (i), the word “and” appearing at the end shall be deleted; and

(f) in clause (j), the full stop appearing at the end shall be replaced with a semi-colon and thereafter the following new clauses shall be inserted, namely:

“(k) **“subsistence”** means the day to day livelihood requirements of a deserving journalist which he cannot meet due to unemployment for consecutive three months; and

(l) **“welfare”** means assistance of a deserving journalist and includes-

(i) compensation to his family in case of his or her martyrdom in the line of duty:

Provided that in case of married journalists, his wife and in case of unmarried journalists, his parents shall be entitled to receive compensation amount;

(ii) compensation and treatment expenses to a journalist who has got injured in line of duty or accident;

(iii) financial assistance for medical treatment in the prescribed manner;

(iv) financial assistance for expenses incurred upon marriages of a son or daughter of deserving journalist in the prescribed manner;

Provided that the marriage grant to a deserving journalist will be made only once;

(v) monthly stipend for deserving veteran journalists of the age of sixty and above;

(vii) subsistence allowance to deserving journalists payable for two months only with an amount and on the terms and condition as prescribed; and

(viii) funeral charges in case of death of the journalists or their family members.”.

4. **Amendment of section 3 of the Act No. XII of 2014.**--- In the said Act, in section 3,-

(a) in sub-section (2), for clause (b), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(b) grants from philanthropists, non-governmental organizations, monitory organizations and organizations working for the welfare of the people.”; and

(b) for sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(3) The fund shall be utilized in the prescribed manner for the welfare of deserving journalists.”.

5. **Amendment of section 4 of the Act No. XII of 2014.**--- In the said Act, section 4 shall be re-numbered as sub-section (1) of section 4 and after sub-section (1) as so re-numbered, the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:

“(2) Press Registrar, Directorate General Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa shall be the controller of the fund and shall be responsible for keeping the accounts of the Fund, audit of the assets and expenditure from the fund including verification of applications of deserving journalists and other documents submitted with applications.”.

6. **Amendment of section 5 of the Act No. XII of 2014.**--- In the said Act, in section 5, in sub-section (2),-

(a) in clause (c), for the words and comma “the Director, Information” the words and comma “Director General, Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa” shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (f), the word “and” appearing at the end shall be deleted and thereafter the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:

“(f-i) two presidents of other press clubs in Members Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to be nominated by the Director General Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for a period of one year; and”;

(c) in clause (g), for the words “a Deputy Director” the words and comma “Director, Information and Public Relations” shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of section 6 of the Act No. XII of 2014.**--- In the said Act,-

(a) section 6 shall be re-numbered as sub-section (1) of section 6 and in sub-section (1), as so re-numbered-

(i) for clause (a), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(a) receive applications from the deserving journalists or their family members for financial assistance or compensation, as the case may be, in the prescribed manner through President or General Secretary of the concerned Press Club;”;

(ii) for clause (f), the following shall be substituted, namely:

“(f) approve the specified objects as mentioned under sub-section (3) of section 3 of this Act.”; and

(b) after sub-section (1), as so re-numbered and amended the following new sub-section shall be added, namely:

“(2) The Director General, Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa shall send applications, received under sub-section (1), to the Director General Health Services, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for verification before its submission to the Committee.”.

8. Amendment of section 8 of the Act No. XII of 2014.--- In the said Act, for section 8, the following shall be substituted, namely:

“**8. Extent of financial assistance.**--- The deserving journalists may be compensated in connection with their welfare to the extent and for an amount as may be prescribed by rules.”.

9. Amendment of section 9 of the Act No. XII of 2014.--- In the said Act, in section 9,-

(a) sub-section (2) shall be deleted; and

(b) in sub-section (4), for the words and comma “Director, Information and Public Relations” the words and comma “Director General, Information and Public Relations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is desirable to amend the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Journalist Welfare Endowment Fund Act, 2014 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No XII of 2014). Hence, this Bill.

Peshawar,
Dated the: 19/08/2019.

MINISTER-IN-CHARGE

19.8.19

SHAUKAT ALI YOUSAFZAI
Minister for Information & Public Relation
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa