

**A
BILL**

*to regulate and fix average weight of school bags for students in the
Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*

WHEREAS it is expedient to regulate and fix average weight of school bags and to determine certain responsibilities of public, private, autonomous and semi-autonomous educational institutions for betterment of students and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

It is hereby enacted by the Provincial Assembly of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as follows:

1. Short title, application and commencement.---(1) This Act may be called the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa School Bags (Limitation of Weight) Act, 2020.

(2) It shall apply to all the educational institutions in the Province of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions.--- In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say,-

- (a) "educational institutions" means all public, private, autonomous and semi-autonomous institutions, deeni madaris and other institutions, imparting education from play group to grad twelve (12) in the Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa;
- (b) "EMA" means the Education Monitoring Authority, established under section 3 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Monitoring Authority Act, 2019 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XXVIII of 2019);
- (c) "Government" means the Government of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa;
- (d) "PSRA" means the Private Schools Regulatory Authority, established under section 3 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Private Schools Regulatory Authority Act, 2017 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XXV of 2017);
- (e) "rules" mean rules made under this Act;
- (f) "school bag" means a student's school bag;
- (g) "Schedule" means Schedule appended to this Act; and
- (h) "student" means school going children of all educational institutions.

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3. Weight of a school bag.--- (1) The average weight of a school bag shall not be more than the weight as specified in the Schedule.

(2) Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa through Directorate of Elementary and Secondary Education and EMA, in respect of public sector educational institutions and PSRA, in respect of private sector educational institutions, shall enforce the provisions of this Act and the rules made therein.

4. Responsibility of educational institutions.--- The educational institutions shall take measures to implement provisions under this Act and the rules made thereunder.

5. Penalties.--- Any educational institution, violating the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder shall be penalized as under:

- (a) head of the public sector educational institutions shall be proceeded for disciplinary action under the relevant rules; and
- (b) the management of educational institutions other than those that are in public sector shall be liable for imposition of fine of rupees up to two hundred thousand.

6. Removal of difficulties.--- If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, Government may, by order, provide for removal of the difficulty.

7. Power to make rules.---- Government may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

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SCHEDULE
(see section 3)

S. No.	Class	Average Weight of School Bag
01.	Pre-Grade 1	1.5 kg
02.	Grade 1	2.4 kg
03.	Grade 2	2.6 kg
04.	Grade 3	3.0 kg
05.	Grade 4	4.4 kg
06.	Grade 5	5.3 kg
07.	Grade 6	5.4 kg
08.	Grade 7	5.8 kg
09.	Grade 8	5.9 kg
10.	Grade 9	6.0 kg
11.	Grade 10	6.5 kg
12.	Grade 11	7.0 kg
13.	Grade 12	7.0 kg

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

To provide for a limitation on the weight of the Student School Bag to eliminate the possibility of deformities and spinal abnormalities in school students caused due to excessive weights of their School Bags. Hence, this Bill.



MINISTER-IN-CHARGE

**Minister For Elementary &
Secondary Education
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**