

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

BILL

further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 (Act, XLV of 1860), and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Insertion of new section, Act XLV of 1860.**- In the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 (Act XLV of 1860), after section 389, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:-

"389 A. **Extortion by threatening a person telephonically or other information technology means.**- Whoever, in order to committing extortion, by threatening a person telephonically or by use of other information technology means i.e. text messages (SMS), electronic mails, etc., or attempts to put any person in fear, of any injury or depriving someone from some amount of money or some other movable property, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extended to ten years but shall not be less than seven years, and shall also be liable to fine which shall not be less than rupees five hundred thousand or twice the amount or property demanded during such extortion threats, whichever is higher.

3. **Amendment of Schedule II, Act V of 1898.**- In the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898), in Schedule II, after section 389, in column 1 and the entries relation thereto in columns 2 to 8, the following new section and the entries relating thereto shall be inserted, name, namely:-

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| "389A. | Extortion by threatening a person telephonically or other information technology means. | Ditto | Ditto | Ditto | Ditto | Imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years but shall not be less than seven years and fine of not less than | Court of Session". |
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| | | | | | | rupees five hundred thousand or twice the amount or property demanded during extortion threats, whichever is higher. |
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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Extortion is becoming the order of the day and an alternative source of quick riches and wealth for criminal persons at the cost of hard earned money of innocent persons. The businessmen, traders and people in the society as a general are mostly being threatened telephonically, electronic or by use other techniques of information technology to extract money from them. Innocent persons are put under fear of serious consequences including threats of murder, abduction, kidnapping or causing injury to moveable and immovable properties, etc. Such activities are creating unrest and fear in the society depriving the people from their peace of mind. Therefore, it is necessary to create deterrence by such actions offence punishable with harsh punishment.

2. Bill seeks to achieve the above-said objectives.

Sd/-

Ms. Kishwer Zehra
Sheikh Salahuddin
Ms. Saman Sultana Jafri
Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan
Members, National Assembly

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