

[**AS** INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A
BILL

further to amend the Emigration Ordinance, 1979.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Emigration Ordinance, 1979 (XVIII of 1979) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Emigration (Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 17 of the Ordinance.- In the Emigration Ordinance, 1979 (XVIII of 1979), hereinafter referred to as the said Ordinance, in Section 17,-

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both", the words "not be less than one year, which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine" shall be substituted; and

(b) in sub-section (2), in clause (c),

(i) in sub-clause (i) for the words "a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both", the words "not be less than one year, which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine" shall be substituted, and

(ii) in sub-clause (ii), for the words "a term which may extend to seven years, or with fine, or with both", the words "not be less than three years, which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine" shall be substituted.

3. Amendment of Section 18 of the Ordinance.- In the said Ordinance, in section 18, for the words, "a term, which may extend to fourteen years, or with fine, or with both", the words "not be less than five years, which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine" shall be substituted.

4. **Amendment of Section 19 of the Ordinance.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 19, for the words “a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both” the words “not be less than one years, which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine”, shall be substituted.

5. **Amendment of Section 22 of the Ordinance.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 22, for the words “term, which may extend to fourteen years, or with fine, or with both” the words “not be less than five years, which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.”, shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Violence and economic problems are forcing thousands of Pakistanis to flee their country. An estimated 50,000 people move to Europe every year from Pakistan and many of them emigrate illegally. Moreover, inadequate punishments become source of motivation for people seeking emigration to adopt unlawful means. Many Pakistani women and men migrate voluntarily for low-skilled employment such a domestic work, driving or construction work. Many of them become victims of labour trafficking. False job offers and high fees charged by illegal labour agents or sub-agents of licensed Pakistani Overseas Employment Promoters increasing the vulnerabilities of Pakistani labourers and some labourers abroad find themselves in a state of slavery or debt bondage.

This Bill intends to increase punishments to achieve aforesaid objectives.

Sd/-
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