

[AS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A
BILL

further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows: -

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2013.

(2) It shall come into force after the next general elections to be held in 2018, unless such elections are held earlier.

2. Amendment of Article 51 of the Constitution.- In the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the Constitution, in Article 51,-

(a) after clause (4), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely;

“(4A) In addition to the seats referred to in clauses (3) and (4), there shall be, in the National Assembly, four seats reserved for workers, one from each Province.”.

(b) in clause (6),-

(i) in paragraph (d), the word “and” at the end shall be omitted; and

(ii) in paragraph (e), for the full stop at the end a semicolon and the word “;and” shall be added and after paragraph (e) amended as aforesaid, the following new paragraph shall be added, namely:-

“(f) members to the seats reserved for workers which are allocated to a Province under clause (4A) shall be elected in accordance with law on the basis of political parties’ lists of candidates on the basis of total number of general seats won by each political party from the Province concerned in the National Assembly:

Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph the total number of general seats won by a political party shall include the independent returned candidate or candidates who may duly join such political party within three days of the publication in the official Gazette of the names of the returned candidates.”.

3. Amendment to Article 106 of the Constitution.- (1) In the Constitution, in Article 106,-

(a) for clause (1), the following shall be substituted, namely: -

“(1) Each Provincial Assembly shall consist of general seats and seats reserved for women, non-Muslims and workers as specified herein below: -

	General Seats	Women	Non- Muslims	Workers	Total
Balochistan	51	11	3	2	67
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	99	22	3	2	126
The Punjab	297	66	8	2	373
Sindh	130	29	9	2	170

(b) in clause (3), in paragraph (c), for the words “and non-Muslims”, a comma and words “, non-Muslims and workers” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Constitution, 1973, provides for reserve seats for special categories in the Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies. A worker as defined in the Industrial Relations Act, 2012, constitutes a major segment of Pakistan’s population and is one of the major sources for generation of wealth in the country. Therefore, it is essential that they have representation in Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies.

SENATOR MIAN RAZA RABBANI
SENATOR SAEED GHANI
 Member-in-charge