

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

BILL

further to amend the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act, 1973

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act, 1973 (XXXV of 1973), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils (Amendment) Act, 2015.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of section 41, Act XXXV of 1973.**- In the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act, 1973 (XXXV of 1973), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 41, in sub-section (4), in the proviso, for full stop at the end a colon shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

"Provided further that if the disciplinary committee while referring the matter to the Tribunal is of the opinion that the advocate has committed an act of grave indiscipline or grave professional misconduct and his immediate suspension from practice is expedient or necessary in the interest of administration of justice, it may suspend him for the maximum period of three months and in such a case the Tribunal shall decide the complaint within a period of three months after receipt of reference from the disciplinary committee."

3. Amendment of section 54, Act XXXV of 1973.- In the said Act, in section 54,-

(i) in sub-section (1), after the word "practice" the words "for a period of three months" shall be inserted; and

(ii) after sub-section (1) amended as aforesaid, the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

"(1A) The Bar Council concerned on receipt of a complaint from the Court under sub-section (1) shall ensure that it is decided within a period of three months by its disciplinary committee and the Tribunal, in case the complaint has been referred to the Tribunal."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Pakistan Bar Council has proposed amendments in sections 41 and 54 of the Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils Act, 1973 (XXXV of 1973) to further regulate the disciplinary proceedings in the cases of grave professional misconduct and to prescribe the period for expeditious disposal of complaints.

2. The Bill designed to achieve the aforesaid object.

MR. PERVAIZ RASHID

Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage
and Law, Justice and Human Rights

Minister-in-Charge