

A

BILL

further to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 (XXVII of 1997) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2020.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 11N, Act XXVII of 1997.- In the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 (XXVII of 1997), in section 11N, in sub-section (3), in the proviso, for the full stop "." occurring at the end, a colon ":" shall be substituted and thereafter the following second proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided further that before imposing the penalty a show cause notice shall be issued in the manner as may be prescribed."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

By a recent amendment in the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, section 11N was amended whereby the directors, officers and employees of "legal person", involved of the terrorism offences, have been subjected to the punishment of imposition of huge penalty. However, in the said amended provision the principle of natural justice relating to the provision of opportunity of hearing is missing and there is likelihood that this provision may be misused, therefore this amendment proposes that show cause notice must be issued to the relevant persons before imposition of penalty.

**SENATOR MUSHTAQ AHMED
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE**