



SENATE OF PAKISTAN

**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

ON

***“PAKISTAN STANDARDS AND QUALITY CONTROL AUTHORITY
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022”***

Presented By:

Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen

Chairman Committee

Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology

SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject:- **REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

I, Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen , Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology, have the honor to present this report on “*Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2022*” introduced in the Senate in its sitting held on 14th February, 2022. The bill upon introduction was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology for consideration and report.

2. The constitution of the Standing Committee is as follows:

i.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Chairman
ii.	Senator Muhammad Humayun Mohmand	Member
iii.	Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
iv.	Senator Sana Jamali	Member
v.	Senator Naseema Ehsan	Member
vi.	Senator Kamran Murtaza	Member
vii.	Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
viii.	Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
ix.	Senator Afnan Ullah Khan	Member
x.	Minister for Science and Technology	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Standing Committee on Science and Technology considered the Bill in its meeting held on 16th February, 2022, under the chairmanship of Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen. The following honorable Senators attended the meeting:

i.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Chairman
ii.	Senator Muhammad Humayun Mohmand	Member
iii.	Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
iv.	Senator Sana Jamali	Member
v.	Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
vi.	Senator Kamran Murtaza	Member
vii.	Minister for Science and Technology	Ex-Officio Member

4. The Chairman Committee inquired about the reason for moving the headquarter of Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) from Karachi. The Secretary MoS&T apprised the Committee that PSQCA is very important institution under the Ministry

which creates standards for quality control and implements them. Currently, there are 166 compulsory quality control standards, relating to the various products, prescribed by the PSQCA. The existing headquarter of the PSQCA at Karachi makes it difficult for the Ministry to consult the PSQCA in policy decisions taken frequently at the MoS&T, Islamabad. Due to this, it has been proposed that the headquarter of PSQCA may be transferred from Karachi to the Federal Capital.

5. The Minister for Science and Technology apprised the Committee that almost all the departments of Federal Government are headquartered at Islamabad and it helps in effective and efficient decision-making. He apprised the Committee that proposal to shift the headquarter of PSQCA to the Federal Capital is made in order to take efficient and robust policy decisions involving PSQCA which become difficult with PSQCA leadership in Karachi.

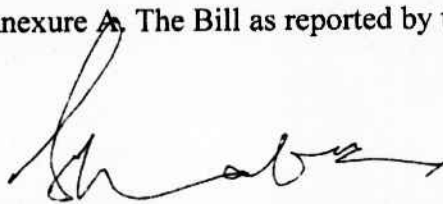
5. Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi and Senator Kamran Murtaza opposed the bill on ground that Karachi is the economic hub of Pakistan and Karachi should be the headquarter of PSQCA. Further, the Senators opined that shifting the headquarter from Karachi will not send a good signal to the provinces and would involve costs/setting-up expenses at the new headquarter. Senator Muhammad Humayun Mohmand and Senator Sana Jamali also opined that shifting of headquarter from Karachi should not be done on the basis of any potential prejudice against one province. The Minister for Science and Technology apprised the Committee that the proposal under consideration is there based upon its merit and no provincial prejudice of any type is involved.

7. Senator Sana Jamali, Senator Fawzia Arshad, and Senator Muhammad Humayun Mohamand supported the Bill while Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi and Senator Kamran Murtaza opposed the Bill. The Committee passed the bill with the majority of 3 to 2 with the following amendment:

In Section (2) Words "a city as determined by the Ministry or Division to which business of the Authority stands allocated" shall be replaced with "Federal Capital"

8. The Bill as introduced in the House is at Annexure A. The Bill as reported by the Committee is at Annexure B.


(FAROOQ AHMED SHAH)
AD/Secretary Committee


(SENATOR SARDAR MUHAMMAD SHAFIQ TAREEN)
Chairman Committee
Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology

[AS INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

BILL

*further to amend the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act,
1996*

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act, 1996 (VI of 1996), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (Amendment) Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 3, Act VI of 1996.- In the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act, 1996 (VI of 1996), in sub-section (3) of section 3, for the word "Karachi" the words "**a city as determined by the Ministry or Division to which business of the Authority stands allocated**" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act, 1996, provides for the standardization and quality control services in Pakistan. Over time, the scope of quality and standards testing as well as compliance has increased manifold, warranting a need to enable the parent ministry to station the headquarter of this important federal authority to a city where it can perform its functions optimally purely on scientific, technical and outcomes-based grounds.

2. The bill seeks to achieve the above said purpose.

**SENATOR KAUDA BABAR
MEMBER IN CHARGE**

[AS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE]

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(2) It shall come into force at once.

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