

**SENATE OF PAKISTAN**

**REPORT NO. 02 OF 2024**



**PARLIAMENTARY YEAR 2024-2025**

**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS**

**ON**

**PRIVATE MEMBER BILL TITLED, "THE NATIONAL HIGHWAYS SAFETY  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024" INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ IN THE  
SENATE SITTING HELD ON 29TH APRIL, 2024**

**PRESENTED BY:**

**SENATOR PERVAIZ RASHID**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS ON PRIVATE MEMBER BILL TITLED, "THE NATIONAL HIGHWAYS SAFETY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024" INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 29TH APRIL, 2024

I, Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Communications have honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, the report on Private Member Bill titled, "The National Highways Safety (Amendment) Bill, 2024" introduced by Senator Mohsin Aziz in the Senate sitting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2024. The matter was referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

|       |                               |          |
|-------|-------------------------------|----------|
| i.    | Senator Pervaiz Rahid         | Chairman |
| ii.   | Senator Dost Ali Jeesar       | Member   |
| iii.  | Senator Jam Saifullah Khan    | Member   |
| iv.   | Senator Syed Shibli Faraz     | Member   |
| v.    | Senator Muhammad Tallal Badar | Member   |
| vi.   | Senator Abdul Wasay           | Member   |
| vii.  | Senator Sania Nishtar         | Member   |
| viii. | Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar     | Member   |
| ix.   | Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro  | Member   |
| x.    | Senator Muhammad Qasim        | Member   |

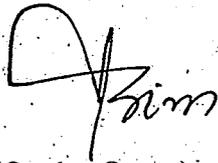
3. The Committee placed the bill for consideration on the agenda of its meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. Following members & movers attended the meeting:-

- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| i. Senator Dost Ali Jeesar        | Member |
| ii. Senator Jam Saifullah Khan    | Member |
| iii. Senator Syed Shibli Faraz    | Member |
| iv. Senator Muhammad Tallal Badar | Member |
| v. Senator Mohsin Aziz            | Member |

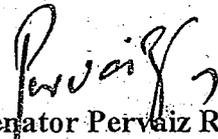
4. Senator Mohsin Aziz, Mover of the bill briefly apprised the Committee regarding the objectives of the proposed amendment in the Section 68 of the NHSO-2000. He stated that punishments in Section 68 of the NHSO-2000, are very minor and there is no mechanism to check the culprits on spot. He added that mostly trucks /bus drivers are addicted and causing loss of lives of people. Therefore, it is required that violators shall be punished with heavier fines, imprisonment and even with suspension of their driving licenses.

5. Inspector General (NH & MP), briefed the Committee that Ministry supports this private member bill by and large. However, he requested the Committee to incorporate another sub-section in the proposed private member bill. The Committee have had detailed deliberations on the bill and came up with certain amendments in the bill which was then agreed upon by Member-in-charge of the bill.

6. The Committee unanimously passed the Private Member bill as amended. The Committee recommended that the Senate may pass the bill as reported by the Committee. The bill as introduced in the Senate is at *Annexure-A*, while, the bill as reported by the Committee is at *Annexure-B*.



(Qasim Omer)  
Secretary Committee



(Senator Pervaiz Rashid)  
Chairman Committee

**[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]**

A

**BILL***further to amend the National Highways Safety Ordinance, 2000.*

**WHEREAS** it is expedient further to amend the National Highways Safety Ordinance, 2000 (Ordinance XL of 2000) for the purposes hereinafter appearing, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be called the National Highways Safety (Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Substitution of section 68, Ordinance XL of 2000.**- In the National Highways Safety Ordinance, 2000 (Ordinance XL of 2000), for section 68, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**"68. Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.**-(1) Any person, when driving or attempting to drive, or when in charge of, a motor vehicle on a national highway is under the influence of alcohol or a drug to such an extent as to be incapable of having proper control of the vehicle, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to twenty-five thousand rupees, or with imprisonment of one month which may extend to six months, or with both, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction either with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees or with imprisonment of six months which may extend to two years, or with both.

(2) No person shall be convicted of an offence punishable under sub-section (1) unless the extent of the influence is determined by a medical practitioner authorized by the Government or with a breathalyzer test conducted by police officer."

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

It has been observed in the recent past that the persons driving motor cars especially public transport are found under the influence of alcohol or drugs which seriously affects motor skills such as eye, hand and foot coordination. Without crucial coordination skills, a person may be unable to avoid an impending harmful situation. Therefore, it is proposed to increase the penalty and also make the conviction transparent by determining the offence subject to an examination of a medical practitioner.

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

**SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ**  
Member-in-charge

## [AS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE]

A

## BILL

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**"68. Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.-**

(1) Any person, when driving or attempting to drive, or when in charge of, a motor vehicle on a national highway is under the influence of alcohol or a drug to such an extent as to be incapable of having proper control of the vehicle, shall be punishable with fine **of ten thousand rupees** which may extend **up** to twenty-five thousand rupees, or with imprisonment of one month which may extend to six months, or with both, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction either with fine **of twenty-five thousand rupees** which may extend **up** to fifty thousand rupees or with imprisonment of six months which may extend to two years, or with both;

**Provided that the driving license of the person convicted for second or subsequent times shall be suspended for the period of two years.**

(2) **A police officer having reasonable suspicion that the driver is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, may subject such driver to a breathalyzer test, on an approved device having specifications prescribed by rules under section 89, and upon positive result, he shall ask such driver to accompany him to an authorized medical officer for examination and verification of the test result.**

(3) **Where a driver, either refuses to undergo the breathalyzer test, or to accompany the police officer for examination by a medical practitioner upon positive result, he shall be punishable with the same penalty as prescribed under sub-section (1)."**

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**SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ**  
**Member-in-charge**