

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

to establish the International Examination Board

WHEREAS it is desirable and expedient in the national interest to aspire to standards of excellence in the field of educational examinations and in persons of such objective to draw upon all available resources;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to consider it important to offer the people of Pakistan more educational options and to improve the school and college examination system and bring it in conformity with the best international practices of conduct examinations, affiliate educational institutes, grant recognition to such institutes, develop skillful community to provide opportunities to the children and young population of Pakistan;

AND WHEREAS International Examination Board is committed to the improvement of education in Pakistan and abroad and thus possess the requisite insight, expertise and experience in the provision of education including all administrative matters connected therewith;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act shall be called the International Examination Board Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions.- In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,

(a) "Board of Governors" or "BoG" means the Board of Governors constituted under this Act;

- (b) "Chairman" means Chairman of the Examination Board;
- (c) "College" means an institution within the jurisdiction of the Examination Board and affiliated, registered or recognized by it for Intermediate Education, and includes a college having intermediate and degree classes and affiliated to a University for the degree classes;
- (d) "Committee" means a committee constituted under this Act;
- (e) "Examination Board" means the International Examination Board established under this Act;
- (f) "Head of an institution" means the principal of a college or the headmaster or headmistress of a school;
- (g) "Headmaster" and "headmistress" include the principal of a school;
- (h) "Institution" means a college or a school;
- (i) "Intermediate education" means education pertaining to class XI and class XII;
- (j) "Prescribed" means prescribed by regulations;
- (k) "President" means the President of the BoG appointed under this Act;
- (l) "Principal" means head of a college;
- (m) "Affiliated" means affiliated by the Examination Board ;
- (n) "School" means an institution within the jurisdiction of the Examination Board and affiliated or registered or recognized by it only for imparting Secondary education or school level education;
- (o) "Regulations" means regulations made under this Act;
- (p) "Secondary education" means education pertaining to class IX and class X and such other classes as may be declared by the Federal Government to be classes of Secondary education; and
- (q) "Secretary" means Secretary of the Examination Board.

3. Constitution of the Examination Board.- (1) The Board of directors shall, as soon as may be after the commencement of this Act, constitute an Examination Board to be known as the International Examination Board.

(2) The Examination Board shall be an autonomous body having perpetual succession and

a common seal with powers to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by the aforesaid name sue and be sued.

(3) All policies matters and actions under sub-section (2) shall be subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

(4) The head office of the International Examination Board shall be located in Islamabad, and it may establish additional offices as deemed necessary from time to time.

4. Powers and functions of the Examination Board.— (1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, the Examination Board shall have power to organize, conduct, regulate, develop and control intermediate, secondary or any school level examination.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, the Examination Board shall have the power to-

- (a) conduct the examination in English, Urdu and such other languages as the Examination Board may prescribe from time to time;
- (b) hold and conduct examinations pertaining to Intermediate education or Secondary education or any other examination at school level;
- (c) prescribe courses of instruction for examinations conducted by the Examination Board, provided that the Examination Board may prescribe different courses of instruction for different classes of institutions;
- (d) admit candidates to the examinations conducted by it and prescribe the conditions for admission to such examinations;
- (e) affiliate institutions in Pakistan and outside Pakistan:

Provided that, in the case of a Government institution, such affiliation shall not be withheld without the prior approval of the Federal Government or provincial Government, as the case may be;

- (f) conduct, control and regulate the examinations held at the Intermediate education and Secondary education or any other certificate or diploma

level in Pakistan by foreign agencies, professional institutions or bodies or entities;

- (g) withdraw affiliation if it is satisfied after inspection carried out under clause (i) that the standards of management and instruction in an institution justify withdrawal;
- (h) fix, charge and receive such fees as may be prescribed by the BoD from time to time;
- (i) cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons as the Examination Board may nominate of affiliated institutions or institutions applying for affiliation;
- (j) carry, hold and conduct examinations pertaining to health, pharmacy or any other skills or professionals, allied health courses, recruitments, human resources and technical education;
- (k) adopt measures to promote the physical and moral well-being of students of affiliated and registered institutions, and supervise their residence, health and discipline;
- (l) organize and provide lectures, demonstrations, educational exhibitions and take such other measures as are necessary to promote the standards of Intermediate education and Secondary education;
- (m) institute and award scholarships, medals and prizes subject to such conditions as may be prescribed and to accept endowments for the same subject to such conditions as the Examination Board may deem fit;
- (n) prescribe text-books or other books study and to arrange for publication of such text-books or other books;
- (o) regulate the imposing of penalties for misconduct of students, teachers, examiners and examinees;
- (p) prescribe qualifications for the appointment of teachers in the

institutions affiliated by the Examination Board;

- (q) submit to the Federal Government its views on any matter with which it is concerned or which the Federal Government or any Provincial Government or a educational institution may refer to it for its advice;
- (r) enter into and carry out contracts in exercise of its powers and in the performance of its duties under this Act and the regulations;
- (s) regulate and decide all administrative matters including the creation and abolition of posts under the Examination Board;
- (t) appoint such officers and staff as it may consider necessary for the performance of its functions and to define their duties and conditions of service;
- (u) make provision for buildings, premises, furniture, apparatus, books and other means required for carrying out the purposes of this Act;
- (v) do all the acts, deeds and things to secure national and international recognition of the certificates;
- (w) sanction or incur such expenditure as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act; and
- (x) do all other acts necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(3) The Examination Board may delegate any of its powers to the Chairman or any officer of the Examination Board or to a committee or sub-committee appointed by it.

(4) The general direction in all matters of policies, plans, programs, projects and scheme, submitted by the Chairman of the Examination Board and administration of the Examination board and its affairs shall vest in the Board of directors.

5. Jurisdiction of the Examination Board.- (1) The Examination Board shall exercise the powers conferred on it by or under this Act in respect of the institutions within the

country and such states including territories, not forming part of a Province, institutions established by Pakistan Missions or citizens of Pakistan in foreign countries and all other educational institutions desirous to seek affiliation and registration with the Examination Board from within the country and from abroad and such institutions located within the jurisdiction of Cantonment Boards constituted under the Cantonments Act, 1924 (II of 1924), as seek affiliation or registration of the Examination Board.

(2) The certificate or diplomas issued by the Examination Board shall not require equivalence from any board, commission or organization in Pakistan.

6. Composition of the Board of Governors.- (1) The Board of Governors shall consist of a President, a representative of the Inter Board Coordination Commission not below the rank of BS 20, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and such others members nominated by the Board of Directors (BoD) on the manner as may be prescribed from time to time.

(2) The over all control, direction and the superintendence of the affairs of the BoG shall vest in the board of directors which may exercise all powers, perform all functions and do all acts which may be exercised, performed or done by the BoG.

7. Powers and Functions of BoG.- The BoG shall be responsible for providing policy directions and general guidelines to the Examination Board, for effectively carrying out the purposes envisioned under this Act. In particular and without prejudice to the foregoing, the BoG shall-

- (a) monitor and review the functioning of the Examination Board;
- (b) issue guidelines to the Examination Board, as per the applicable policy regime under this Act;
- (c) institute appropriate accountability and oversight mechanisms to ensure effective discharge of Examination Board's functions under this Act;
- (d) approve budget of the Examination Board and ensure effective utilization thereof;
- (e) advise and recommend to the Federal and Provincial Governments on policy issues as well as other matters pertaining to the examination

sector;

- (f) establish liaison between the respective governments as well as departments, bodies and instrumentalities thereof; and
- (g) carry out other functions ancillary thereto, or connected therewith, for the purposes of this Act.

8. Members of Board of Governors.- (1) Unless the Board of directors, being of the opinion that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, removes a member from office, other than an *ex-officio* member, shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of his election or nomination, as the case may be.

(2) No *ex-officio* member shall continue to be a member if he ceases to hold the office by virtue of holding which he was appointed.

(3) Any casual vacancy in the office of a member, other than an *ex-officio* member, shall be filled by election or nomination, as the case may be and the person so elected or nominated shall hold office for the unexpired period of the term of his predecessor.

(4) Any member of the Board of governors may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office, provided that the resignation shall not have effect until it is accepted by the President.

(5) A member shall, on the expiry of his term of office, be eligible for re-election or re-nomination.

9. Meeting of BoG.- (1) The meetings of the BoG shall be held in such manner and at such time as may be prescribed:

Provided that, until regulations are made in this behalf, such meetings shall be called by the President, and quorum for meeting shall be one third of total members.

(2) No act or proceedings of the BoG shall be invalid merely on the ground of the existence of a vacancy in or defect in the constitution of, the BoG.

(3) In case of Absence, of President, nominee of president shall chair the meeting.

10. Power of the Federal Government.- (1) The Federal Government shall have the power to cause inspection to be made by such person or persons as it may direct, of the

offices, activities and funds of, and all the examinations conducted by, the Examination Board and to cause an inquiry to be made in like manner in respect of any matter concerning the Examination Board.

(2) The Federal Government shall communicate to the Examination Board the result of such inspection or inquiry and may advise the Examination Board to take such actions and within such period as may be specified.

(3) The Examination Board shall report to the Federal Government the action it proposes to take or has taken on such communication.

(4) Where the Examination Board does not, within six-month time, take action to the satisfaction of the Federal Government, the Federal Government may, after considering any explanation made by the Examination Board, issue such directions as it thinks fit and the Chairman shall comply with such directions.

11. Officers of the Examination Board.- The following shall be the officers of the International Examination Board, namely:-

- (i) The Chairman;
- (ii) The Secretary; and
- (iii) Such other officers as may be appointed by the BoG

12. Appointment powers and duties of the Chairman.- (1) There shall be a Chairman of the Examination Board who through majority voting, be elected by the board of directors of the Yaamal Medical and Nursing Institute (Private) Limited incorporated under the company law, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board of Director means the Board of Directors of Yaamal Medical and Nursing Institute (Private) Limited for the purpose of this Act.

(2) The Chairman shall hold office for a term of three years but shall be eligible for reappointment:

Provided that, notwithstanding the expiry of the term of his office, he shall continue to hold office until his successor is appointed and enters upon his office:

Provided further the Board of Directors may remove anytime the Chairman on any

grounds such as of misconduct, inefficiency or financial corruption or embezzlement in the prescribed manner.

(3) If at any time the office of Chairman is vacant, or he is unable to perform his functions, temporarily or otherwise, by reason of leave, illness or other cause for a period not exceeding one year, the BoD shall make such arrangements for carrying on the duties of the Chairman as it may think fit, and until such arrangements are made, the Secretary shall perform the duties of the Chairman.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Chairman to ensure that the provisions of this Act and the regulations are faithfully observed, and he shall exercise all powers necessary for this purpose.

(5) If an emergency arises out of the administrative business of the Examination Board which, in the opinion of the Chairman, requires that immediate action should be taken, the Chairman may take such action as he deems necessary and shall report the action taken to the BoG in its next meeting for approval.

(6) The Chairman shall exercise such other powers as may be prescribed.

13. Appointment, powers and duties of the Secretary.- (1) The Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Director on such terms and conditions and for such period as may be prescribed.

(2) The Secretary shall, subject to the control of the Chairman, be the chief administrative officer of the Examination Board, shall be responsible for ensuring that the orders of the BoG and the Chairman are carried out and shall execute all contracts for and on behalf of the Examination Board.

(3) The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that all moneys are expended on the purpose for which they are granted or allotted and for preparing and submitting to the BoG for approval an annual statement of accounts and budget estimates.

(4) The Secretary shall exercise such other powers as may be prescribed.

14. Appointment and constitution of committees. (1) The Examination Board shall appoint Committees of Courses, a Finance Committee and such other committees as it may deem necessary for the proper execution of its business.

(2) Each committee shall consist of members of the Examination Board and of such other persons, if any, as the Examination Board, in each case, may think fit to appoint.

(3) A committee may, subject to the approval of the Chairman, co-opt persons if the committee so requires for appropriate decision.

(4) The term of office of a member of a Committee co-opted under sub-section (3) shall be one year from the date of co-option:

Provided that a person co-opted in his capacity as a member of a particular body or as the holder of a particular appointment shall hold office only for so long as he is a member of that body or the holder of that appointment, as the case may be.

15. Fund.- The Examination Board shall have a fund to which shall be credited all income of the Examination Board, including income from fees, endowments, grants and contributions.

16. Annual audit and accounts. - (1) The accounts of the Board shall be maintained in such form and manner as may be determined by the Board of Governors and shall be audited each year within six months of the closing of the financial year of the Examination Board by an independent Chartered Accountant appointed by the Board.

(2) The auditor's report shall certify that the auditor has complied with the standards of audit and certification laid down by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan.

17. International cooperation.— The Examination Board may upon receipt or may enter into memorandum of understanding or on request, extend such cooperation to any foreign educational Board or entity or any international organization or agency for the purposes of verification, attestation, conduct of examination, issuance of certificates, diplomas, or anything incidental or ancillary thereto.

18. Powers of the Board to make regulations. - (1) The BoG may with previous approval of the BoD make regulations for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, the regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely: -

- (a) the procedure for the conduct of, and the number of members required to form a quorum at, meetings of the Board and the committees;
- (b) the conduct of examinations, including the appointment of examiners and their duties, powers and remuneration;
- (c) grievances redressal mechanism and appeal procedure in relation of examination, enrollment and marking etc;
- (d) the conditions for admission of candidates to the examinations held by the Examination Board and their eligibility for diplomas, certificates and titles;
- (e) the conditions for the affiliation of institutions and the withdrawal of affiliation;
- (f) the courses of study to be followed in the institutions imparting Intermediate education or Secondary education or education for other examinations conducted by the Examination Board;
- (g) the institution of scholarships and prizes;
- (h) the election and co-option of members of the Board and its committees;
- (i) the constitution, powers and duties of committees;
- (j) the appointment of employees of the Examination Board and the conditions of their service;
- (k) the constitution of a provident fund for the benefit of the employees of Examination Board; and
- (l) such other matters as may be necessary for giving effect to the provisions of this Act.

19. Act to override other laws.- The provisions of this Act shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any other law for the time being in force and any such law shall, to the extent of inconsistency, cease to have any effect on the commencement of this Act.

20. **Provident fund.**— (1) The Examination Board may create a provident fund for the benefit of its employees, in accordance with the provisions of the Provident Funds Act, 1925 (XIX of 1926).

(2) The salary or their remunerations of the employees of Examination Board shall be determined on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.

21. **Indemnity.**— No suit, prosecution, or other legal proceedings shall lie against any person for anything done or intended to be done in good faith under this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

22. **Removal of difficulties.**— If any question arises as to the interpretation of any of the provisions of this Act, it shall be placed before the board of directors whose decision thereon shall be final.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is considered necessary to establish an examination board in the name of the Pakistan Examination Board (PEB) which will have jurisdiction over all the schools and colleges affiliated, registered and recognized by the Pakistan Examination Board and located in Pakistan or outside established by the Missions or citizens of Pakistan in foreign countries and such other institutions located within the jurisdiction of the Cantonment Boards as seek recognition of the Board. The Bill aims to have a board of international standard to provide and conduct examinations on pattern of international standards and the certificate or diplomas issue by the Examination Board will be recognized worldwide where equivalence requirements will be dispensed.

Whereas to align the examination standards according to requirements of professional colleges entry tests, aptitude tests for further professional degree programs.

To save foreign reserve and avoid flow of money from the country abroad by arranging examination of international standards, as number of local students appearing every year in examinations of foreign affiliated institutions or assessment examination.

2. The Bill have been designed to achieve the aforesaid object.

Sd/-
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