

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

### REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014 INTRODUCED BY MR. RAMESH LAL, MNA.

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Law, Justice and Human Rights have the honor to present this report on the Bill further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan [The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014] introduced by Mr. Ramesh Lal, MNA. The Bill was referred to the Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

2. The Committee comprises the following members:

1. Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk	Chairman
2. Justice (Retd) Iftikhar Ahmad Cheema	Member
3. Chaudhary Muhammad Ashraf	Member
4. Rai Mansab Ali Khan	Member
5. Mr. Moshin Shah Nawaz Ranjha	Member
6. Mr. Muhammad Moeen Wattoo	Member
7. Mr. Muhammad Raza Hayat Harraj	Member
8. Sardar Muhammad Amjad Farooq Khan Khosa	Member
9. Ms. Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member
10. Ms. Kiran Haider	Member
11. Mr. Muhammad Ayaz Soomro	Member
12. Syed Naveed Qamar	Member
13. Ms. Alizeh Iqbal Haider	Member
14. Engr. Ali Muhammad Khan Advocate	Member
15. Ms. Munaza Hassan	Member
16. Mr. S.A. Iqbal Quadri	Member
17. Moulana Muhammad Khan Sherani	Member
18. Ms. Aisha	Member
19. Syed Ayaz Ali Shah Sheerazi	Member
20. Mr. Pervaiz Rashid	Ex-officio Member
<i>Minister for Law, Justice and Human Rights</i>	

3. The Committee in its meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 examined the Bill in detail and recommends that the Bill may not be considered for further legislation. The Bill as introduced in the National Assembly is at Annex-A.

Sd/-  
KARAMAT HUSSAIN NIAZI  
Secretary  
Islamabad, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2014

Sd/-  
CHAUDHRY MAHMOOD BASHIR VIRK  
Chairman

## [AS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

## BILL

further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. **Short title and commencement.**— (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of Article 51 of the Constitution.**— In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the Constitution, in Article 51;

(a) In clause (1), for the words "three hundred and forty two" the words "three hundred and forty seven" shall be substituted; and

(b) In clause (4) for the word "ten" the word "fifteen" shall be substituted.

3. **Amendment of Article 106, of the Constitution.**— In the Constitution, in Article 106 in clause (1), for the table the following shall be substituted, namely:-

	"General Seats"	Women	Non-Muslims	Total
Balochistan	51	11	04	66
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	99	22	04	125
The Punjab	297	66	10	373
Sindh	130	29	14	173

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

Under Article 36 of the Constitution, the State is obliged to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of minorities. Presently under Article 51(4) of the Constitution, ten seats are reserved for non-Muslims in the National Assembly. As per Article 106 the table indicates the number of seats in the Provincial Assembly to be allocated to non-Muslims. There were ten reserved seats for non-Muslims when the number of general seats were 207. When general seats were increased to 272 in 2002, the number of seats reserved for non-Muslims remained the same i.e. 10. The Minority Community strongly feels that minorities representation in National and Provincial Assemblies may be increased according to the proportion to the population of non-Muslim.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above-said objectives.

Sd/-

Mr. Ramesh Lal  
Mr. Lal Chand Malhi  
Mr. Bhawan Das  
Members, National Assembly.

Mr. Sanjay Perwani  
Dr. Darshan  
Mr. Isphanyar M. Bhandara,