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 (Thirty-first... Amendment) Act, 2017.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of Article 106 of the Constitution.— In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in Article 106,—

(a) in clause (1), in the existing Table, for the expression “Khyber Pakhtunkhwa”, in the first column and the entries relating thereto in the second, third, fourth and fifth column, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including Federally Administered Tribal Areas 117 26 4 147” ; and

(b) after clause (1), amended as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(1A) The seats for the Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, referred to in clause (1), include eighteen general seats, four seats for women and one seat for non-Muslim in respect of Federally Administered Tribal Areas.”.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Federal Cabinet in its decision on 2nd March, 2017 in principle approved the integration of FATA with the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. FATA being a part of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa after such integration, will require its representation in the Provincial Assembly of the province. Furthermore, post integration scenario will see a substantial reduction in the Senate seats for FATA, which will be duly and adequately compensated through the creation of seats for FATA in the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa according to their population. Creation of such seats is also of paramount importance for the fact that, if delayed, it will not only hamper the integration or the mainstreaming of FATA but also neglect a favorable opportunity, which might become a distant possibility before the next general elections in 2023.

LT. GEN.(RETD) ABDUL QADIR BALOCH,
Minister for States and Frontier Regions,
Minister-in-Charge