

[AS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

Bill

further to amend the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012 (Act XXIV of 2012) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 2, Act XXIV of 2012.—In the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012, in section 2, after paragraph (m), the following new paragraph shall be added namely:

“(n) “Early Childhood Education (ECE)” means any type of educational programme provided in a public and private school’s setting for the children of age 3 to 5 that consist of any number of activities designed to aid in the cognitive and social development of pre-schoolers according to their learning needs before they enter elementary school.”

3. Amendment of section 9, Act XXIV of 2012.— In the said Act, in section 9, after the words “arrangements” appearing in the first line, the words “in a school established, owned or controlled by the same or the schools mentioned in section 14 of this Act”, shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Pakistan is a developing country, having low literacy rate in the region beside poverty the present primary school activities are the main cause of low pre-school intake. Section 9 of free and compulsory Education Act of 2012 mentions the significance of the role of early childhood education, but in spite of that in public sector schools of Islamabad Capital Territory, a proper and well planned Early Childhood Education (ECE) has been non-existent. Departments in many provinces have so far not realized the need of development and dissemination of the teaching-learning materials (TLRs) specifically produced for this age group. The purpose of the above

amendments is to strengthen the existing legislation in terms of mandatory promotion as well as development of ECE in public and private schools of Islamabad.

The bill has been devised to achieve the above purposes.

Sd/-

Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak
Mr. Ali Nawaz Awan
Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz
Mr. Imran Khattak
Ms. Fouzia Behram
Mr. Atta Ullah
Members, National Assembly

Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon
Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan
Ms. Asma Qadeer
Ms. Zille Huma
Mr. Faheem Khan
Mr. Shahid Ahmed