

A

BILL

to provide for the establishment of China Pakistan Economic Corridor Authority

WHEREAS it is expedient to establish the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Authority for the purposes hereinafter appearing and to provide for matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows: -

**CHAPTER I
PRELIMINARY**

1. Short title, extent and commencement.— (1) This Act may be called the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Authority Act, 2020.

(2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

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

- (i) "Authority" means the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Authority established under section 3;
- (ii) "Budget Committee" means the committee as provided under sub-section (4) of section 16;
- (iii) "Chairperson" means the chairperson of the Authority appointed under section 6, and includes any person performing for the time being the functions of the Chairperson;
- (iv) "Executive Director Operations" means the Executive Director Operations appointed under section 8;
- (v) "Executive Director Research" means the Executive Director Research appointed under section 9;
- (vi) "Government" means the Federal Government;
- (vii) "Joint Cooperation Committee" means the Committee jointly headed by the Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Vice Chairperson of the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China;
- (viii) "Joint Working Group" means the working group constituted and working under the Joint Cooperation Committee;

- (ix) "Member" means a Member of the Authority appointed under section 7 and shall include the Chairperson, Executive Director Operations and Executive Director Research;
- (x) "misconduct" means misconduct as defined in the rules made pursuant to the Civil Servants Act, 1973 (Act LXXI of 1973);
- (xi) "Principal Accounting Officer" shall mean the person specified in sub-section (3) of section 16;
- (xii) "record" includes an account, book, return, statement, document, report, chart, table, diagram, form, survey, image, invoice, letter, map, agreement, memorandum, plan, voucher, financial and non-financial information, and anything containing information, whether in writing, digital or in electronic form or represented or reproduced by any other means, and recording of details of electronic data processing systems and programs to illustrate what the systems and programs do and how they operate;
- (xiii) "regulations" means the regulations made under section 25 of this Act; and
- (xiv) "rules" means the rules made under section 24 of this Act.

CHAPTER II ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUTHORITY

3. Establishment of the Authority. — (1) The Government shall, by notification in the official Gazette, establish an authority to be known as the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Authority, for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Authority shall carry out its functions, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and shall report to the Prime Minister through its Division concerned.

(3) The Authority shall be a body corporate, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to enter into contracts within its budgetary allocation following all the applicable rules and regulations, acquire or dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and may, by its name, sue or be sued.

(4) The head office of the Authority shall be at Islamabad.

4. Powers and Functions of the Authority.— (1) In addition to such other powers and functions as may be assigned under this Act, the Authority shall be responsible for planning, facilitating, coordinating, enforcing, monitoring, and evaluating the smooth implementation of all activities related to the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, in accordance

with the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives of Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Outline of the Long Term Plan of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor signed in Beijing on the 8th day of November 2014, as well as decisions taken, from time to time, at meetings of the Joint Cooperation Committee:

Provided that the function of planning shall follow the existing arrangement being adopted by the Planning Commission:

Provided further that the Government may, from time to time, assign additional functions and responsibilities in this regard, and issue further guidelines to the Authority:

Provided also that existing arrangement of China Pakistan Economic Corridor related activities shall continue until the Authority becomes functional under this Act.

(2) The Authority may call for any pertinent information, required by it for carrying out the purposes of this Act, from any person, institution or body that is or has been involved, directly or indirectly, in any China Pakistan Economic Corridor related activity, or any matter incidental or consequential thereto. Any person institution or body called upon by the Authority, or its authorized officer, to provide such information shall do so within the period prescribed by the Authority or such officer.

(3) The Authority may in the performance of its functions seek assistance or facilitation of any office, authority or agency working under the Government, a Provincial government or a local government or of a representative designated by the Provinces and Territories. In this regard, Provinces and Territories may appoint a representative to provide input and assist the Authority in performance of its functions under this Act.

(4) Without prejudice to generality of the foregoing, the Authority may:

- (i) take-up issues involved for the smooth implementation of the CPEC Framework, with the relevant ministries, offices and departments.
- (ii) interface with National Development and Reform Commission of the Government of the People's Republic of China after due deliberations and consultations with relevant ministries, departments, and other existing fora constituted by the Government;

- (iii) organize meetings of Joint Cooperation Committee and Joint Working Groups;
- (iv) ensure inter-provincial and inter-ministerial coordination for China Pakistan Economic Corridor related activities;
- (v) ensure narrative building and communication of China Pakistan Economic Corridor related activities;
- (vi) conduct sectoral research for informed decision making, providing input for long-term planning and identifying potential areas and projects for intervention; and
- (vii) perform any other function which is necessary for the discharge of its functions under this Act, with the approval of the Prime Minister.

CHAPTER III MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AUTHORITY

5. Composition of the Authority. — (1) The Authority shall comprise a Chairperson, an Executive Director Operations, an Executive Director Research and six other Members.

(2) The Chairperson shall be the convener and head of the Authority.

(3) The Authority may, with the prior approval of the Prime Minister, co-opt any other person, as a Member, from time to time.

(4) An officer of the Authority, so nominated by it, shall act as Secretary to the Authority. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the common seal of the Authority.

(5) The Authority may, whenever deemed appropriate, employ officers, staff, experts, consultants, advisors, public and civil servants, or other employees, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Authority, from time to time.

6. Appointment of the Chairperson.—(1) The Chairperson of the Authority shall be appointed by the Government for a term of four years, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Government.

(2) The Chairperson shall be eligible for re-appointment for one additional term of four years:

Provided that no person shall be appointed as Chairperson for more than two consecutive terms.