

A

Bill

further to amend the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Act 2011

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Act 2011 (Act XV of 2011) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (Amendment) Act 2020

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Insertion of new section 5A, Act XV of 2011.- In the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Act 2011, after section 5, following new section shall be inserted namely:

"(5A) **Disabled Persons Committee.**-(1) A permanent subcommittee of the Board shall be established for the purpose of advising the Commission for Vocational Education and Training in respect of its tasks in the area of vocational education and training of disabled persons. This Disabled Persons Committee shall endeavor to ensure that consideration is given to the special vocational education and training requirements of disabled persons and that vocational education and training of disabled persons is coordinated with other measures to promote their participation in working life. The National Vocational and Technical Training Commission shall consider the proposals put forward by the Committee when taking decisions concerning the implementation of research projects pertaining to the vocational education and training of disabled persons.

(2) The Committee shall consist of 17 members who shall be appointed by the Chairman for a period not exceeding four years. One reappointment shall be permitted. The members of the Committee shall be appointed on the proposal of the National Council for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons and, namely,

- i. one member to represent the employees,
- ii. one member to represent the employers,
- iii. three members to represent organizations of disabled persons,
- iv. one member to represent the Directorate of Worker's Education,
- v. two members to represent the Board of Trustees of the Federal Employees Benevolent and Insurance Funds
- vi. one member to represent private welfare organizations,
- vii. two members to represent vocational rehabilitation institutions,
- viii. six additional persons who are experts in the area of vocational education and training of disabled persons and are employed at vocational training establishments or outpatient services for the disabled.

(3) The Committee may invite disabled persons who are undergoing initial training, further training or retraining to participate in its deliberations."

3. Amendment in section 6, Act XV of 2011.- In the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Act 2011, in section 6, in sub-section (q), semi colon at the end shall be replaced by a comma, "," and words, " including transgender community" and a semi colon, ":" shall be added.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Persons with disabilities in Pakistan are more than the combined population of Multan, Hyderabad and Peshawar (HHRD). Over 5 % of our population are people with disabilities. The poor amongst them are the hardest hit as they face social, attitudinal and physical barriers and discrimination. Up to now the government has not been providing any assistance for people with disabilities. Without help, many people with disabilities would languish in pain and misery and remain disconnected from the society. Limited educational and skills training opportunities put them at a disadvantage when they seek employment. In Pakistan, there are very few vocational training and skills development opportunities for persons with disabilities. The mainstream institutes lack reasonable accommodations required for persons with disabilities, and special schools often do not have the resources or expertise to offer vocational training. Both these factors combine to limit the access of persons with disabilities to skills development opportunities, which subsequently puts them at a disadvantage when they seek employment. The purpose of inserting new section 5A in National Vocational and Technical Training Commission Act 2011, is to include the responsibility of provision of vocational and skill based training to disabled persons all over the country under the functions of the Commission. So that disabled persons may be provided accurate, need-based and relative vocational trainings keeping in view of their specific nature of disabilities. For that purpose formation of a special committee has been proposed whose work would be to work exclusively on searching and researching on those particular trades, vocations and skills that would be appropriate for disabled persons in context of their relevant disabilities. The purpose of proposed amendment in section 6 is to fulfill a very noble cause with the aim of contributing to transgender people's acceptance as productive members of the society. The rights of the transgender community and their protection from discrimination and violence are sensitive issues in the country. There are no platforms for the transgender community in the country and hardly anyone is working for their welfare, so their voices are not being heard. The government should not only teach them skills but also to provide them jobs according to their competence so that they may lead a life of dignity.

2. The bill has been designed to achieve the above purposes,

Sd-

MS. UZMA RIAZ,

Member National Assembly