

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A BILL

to amend the Senate Secretariat Services Act, 2017

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Senate Secretariat Services Act, 2017 (XXII of 2017) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Senate Secretariat Services (Amendment) Act, 2021.

(2) - It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of Section 2, Act XXII of 2017.-** In the Senate Secretariat Services Act, 2017 (XXII of 2017), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in Section 2, in sub-section (1),-

(i) paragraph (a), shall be omitted; and

(ii) for paragraph (f), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(f) *“Employee” means a person appointed in the Secretariat, who shall have the status of a civil servant, but does not include-*

(i) *a person who is on deputation to the Senate Secretariat; or*

(ii) *a person who is employed on contract;”*

3. **Amendment of Section 4, Act XXII of 2017.-** In the said Act, in Section 4, -

(i) in sub-section (1),

(a) in paragraph (a), after the semi-colon “;”, the word “or” shall be added;

(b) paragraphs (b) and (d), shall be omitted; and

(c) in paragraph (c), for the semi-colon and the word “;or” occurring at the end, a full stop “.” shall be substituted;

(ii) after sub-section (1), amended as aforesaid, the following new sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:-

“(1A) *The direct recruitment to a post in BS-17 shall be made through the Federal Public Service Commission and to a post in BS-16 and below through the procedure as prescribed by the Rules.*

“(1B) *There shall be no direct recruitment to a post in BS-18 and above:*

Provided that in such cases where no officer of the Senate Secretariat qualifies to hold the post for the time being and the circumstances render it necessary, appointment to a post in BS-18 and above may be made on contract with the approval of the Senate Finance Committee, through advertisement and recruitment process by the Secretariat, up-till a period of three years, which shall not be extended or regularized.

“(1C) *Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (1A), appointment on contract may be made in the interest of the Secretariat in BS-04 and below, as prescribed by the Rules:*

Provided that staff allowed by the Senate Finance Committee in its meeting held on 17th February 2012 vide Item No.4(iii) may also be appointed on contract, irrespective of the grade:

Provided further that services of an employee appointed on contract in any grade shall not be regularized, extended beyond three years or transferred to any other post in the Secretariat.