

[AS PASSED BY THE MAJLIS-E-SHOORA (PARLIAMENT)].

A

Bill

to reconstitute the Medical and Dental Council in Pakistan

WHEREAS it is expedient to consolidate the law relating to the registration of medical practitioners and dentists and reconstitute the Medical and Dental Council in Pakistan in order to establish a uniform minimum standard of basic and higher qualifications in medicine and dentistry;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title, extent and commencement.- (1) This Act shall be called the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council Act, 2022.

(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,-

- (a) "**approved hospital or institution**" means a hospital or an institution included in the Fourth Schedule;
- (b) "**council**" means the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council constituted under this Act;
- (c) "**continuous professional development**" means skill enhancement and improvement in personal and professional competence which may-
 - (i) comprise lectures, seminars, courses, individual study or other activities undertaken by a registered medical or dental practitioner;
 - (ii) reasonably be expected to advance a registered medical or dental practitioner's development in his related profession; and
 - (iii) be relevant to the practice of registered medical or dental practitioner;
- (d) "**committee**" means any committee constituted under this Act and includes executive committee;

- (e) "**continuous professional development opportunity provider**" means an organization providing continuous professional development opportunities and included in the Fifth Schedule;
- (f) "**dental institution**" means an institution, recognized under this Act, within or outside Pakistan, which trains for, or grants, or both trains for and grants, degrees or diplomas in dentistry;
- (g) "**division concerned**" means the division to which business of this Act stands allocated;
- (h) "**full registration**" means a permanent registration to practice granted under this Act, subject to continuing validity of the registration under this Act and applicable rules and regulations;
- (i) "**house job or foundation year or internship**" means hands on training in clinical subjects on a rotational basis in an approved hospital or institution after provisional registration as a prerequisite for full registration under this Act;
- (j) "**medical institution**" means any institution recognized under this Act, within or outside Pakistan, which trains for or grants, or both trains for and grants, degrees or diplomas in medicine;
- (k) "**medicine**" means modern scientific medicine and includes surgery and other disciplines, but does not include veterinary medicine and its surgery;
- (l) "**medical and dental colleges admissions tests**" or "MDCAT" means the medical and dental college admission tests, as defined in section 17;
- (m) "**national equivalence board examination**" or "NEB" means the national equivalent board examination, as defined in section 19;
- (n) "**national registration examination**" or "NRE" means national registration re-examination, as defined in section 18;

- (o) "**Pakistan university**" means any university established under a Pakistan law and having a constituent medical or dental college or both;
- (p) "**President**" means President of the Council;
- (q) "**provisional registration**" means a registration granted to enable training and education prior to grant a full registration and subsequent to having qualified the national registration examination under this Act;
- (r) "**prescribed**" means prescribed by rules and regulations;
- (s) "**recognized medical qualification**" means any basic medical qualification included in the First Schedule;
- (t) "**recognized dental qualification**" means any basic dental qualification included in the Third Schedule;
- (u) "**recognized additional medical or dental qualification**" means any additional medical or dental qualification included in the Second Schedule;
- (v) "**register**" means the register of medical practitioners maintained under section 36 or the register of dental practitioners maintained under section 37;
- (w) "**registered medical practitioner**" means a medical practitioner whose name is included in the register maintained under section 36;
- (x) "**registered dental practitioner**" means a dental practitioner whose name is included in the register maintained under section 37;
- (y) "**regulations and rules**" mean regulations and rules made under this Act;
- (z) "**registerable qualifications**" mean medical or dental qualifications recognized under this Act; and
- (za) "**specialists boards**" mean recognized specialist boards included in the Sixth Schedule.

3. Constitution and composition of the Council.- (1) The Prime Minister shall, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute the Council consisting of the following members, namely:-

- (a) three members of civil society nominated by the Prime Minister on recommendations of the Minister-in-charge of the division concerned, that is to say—
 - (i) one member shall be a philanthropist who is a professional of known integrity and eminence with a minimum of fifteen years of related experience in the field of philanthropist;
 - (ii) one member from legal profession of known integrity and eminence with a minimum of fifteen years of experience in the field of law as a practicing lawyer or a retired High Court Judge; and
 - (iii) one member who shall be a chartered accountant of known integrity and eminence with a minimum of fifteen years of related experience in the field of accountancy;
- (b) five members being licensed medical practitioners one of whom shall be a dentist, all of them having fifteen years of teaching experience which may include the vice-chancellor or dean or principal of any medical university or medical and dental institute or teaching hospital or post graduate medical institution but shall not be the owner or shareholder or administrator of any private medical and dental university or private medical and dental college or private institute to be nominated by the Prime Minister on recommendations of the Minister-in-charge;
- (c) one member being the surgeon general of the armed forces medical services;
- (d) the secretary of the division concerned;
- (e) secretaries, health departments of all four Provinces; and
- (f) one member to be elected by the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan.

(2) The division concerned shall call first meeting of the Council within fifteen days after its constitution under sub-section (1).