

(To be introduced in the Youth Parliament Pakistan)

A Bill

Further to amend The Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 (Act # XXVII of 1997) for the purposes hereinafter appearing:

The Amendment is expedient to provide for the prevention of terrorism and violence, protection of strategic assets, military installations and for speedy trial of heinous offences and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto:

It is hereby enacted as further:

I. Short title and commencement:

(a) This may be called The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2012.

(b) It shall come into force at once.

II. Addition of new articles: New articles, named Article (41), (42), (43), (43A), (45), (46), (46A), (47), (47A) and Article (47B) are hereby inserted to this Act through the amendment.

Article (41) Suicidal Violence/Terrorism

1. Terrorist activities such as suicide attacks, conspiracy or planning for a suicide attack, suicide bomber, armed insurgency and planning to cause wide spread disaffection against the state.

2. Attacks causing widespread damage will be treated under this article.
3. The punishment for above mentioned terrorist attacks will be given under article 45.

Article (42) Explosives Control

1. Minimum quantity of explosives will be 250 gram and not less than.
2. Harboring people with such explosives will be considered a terrorist act against the state.
3. However the determination of punishment lies in the possession of material and quantity of substance.

Article (43) Protection of Security Machinery

1. Attacks on security installations, armed forces, Law enforcement agencies and their facilities will be tried under this article.
2. Punishment for these acts of terrorism will be given under article 46.

Article (43A) Protection of Strategic Assets

Attacks on highly sensitive installations like nuclear installations or critical national infrastructure like dams, transmission wires and pipelines would be tried under this article.

Punishments of new inducting offences under sections 45, 46 and 47 of Anti-terrorism (Amendment) act, 2012.

(Punishment under) Article 45

Punishment for terrorist acts such as suicide attacks or planning for suicide attack or use of suicide vest against the stateshall be punishable on conviction with rigorous imprisonment for a term no less than 14 years or death penalty.

(Punishment under) Article46

Attacks on personnel and places having a national symbolic significance, defense related facilities, strategically important installations or infrastructure and nuclear facilities should be punishable under this article with imprisonment not less than life imprisonment or death sentence of life imprisonment with fine.

Article (46A)

This punishment also covers those acts which may be extended to unauthorized possession of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.

(Punishment under) **Article 47**

Provision of compulsory confiscation of all properties in favor of state of any person convicted of terrorist attacks which involves loss to state exchequer shall be made under this article.

Article (47A)

Acts like training suicide bombers, imparting training in preparation of explosives, weapons training, harboring terrorists should all be offences punishable with imprisonment on conviction not less than 6 years or heavy fine along with imprisonment not exceeding life imprisonment.

Article (47B)

Propagation and dissemination of ideas or literature leading to terrorism should be a crime punishable on conviction with heavy fine or imprisonment not less than 1 year and not exceeding 5 years.

Statement of Objects and Reasons

1 The primary counter terrorism law of Pakistan, The Anti-Terrorism Act of 1997, is a federal statute. It was meant to deal with the menace of ethnic and

sectarian terrorism and was enacted in the backdrop of the heightened attacks and terrorist acts in the decade of the 90s. But the terrorist threat in the post 9/11 scenario is almost entirely distinguishable which has national and international implications so different in nature from the earlier phenomenon of terrorism.

2 The terrorist attacks have been mostly suicide attacks, or in some cases, remote bombings with the targets being on a much bigger scale. in this way it is the need of the hour to address this contagious issue on war footing.

3 The weapon of choice for terrorists has changed from firearms to explosives.in addition terrorists are using improvise explosive devices(IED's),sophisticated weapons such as anti-aircraft gun, machine guns and other remote control devices.

4 The intensity of the attacks has increased manifold resulting in casualties at times in hundreds.

5 The targets have been security as well as law enforcement forces, important personalities, installations having national or symbolic significance and religiously important buildings or personalities. Example of these kind of attacks are mehran base attack and siege of GHQ.

6 The groups involved in attacks are much larger in size as compared to the past and are assisted by a network that in some cases may be international such as

TTP, AL-QAEDA, BALOCH TERRORIST MOVEMENTS etc and National includes lashkar jhangvi , in particular.

7 The financial resources at their disposal have been considerable. It includes Covert acts of terrorism sponsored by state and non state actors, regime change politics, assassinations by intelligence agencies and balance of terror.

8 In some cases there have been widespread armed insurgencies with whole areas being temporarily under the control of terrorist elements. Example of these Taliban control over swat, part of FATA under Taliban control

9 In many cases there are wide geographical area involved with the supporting group being spread over hundreds of miles and being available to provide planning, support, sanctuary and assistance to the actual perpetrators.

Mover of the bill

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