EXTRAORDINARY

Registered No. M324

The Sindh Government Gazette

Published by Authority

KARACHI TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 02, 2025

PART-IV

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH
NOTIFICATION
KARACHI, THE 02ND SEPTEMBER, 2025.

NO.PAS/LEGIS-B-21/2025- The Anti-Terrorism (Sindh Amendment) Bill, 2025 having been passed by the Provincial Assembly of Sindh on 08th August, 2025 and assented to by the Governor of Sindh on 20th August, 2025 is hereby published as an Act of the Legislature of Sindh.

THE ANTI-TERRORISM (SINDH AMENDMENT) ACT, 2025

SINDH ACT NO. XXIII OF 2025.

AN
ACT

to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, in its application to the Province of Sindh;

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, in its application to the Province of Sindh, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Anti-Terrorism (Sindh Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Province of Sindh.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

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Amendment of section 2 of Act No.XXVII of 1997.

2. In the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, in its application to the Province of Sindh, hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 2, after clause (e), the following new clause shall be inserted:-

"(ee) "Department" means the Home Department, Government of Sindh;".

Amendment of section 13 of Act No.XXVII of 1997.

3. In the said Act, in section 13 –

(a) for the words "the Federal Government or if so directed by the Government", wherever appearing, shall be omitted;

(b) in sub-section (1), the full-stop at the end shall be replaced by a colon and thereafter the following proviso shall be added:-

Provided that the Department may, with the approval of Provincial Government, increase or decrease or abolish the number of Courts, as the case may be:

Provided further that consequently the increasing or decreasing or abolition of such Court, the cases pending in such increased, decreased or abolished court shall be transferred by the Department to any other Court, having jurisdiction.".

Amendment of section 14 of Act No.XXVII of 1997.

4. In the said Act, in section 14 –

(a) in sub-section (1), for clause (i), the following shall be substituted:-

"(i) is or has been a Judge of a High Court, or is or has been a Sessions Judge or an Additional Sessions Judge; or";

(b) for sub-section (2), the following new sub-section shall be substituted:-

"(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Provincial Government shall appoint a Judge or Presiding Officer of the Court from amongst the panel of three nominees with concurrence of the Chief Justice of High Court, which shall include at least one Advocate as mentioned in clause (iii) of sub-section (1):

Provided that no nominee shall be eligible for appointment if he or she has attained the age of sixty-five (65) years:

Provided further that upon attaining the age of sixty-five (65) years, a Judge or Presiding Officer appointed under this section shall cease to hold office:

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Provided further that the Department shall, after concurrence under this sub-section, place the matter before the Provincial Government for appointment of the Judge or the Presiding Officer of the Court under this section:

Provided also that in case of appointment of a retired Judge or Presiding Officer, the terms and conditions of such appointment shall be determined by the Provincial Government.";

(c) for sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted:-

"(3) A Judge or Presiding Officer shall hold office for a period of two and half years or part of such term, and shall be eligible for reappointment for further one term only or part of such term as the Provincial Government may exclusively determine.";

(d) for sub-section (4), the following shall be substituted:-

(4) A Judge or Presiding Officer may be removed from his office prior to the completion of the period for which he has been appointed by the Provincial Government with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of High Court.";

(e) in sub-section (5), after the words "or for any other reason temporarily unable to perform his duties" the words "or the Court lying vacant for any reason" shall be inserted;

(f) after sub-section (6), the following new sub-sections shall be added:-

(7) The Registrar of Anti-Terrorism Courts of Sindh shall be appointed by the Provincial Government, who shall not be below the rank of BS-18/19 from PAS, Ex-PCS, PSS cadre, or Judicial Officer, or an Advocate having experience of not less than seven years as an Advocate of High Court, who shall deal with the administrative affairs of the Courts in the Province of Sindh.".

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(8) All the powers exercisable by the Federal Government under the this Act in respect of the existing Courts in the Province of Sindh shall be the powers of the Provincial Government on and from the commencement of the Anti-Terrorism (Sindh Amendment) Act, 2025.".

BY ORDER OF THE SPEAKER
PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH

G.M.UMAR FAROOQ
SECRETARY
PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF SINDH

Karachi: Printed at the Sindh Government Press
02-09-2025

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