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THE SINDH ARMS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

SINDH ACT NO. XXXV OF 2023

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[04TH SEPTEMBER, 2023.]

AN ACT to amend the Sindh Arms Act, 2013.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Sindh Arms Act, 2013, **Preamble.**
in the manner hereinafter appearing:

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sindh Arms (Amendment) Act, 2023. **Short title, extent and commencement.**
 (2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In the Sindh Act, 2013 herein referred as the said Act, in section 2- **Amendment in Section 2 of Act No. V of 2013.**
 - (a) in clause (b), after the words “any firearms,” the word “arms” shall be inserted.
 - (b) in clause (c), after the word “means” the words “and includes firearms and” shall be inserted.
 - (c) in clause (d), in first line, after the word “means” the words “and includes arms and” shall be inserted. In third line, after the words “other forms of energy,” the words “as may be notified by the Home Department from time to time,” shall be inserted.
 - (d) in clause (h), after the words “the trigger, missiles,” the words “bullets or cartridges” shall be inserted. In the same sub-section after the words “containing the missiles,” the words “bullets and cartridges” shall be inserted.
 - (e) after clause (k), the following new clauses shall be added:-
 - (l) “shooting range” means and includes a fire range or gun range or a specialized facility, venue or field or a place either indoor or outdoor to be earmarked specifically for the usage of training, practice of targets, controlled shooting and competition by the persons having valid arms licenses for lawful purposes including sport shooting but does not own or sell or rent arms and ammunition;

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- (m) “shooting club” means and includes a fire range or gun range or specialized facility, venue or field or a place either indoor or outdoor to be earmarked specifically for the usage of training, practice of targets, controlled shooting and competition by the persons having valid arms license for lawful purpose and maintain stock of arms and ammunition as authorized by the Home Department under license;
- (n) “sports shooting association” means a non-profit organization or an association of person duly registered under The Societies Registration Act, 1860, whose activities shall exclusively include target practice or target shooting competitions using non-prohibited arms or firearms and ammunition at any identified approved shooting range;
- (o) “operator” means a person who has obtained a license under Section 12 to operate a shooting range;
- (p) “Appellate Authority” means the Chief Minister Sindh or an Officer to whom the powers have been delegated by him.

3. In the said Act, in section 5-

**Amendment in
Section 5 of Act
No. V of 2013.**

- (a) in margin the words “Import, export and transportation.” Shall be replaced with words “Prohibition of transportation of arms and ammunition.” In the second line, after the words “Districts, arms, ammunition,” the words “as notified by the government in the official gazette” shall be inserted and in second line the words “or military stores” shall be deleted.
- (b) in explanation clause, after the words “appearance of a firearms” the words “and having such material which can be converted to arm” shall be inserted.

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4. In the said Act, in section 8-
- Amendment in Section 8 of Act No. V of 2013.**
- (a) in sub-section (1) after clause (i), following a new proviso is added:-
- “Provided that restriction of age shall not apply to the person, who has acquired the job in any public or private sector organization and the employer of such public or private organization has issued a letter for obtaining arms license for discharge of his official duties.”
- (b) in sub-section (1) clause (iv), after words “Criminal Procedure, 1898”, the words “or under IIEE(2)(a) of Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997,” shall be inserted.
- (c) in sub-section (2), after the words “his training” the words “& sports shooting competitions” shall be inserted.
- (d) after sub-section (2), the following new clause shall be added:
- “(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section a person can not carry arms, who has not undergone basic training to handle firearm by the registered training and / or teaching institute or organization or Arms & Ammunition dealer, as may be prescribed.”
5. In the said Act, section 9-
- Amendment in Section 9 of Act No. V of 2013.**
- (a) in margin the words, after the “License for import and export of arms” the words “ammunition, manufacturing machinery for arms and ammunition in the province of Sindh” shall be inserted.
6. In the said Act, in section 12-
- Amendment in Section 12 of Act No. V of 2013.**
- (a) in sub-section (2), in the first line, after the words “application, the” the words “Home Department or” and after the word “after” the words “scrutinizing the required documents as may be prescribed, and after” shall be inserted and in

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second line after the words “antecedent check,”
the words “and other conditions of handling,
training of the arms, as may be prescribed” shall
be inserted.

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| 7. | In the said Act, after section 12, the following new Section shall be inserted:- | Insertion of
Section 12-A of
Act No. V of 2013. |
| | <p>“12-A Grant of License for shooting range. (1)
An application for the grant of license to operate a shooting range or shooting club shall be made to the Home Department, providing the particulars and accompanied by the prescribed fees.</p> <p>(2) The code of conduct, curriculum and other conditions to manage the affairs and operate a shooting range shall be notified by the Home Department from time to time.</p> | |
| 8. | In the said Act, after section 12-A, the following new Section shall be inserted:- | Insertion of
Section 12-B of
Act No. V of 2013. |
| | <p>“12-B Grant of Arms Licenses to the Sports Shooting Clubs. An application for grant of arms licenses to the prescribed limits shall be made to the Home Department by the authorized person of the Sports Shooting Club, subject to such conditions as laid down in the Rules, and accompanied by the prescribed fees.”</p> | |
| 9. | In the said Act, in section 13- | Amendment in
Section 13 of Act
No. V of 2013. |
| | <p>(a) in sub-section (1), after words “Section 12,” the words “12-A & 12-B” shall be inserted-</p> <p>(b) In clause (b), after the word and figure “Chapter-II” the words and figure “and Chapter-III of Act;” shall be inserted.</p> | |
| 10. | In the said Act, in section 14- in sub-section (2), after word “renewable the words “for such period as may be ordered by the licensing, authority” shall be inserted. | Amendment in
Section 14 of Act
No. V of 2013. |
| 11. | In the said Act, in section 16, after sub-section (8), the following new sub-section shall be added:- | Amendment in
Section 16 of Act
NO. V of 2013. |

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“(9) If the license of an individual or a dealer or a shooting range or shooting club is suspended or permanently revoked:-

- (a) in case of an individual, the arms and ammunitions registered on the basis of that license shall immediately be deposited with the relevant police station in the prescribed manner under intimation to the Home Department;
- (b) in case of a dealer or shooting range or shooting club, whose license has permanently been revoked, the arms and ammunitions registered on the basis of that license shall immediately be deposited with the relevant police station in the prescribed manner under intimation to the Home Department;”

12. In the said Act, in section 18-

**Amendment in
Section 18 of Act
No. V of 2013.**

- (a) in sub-section (1) in second line, after the words “refusing to grant” the words “under this Act,” shall be inserted. In fourth line, the words “prescribed period” shall be substituted with figure and words “(30) days from the date of order.”
- (b) in sub-section (2), in proviso clause, after the words “Provided that”, the words “the delay in filing the appeal may be condoned,” shall be inserted.

13. In the said Act, in section 19- in sub-section (2), the following Explanation shall be added:-

**Amendment in
Section 19 of Act
No. V of 2013.**

“**Explanation**” the phrase “carry permission” used in the Section shall mean a document issued by the Home Department for carrying the weapon outside of Residential / institutional premises of the license holder under Section 144 of Cr.P.C, as per condition laid down in the carry permission document.”

14. In the said Act, in section 23, after clause (b), the following new clauses shall be inserted:-

**Amendment in
Section 23 of Act
No. V of 2013.**

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“(bb) transports within or takes out of Sindh or any of its districts arms, ammunitions or firearms in contravention of Section 5, 10 or 11; or

“(bbb) acquires, possesses, carries, sales or manufactures any prohibited arms or ammunitions in contravention of Section 6; or”

15. In the said Act, in section 24-, in third line, the words “shall whether such unlawful purpose has been materialized or not” shall be deleted. **Amendment in Section 24 or Act NO. V of 2013.**

16. In the said Act, after section 24, the following new Section shall be inserted:- **Insertion of Section 24-A of Act No. V of 2013.**

“24-A, Punishment for running / operating arms and ammunition dealership or a shooting range or shooting club without having license. Whoever operates or runs or manages the affairs of the arms and ammunition dealership or shooting range or shooting club at any place without getting license shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may be extended to three years or fine which may extend up to rupees ten million or with both”.