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THE SINDH LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2026.

SINDH ACT NO. XXXII OF 2026.

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[12TH OCTOBER, 2026.]

AN ACT to amend the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

Short title and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sindh Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Amendment of section 3 of Sindh Act No.XLII of 2013.

2. In the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013, hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 3 –

(a) after clause (xv), the following new clause shall be inserted:-

"(xv-a) "Convenor" means the Deputy Mayor or Vice Chairman, as the case may be and shall include the Convenor of Reconciliation Forum constituted under section 84-A;";

(b) after clause (xxxvii), the following new clause shall be inserted:-

"(xxxvii-a) "Leader of the House" means the Mayor or Chairman, as the case may be;";

(c) in clause (li-a), for the words "persons with disabilities", the words "differently abled persons" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 21 of Sindh Act No.XLII of 2013.

3. In the said Act, in section 21, for sub-section (3), including the proviso, the following shall be substituted:-

"(3) Government shall, one hundred twenty (120) days before the expiry of term of office of the Council, immediately send a request to the Election Commission for holding fresh election within 120 days:

Provided that, on expiry of the term of a Council, the outgoing Mayor or Chairman, as the case may be, shall continue to exercise the powers and perform the functions of the Council as Administrator until the newly elected Mayor or Chairman assumes office.".

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4. In the said Act, in section 31, after the words "Vice-Chairman" the words "and Members" shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 31 of Sindh Act No.XLII of 2013.

5. In the said Act, in section 78 –

Amendment of section 78 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

(i) in clause (c), the word “and” shall be omitted;

(ii) in clause (d), the full-stop at the end shall be replaced by a semi colon and thereafter the following new clause shall be added:-

“(e) the detailed maps, depicting the location and extent of infrastructure relating to public services.”.

6. In the said Act, in section 80, in sub-section (1), for clause (a), the following shall be substituted:-

Amendment of section 80 of Sindh Act No.XLII of 2013.

“(a) be the Leader of the House;”.

7. In the said Act, after section 80, the following new section shall be inserted :-

“80-A. Powers of Deputy Mayor or Vice-Chairman. (1) The Deputy Mayor or Vice-Chairman, as the case may be, shall act as the Convener of the respective Council, and shall preside over its meetings, and perform such functions as may be assigned by the Mayor or Chairman, as the case may be.

(2) The Deputy Mayor or Vice-Chairman, as the case may be, shall regulate the conduct of business at meetings of the Council in accordance with the prescribed rules.

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(3) When the Deputy Mayor or Vice Chairman, by reason of absence from Pakistan or for any other cause, is unable to exercise his powers or perform his functions, the Administrative Department may, by Notification, entrust the duties of the Deputy Mayor or Vice-Chairman to the extent of convenorship, to any of the Member from amongst the Panel of three members nominated by the Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and Convener of the Council, in order of precedence.”.

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8. In the said Act, in section 82, in sub-section (1) –

Amendment of section 82 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

(i) for clause (a), the following shall be substituted:-

"(a) Metropolitan Commissioner, in the case of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation or any Metropolitan Corporation.";

(ii) after clause (a) so amended above, the following new clause shall be inserted:-

"(a-i) "Municipal Commissioner in case of a Corporation;".

9. In the said Act, in section 83 –

Amendment of section 83 of Sindh Act No.XLII of 2013.

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "Mayor, Chairman or Officers", the words "Deputy Mayor, Vice-Chairman, Member or Officers" shall be substituted; and

(b) for sub-section (2), except its proviso, the following shall be substituted:-

"(2) The Deputy Mayor or, as the case may be, the Vice-Chairman shall be the Convener of all the meetings of the Council and shall preside its meetings:".

10. In the said Act, after Chapter-VII, the following new Chapter shall be inserted :-

Insertion of new Chapter VII-A in Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

"CHAPTER VII-A
RECONCILIATION FORUM

"84-A. Amicable settlement of disputes.(1) A Union Council, Union Committee, Town Committee or Municipal Committee shall constitute a Reconciliation Forum within ninety (90) days from the commencement of the Sindh Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2026, for the amicable settlement of disputes among the people in accordance with the functions and procedures as may be prescribed.

(2) The Reconciliation Forum shall consist of a panel of three Conciliators, one of whom shall act as Convener, to be nominated by the Council from among the residents of the Union Council, Union Committee, Town Committee, or Municipal Committee as the case may be, who are publicly known to be persons of integrity, sound judgement, and respected standing in the local community:

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Provided that Forum shall coopt any person(s) as a member(s) of the Reconciliation Forum for any particular matter but such person shall have no right to vote during the proceedings of the Forum.

(3) Any casual vacancy in the panel of Conciliators shall be filled by the respective Council as soon as practicable.

(4) The Conciliators shall hold office for the term of the Council unless earlier replaced by the Council.

(5) Where, in the opinion of the Council, a member of the panel of Conciliators is found to have acted with consistent partiality or malpractice in the performance of his functions, the Council may, after affording such member an opportunity of hearing, remove him and nominate another member in his place:

Provided that Conciliators shall be eligible for re- nomination.

Explanation.- For the purpose of this section –

(i) "Conciliator" means Reconciliation Forum which will assist the parties in reaching a negotiated settlement of dispute or difference by facilitating communication and, where appropriate, putting forward proposals for settlement, while leaving the parties in ultimate control of the decision to settle and the terms of any settlement; and

(ii) "dispute" means any disagreement, difference, controversy, conflict or claim arising between two or more parties, whether in relation to a contract, agreement, transaction, relationship, act or omission, or otherwise, concerning any right, obligation, liability, entitlement, decision or other matter in question, which may be resolved by mutual agreement through reconciliation.

(6) For the purpose of amicable settlement of disputes among the people in the Council(s) specified under sub-section (1), the Reconciliation Forum shall have the powers under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 to summon the parties.

(7) The decisions of the Reconciliation Forum shall, as far as practicable, be implemented and given effect by the parties in letter and spirit.

11. In the said Act, in section 90 –

Amendment of section 90 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

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

"(1) The functioning of the Councils shall be inspected by the Inspection Officer or the Inspection Team, as the case may be, designated by the Administrative Department, at least once in each financial year.";

(b) in sub-section (3), (5), (6) and (8), for the word "Government", the words "Administrative Department" shall be substituted.

12. In the said Act, in section 120, in sub-section (1), in clause (a) before the word "conduct" the words "meet at least after every three months and" shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 120 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

13. In the said Act, in section 127 -

Amendment of section 127 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "set up institutions or make other arrangement as may be necessary for", the words "establish institutions, either independently, through public-private partnerships, or by such other arrangements as may be necessary, for the purpose of" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (1) as amended above -

(i) in clause (iv), after the words "Research Institutions", the words "or knowledge partners, to assist in strengthening local governance through research, capacity-building, and the dissemination of best practices" shall be added;

(ii) for clause (vi), the following shall be substituted:-

"(vi) affiliating the institutions established with the universities, training and capacity building institutes, for the training of the staff of the Engineering Wing, Education, Public Health and other Departments of the Council.";

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

"(3) A Council shall, in its annual budget, allocate funds to meet the costs of training for elected representatives and functionaries of the respective Council, or for any other arrangements made under sub-section (1), in such proportion as the Local Government Department may, from time to time, determine.";

(d) after sub-section (3). the following new sub-section (4) shall be added: -

"(4) A Council shall plan and implement, or where appropriate outsource. targeted capacity building programmes for its elected representatives and functionaries, to ensure timely and context-specific training aimed at strengthening decision-making, enhancing service delivery, promoting climate resilience, and improving overall institutional effectiveness.".

Amendment of section 141 of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

14. In the said Act, in section 141, in sub-section (2), after the word "Mayor", the words "or Deputy Mayor" and after the word "Chairman", the words "or Vice-Chairman" shall respectively be inserted.

Amendment of Schedule-IX of Sindh Act No. XLII of 2013.

15. In the said Act, in Schedule-IX –

(a) in entry 1, 2 and 3, before the words "quarterly report", the word "comprehensive" shall be inserted;

(b) for entry 4, the following shall be substituted, namely:

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"4. Law & Order: (1) The Station House Officer of a Police Station shall coordinate with the Chairman of the concerned Union Council within a District Council, or with the Chairman of a Union Committee in the case of a Corporation, Town Committee, or Municipal Committee, as the case may be, on matters relating to local public safety and maintenance of public order within the territorial jurisdiction of the Police Station.

(2) The Senior Superintendent of Police of a District shall coordinate with the Chairman of the District Council or the Mayor of a corporation for the effective functioning of policing:

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Provided that such coordination shall not extend to the administration of the District Police, investigation of criminal cases, or functions relating to prosecution, which shall vest exclusively with the Police.

(c) in entry 5, before the words "quarterly report", the word" comprehensive" shall be inserted;

(d) for entry 6, the following shall be substituted: -

"6. Empowerment of Women: The Council, through its Mayor or Chairman, shall submit comprehensive quarterly reports to the Administrative Department and the Women Development Department Government of Sindh on challenges faced by women within its jurisdiction, highlighting the participation and contributions of female Council members in the day-to-day functioning of the Council. The reports shall identify social, economic, and safety barriers affecting women and seek departmental support to empower women, raise awareness, enhance access to services, and address the challenges they encounter.";

(e) in entries 7 and 8, before the words "quarterly report", the word "comprehensive" shall be inserted;

(f) for entry 9, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"9. Empowerment of differently abled persons. The Council shall undertake measures for the welfare and betterment of differently abled persons, including but not limited to ensuring access to education, healthcare, employment, social services, and accessible public infrastructure, and shall ensure that all development work carried out by the Council is inclusive in nature. Each Council shall submit a comprehensive quarterly report to the Administrative Department specifying the challenges faced by persons with disabilities within its jurisdiction, the measures adopted to address such challenges, and the participation of differently abled persons, in the day-to-day functioning of the Council.";

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(g) after entry 9, as amended above, the following new entries shall be added:-

"10. Solid Waste Management. (1) The Union Committee or Union Council, as the case may be, shall coordinate with the relevant authorities of solid waste management to take effective and necessary measures for proper cleanliness and waste disposal in accordance with law and shall identify solid waste management issues within their respective jurisdictions and share such information, in a timely manner, with relevant authorities for corrective action, and shall also exercise oversight over the attendance and performance of the working staff of solid waste management to ensure proper cleanliness in their respective jurisdiction.

11. Building Control and Unauthorized Constructions. The Union Committee or Union Council shall also identify building control violations and unauthorized constructions within its jurisdiction and shall share such information with the Sindh Building Control Authority for enforcement and corrective action in accordance with law.".

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