

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB

Bill No. 03 of 2025

THE PROBATION OF OFFENDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2025

A

Bill

further to amend the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1960.

It is necessary to amend the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1960 (XLV of 1960) for the purposes hereinafter appearing.

Be it enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Act may be cited as the Probation of Offenders (Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 1 of Ordinance XLV of 1960.— In the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1960 (XLV of 1960), for brevity referred to as ‘the Ordinance’, in section 1:

(a) in sub-section (2), for the word “Pakistan”, the words “the Punjab” shall be substituted; and

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

“(3) It shall come into force at once.”.

3. Amendment of section 2 of Ordinance XLV of 1960.— In the Ordinance, in section 2, after clause (a), the following shall be inserted:

“(aa) “community service” means any unpaid work or service beneficial to the community to be performed by a probationer under the probation order;”.

4. Amendment of section 5 of Ordinance XLV of 1960.— In the Ordinance, in section 5, in sub-section (2), after the words “the probation officer”, the expression “or Deputy Commissioner of the District concerned, as the case may be,” shall be inserted.

5. Insertion of section 5A in the Ordinance XLV of 1960.— In the Ordinance, after section 5, the following shall be inserted:

“5A. Conditions of community service.— (1) While making a probation order mandating community service, the Court shall consider the following:

- (a) capability and willingness of the offender;
- (b) purpose and suitability of community service;
- (c) beneficiality of community service and its usefulness for rehabilitation and reintegration of probationer into society; and
- (d) consequences of breach of terms and conditions of the bond.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) of section 5, a probationer under the probation order mandating community service, shall be under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner of the District concerned.”.

6. Amendment of section 7 of the Ordinance XLV of 1960.— In the Ordinance, in section 7, in sub-section (3), in clause (b), for the words “exceeding one”, the words “not less than ten” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It has been considered expedient to amend the Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1960 (XLV of 1960) to fulfill the stated object of the Ordinance which is to rehabilitate a convict as an honest, industrious and law-abiding citizen and this objective can be achieved by community service under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner of the district concerned. A probation order which mandates community service benefits the offender, the community and the State, as it saves the expense of keeping a convict imprisoned and it also prevents the overcrowding of the prisons. Hence, this Bill.

MINISTER INCHARGE

Lahore:
January 10, 2025

CH AMER HABIB
Secretary General