**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**Bill No. 23 of 2025**

**THE NOTARIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2025**

A

Bill

*further to amend the Notaries Ordinance, 1961.*

It is necessary further to amend the Notaries Ordinance, 1961 (XIX of 1961) 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 Notaries (Amendment) Act 2025.

 (2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment of long title and preamble of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Notaries Ordinance, 1961 (XIX of 1961), for brevity referred to as "the Ordinance", in long title and preamble, for the word "Pakistan", the words "the Punjab" shall be substituted.

**3. Amendment of section 1 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 1:

* 1. in sub-section (2), for the word "Pakistan", the words "the Punjab" shall be substituted; and
	2. for sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted.

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

**4. Amendment of section 2 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 2:

1. before clause (a), the following shall be added:

"(aa) "Government" means Government of the Punjab;”;

1. in clause (e), for full stop at the end, the expression "; and" shall be substituted, and after clause (e), the following shall be added:

“(ea) "Secretary" means Secretary to Government, Home Department.”.

**5. Amendment of section 3 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 3, for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted.

**6. Amendment of section 4 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 4, in sub-section (1):

1. for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted; and
2. for the words “that Government”, the word “him” shall be substituted.

**7. Amendment of section 5 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 5:

1. in sub-section (1), in clause (a), the words “by that Government” shall be omitted;
2. in sub-section (2), for the words, “Provincial Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted;
3. in sub-section (3):
4. for the words “Provincial Government", the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted; and

(ii) after the words “a period of three years”, the words “subject to satisfactory performance evaluation in the manner as may be prescribed” shall be added; and

1. sub-section (4) shall be omitted.

**8. Amendment of section 6 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 6:

1. for the words, “Provincial Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted; and
2. for the words “that Government”, the word “him” shall be substituted.

**9. Amendment of section 9 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 9, the expression “(1)” shall be omitted.

**10. Amendment of section 10 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 10:

(a) for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted; and

(b) in clause (d), for the word “Government”, the words “Secretary or any other officer authorized by him in this behalf” shall be substituted.

**11. Amendment of section 12 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 12, in clause (b), after the word “fine”, the words “which may extend up to five hundred thousand rupees but not less than one hundred thousand rupees” shall be inserted.

**12. Amendment of section 13 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, in section 13, in sub-section (1), for the words “Provincial Government”, the word “Secretary” shall be substituted.

**13. Omission of section 14 of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, section 14 shall be omitted.

**14. Omission of section 16-A of Ordinance XIX of 1961**.- In the Ordinance, section 16-A shall be omitted.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

The Home Department has proposed to amend the Notaries Ordinance, 1961 (XIX of 1961) for its adaptation and proposed other consequential amendments in it along with providing the amount of fine which may extend to five hundred thousand rupees but not less than one hundred thousand rupees in case of practicing as a notary without a certificate of practice issued under this Ordinance. By adaptation and the consequential amendments, the implementation of the provisions of the Notaries Ordinance, 1961 (XIX of 1961) will be streamlined and expedited. Hence this Bill.

 **MINISTER INCHARGE**

**Lahore: CH AMER HABIB**

**February 17, 2025 Secretary General**