



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Last Amended on 2017-03-31

CHAPTER 2.— PRINCIPLES OF POLICY

29. Principles of Policy.—(1) The Principles set out in this Chapter shall be known as the Principles of Policy, and it is the responsibility of each organ and authority of the State, and of each person performing functions on behalf of an organ or authority of the State, to act in accordance with those Principles in so far as they relate to the functions of the organ or authority.

(2) In so far as the observance of any particular Principle of Policy may be dependent upon resources being available for the purpose, the Principle shall be regarded as being subject to the availability of resources.

¹Subs. and shall be deemed always to have been so subs. by the Constitution (Sixteenth Amendment) Act, 1999 (7 of 1999), s. 2, for "twenty", which was previously subs. by P.O. No. 14 of 1985, Art. 2 and Sch., for "ten".

²Subs. by the Constitution (Eighteenth Amdt.) Act, 2010 (10 of 2010), s. 10, for the full-stop.

³New proviso ins. *ibid.*

(3) In respect of each year, the President in relation to the affairs of the Federation, and the Governor of each Province in relation to the affairs of his Province, shall cause to be prepared and laid before ¹[each House of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament)] or, as the case may be, the Provincial Assembly, a report on the observance and implementation of the Principles of Policy, and provision shall be made in the rules of procedure of the National Assembly ²[and the Senate] or, as the case may be, the Provincial Assembly, for discussion on such report.

30. Responsibility with respect to Principles of Policy.—(1) The responsibility of deciding whether any action of an organ or authority of the State, or of a person performing functions on behalf of an organ or authority of the State, is in accordance with the Principles of Policy is that of the organ or authority of the State, or of the person, concerned.

(2) The validity of an action or of a law shall not be called in question on the ground that it is not in accordance with the Principles of Policy, and no action shall lie against the State, any organ or authority of the State or any person on such ground.

31. Islamic way of life.—(1) Steps shall be taken to enable the Muslims of Pakistan, individually and collectively, to order their lives in accordance with the fundamental principles and basic concepts of Islam and to provide facilities whereby they may be enabled to understand the meaning of life according to the Holy Quran and Sunnah.

(2) The State shall endeavour, as respects the Muslims of Pakistan,—

(a) to make the teaching of the Holy Quran and Islamiat compulsory, to encourage and facilitate the learning of Arabic language and to secure correct and exact printing and publishing of the Holy Quran;

(b) to promote unity and the observance of the Islamic moral standards; and

(c) to secure the proper organisation of zakat ³[ushr,] auqaf and mosques.

32. Promotion of local Government institutions. The State shall encourage local Government institutions composed of elected representatives of the areas concerned and in such institutions special representation will be given to peasants, workers and women.

33. Parochial and other similar prejudices to be discouraged. The State shall discourage parochial, racial, tribal, sectarian and provincial prejudices among the citizens.

34. Full participation of women in national life. Steps shall be taken to ensure full participation of women in all spheres of national life.

35. Protection of family, etc. The State shall protect the marriage, the family, the mother and the child.

36. Protection of minorities. The State shall safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of minorities, including their due representation in the Federal and Provincial services.

¹Subs. by the Constitution (Eighteenth Amdt.) Act, 2010 (10 of 2010), s. 11, for "the National Assembly".

²Ins. ibid.

³Ins. by P.O. No. 14 of 1985, Art. 2 and Sch.

37. Promotion of social justice and eradication of social evils. The State shall—

- (a) promote, with special care, the educational and economic interests of backward classes or areas;
- (b) remove illiteracy and provide free and compulsory secondary education within minimum possible period;
- (c) make technical and professional education generally available and higher education equally accessible to all on the basis of merit;
- (d) ensure inexpensive and expeditious justice;
- (e) make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work, ensuring that children and women are not employed in vocations unsuited to their age or sex, and for maternity benefits for women in employment;
- (f) enable the people of different areas, through education, training, agricultural and industrial development and other methods, to participate fully in all forms of national activities, including employment in the service of Pakistan;
- (g) prevent prostitution, gambling and taking of injurious drugs, printing, publication, circulation and display of obscene literature and advertisements;
- (h) prevent the consumption of alcoholic liquor otherwise than for medicinal and, in the case of non-Muslims, religious purposes; and
- (i) decentralise the Government administration so as to facilitate expeditious disposal of its business to meet the convenience and requirements of the public.

38. Promotion of social and economic well being of the people. The State shall—

- (a) secure the well-being of the people, irrespective of sex, caste, creed or race, by raising their standard of living, by preventing the concentration of wealth and means of production and distribution in the hands of a few to the detriment of general interest and by ensuring equitable adjustment of rights between employers and employees, and landlords and tenants;
 - (b) provide for all citizens, within the available resources of the country, facilities for work and adequate livelihood with reasonable rest and leisure;
 - (c) provide for all persons employed in the service of Pakistan or otherwise, social security by compulsory social insurance or other means;
 - (d) provide basic necessities of life, such as food, clothing, housing, education and medical relief, for all such citizens, irrespective of sex, caste, creed or race, as are permanently or temporarily unable to earn their livelihood on account of infirmity, sickness or unemployment;
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(e) reduce disparity in the income and earnings of individuals, including persons in the various classes of the service of Pakistan;^{1*}

(f) eliminate riba as early as possible²[; and]

³[(g) ensure that the shares of the Provinces in all Federal services, including autonomous bodies and corporations established by, or under the control of, the Federal Government, shall be secured and any omission in the allocation of the shares of the Provinces in the past shall be rectified.]

39. Participation of people in Armed Forces. The State shall enable people from all parts of Pakistan to participate in the Armed Forces of Pakistan.

40. Strengthening bonds with Muslim world and promoting international peace. The State shall endeavour to preserve and strengthen fraternal relations among Muslim countries based on Islamic unity, support the common interests of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, promote international peace and security, foster goodwill and friendly relations among all nations and encourage the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means.

¹The word "and" omitted by the Constitution (Eighteenth Amdt.) Act, 2010 (10 of 2010), s. 12.

²Subs. *ibid*; for the full-stop.

³New paragraph (g) added *ibid*.

⁴Subs. by P. O. No. 14 of 1985, Art. 2 and Sch., for "clause (3)".

⁵Certain words omitted by the Constitution (Eighteenth Amdt.) Act, 2010 (10 of 2010), s. 13.