**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**N O T I F I C A T I O N**

**22 May 2015**

**No.PAP/Legis-2(79)/2015/1231.** The following Bill, which was introduced in the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab on Friday, May 22, 2015, is hereby published for general information under rule 93(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, 1997:-

**THE PUNJAB MATERNITY BENEFITS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2015**

**Bill No. 26 of 2015**

**A**

**BILL**

*further to amend the Punjab Maternity Benefits Ordinance, 1958.*

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Punjab Maternity Benefits Ordinance, 1958 (XXXII of 1958) for purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is enacted as follows:

1. **Short title and commencement**.– (1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Maternity Benefits (Amendment) Act 2015.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2.** **Substitution of section 3 of Ordinance XXXII of 1958**.– (1) In the Punjab Maternity Benefits Ordinance, 1958 (XXXII of 1958), for section 3, the following shall be substituted:

**“3.** **Employment or work during certain periods**.– (1) An employer shall not employ a woman and a woman shall not be engaged in employment in any establishment during six weeks following the date on which she delivers a child.

 (2) An employer shall not ask an employed woman to do any work which is of arduous nature or which involves long hours of standing or which is likely to affect her health for a period of one month immediately:

(a) preceding the period of six weeks before the date of the expected delivery; and

(b) succeeding six weeks after the date on which she delivers a child.”

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

There is need to protect the health of working mothers ante and post natal other than six weeks allowed under the existing provision. Such woman worker may not be engaged in work of arduous nature or which involves long hours of standing or which may adversely affect her health. Such period of protection is proposed to be one month immediately preceding and succeeding six weeks before or after the delivery. This measure will help to protect the health of mother and child. Hence this Bill.

 **MINISTER INCHARGE**

**Lahore: RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR**

**22 May 2015 Secretary**