**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**Bill No. 48 of 2025**

**THE PUNJAB WORKERS WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL 2025**

A

Bill

*further to amend the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund Act 2019.*

It is necessary further to amend the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund Act 2019 (XXVI of 2019) for the purposes hereinafter appearing.

Be it enacted by Provincial Assembly of Punjab as follows:

1. **Short title and commencement**.- (1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act 2025.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

1. **Amendment of section 2 of Act XXVI of 2019**.- In the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund Act 2019 (XXVI of 2019), for brevity referred to as ‘the Act’, in section 2, for clause (b), the following shall be substituted:

“(b) “Institution” means the Employees’ Social Security Institution established under the Provincial Employees’ Social Security Ordinance, 1965 (X of 1965);”.

1. **Amendment of section 4 of Act XXVI of 2019**.- In the Act, in section 4:

(a) in sub-sections (2), (3), (4) and (11), for the word “Authority”, the word “Institution” shall be substituted;

(b) after sub-section (2), the following shall be inserted:

 “(2A) The Institution shall be given such collection charges, on the amount collected by it under the Act, as may be determined by the Governing Body.”;

(c) in sub-section (12), for the expression “appellate tribunal established under the Punjab Revenue Authority Act 2012 (XLIII of 2012)”, the words “Institution” shall be substituted;

(d) after sub-section (12), the following shall be inserted:

 “(12A) All appeals under the Act, pending before the appellate tribunal established under the Punjab Revenue Authority Act 2012 (XLIII of 2012), before the commencement of the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act 2025, shall stand transferred to the Institution.”;

(e) in sub-section (13):

(i) for the expression “Authority in the manner prescribed under the Punjab Sales Tax on Services (Recovery) Rules 2012”, the expression “Institution as arrears of land revenue in the manner specified in the Provincial Employee’s Social Security Ordinance, 1965 (X of 19s65)” shall be substituted; and

(ii) the words “after defraying all the expenses to the Authority to the extent and in manner as may be prescribed” shall be omitted.

1. **Amendment of section 7 of Act XXVI of 2019**.- In the Act, in section 7, after clause (c), the following shall be inserted:

“(ca) subject to its availability and approval of the Government, in such manner and to such extent as may be prescribed, purchase of essential commodities from such outlets as notified by the Government;”.

1. **Amendment of section 18 of Act XXVI of 2019**.- In the Act, in section 18, for the expression “Punjab Sales Tax on Services Act 2012 (XLII of 2012) and the rules”, the expression “Provincial Employees Social Security Ordinance, 1965 (X of 1965) and the rules and regulations” shall be substituted.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

The Administrative Department has proposed to amend the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund Act 2019 (XXVI of 2019) with a view to facilitating the workers in the face of the exorbitant prices of essential commodities. The Punjab Workers Welfare Fund intends to provide benefits to the workers so that some effective measures may be taken to mitigate their financial agony. Hence, this Bill.

 **MINISTER INCHARGE**

**Lahore: CH AMER HABIB**

**April 18, 2025 Secretary General**