

**THE AZAD KASHMIR CRIMINAL LAW  
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 1958**

(Passed under Council Order No. 337/58 Dated 18-8-1958.)

Whereas it is necessary to provide for the trial of certain cases or classes of cases in camera, it is hereby enacted as follows :-

1. (i) This Act may be called the Azad Kashmir Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1958.  
  
(ii) It shall extend to the whole of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Territory and shall come into force at once.
2. Notwithstanding anything contained to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, or in any law for the time being in force, the Government may, by order, direct that any particular case or class of cases involving or affecting the security of Azad Kashmir or any part thereof, shall be tried by any Court in camera and that the proceedings in such cases shall not be open to the public in any Court at any stage whether original or appellate or in revisional or other proceedings.
3. Every person who being in possession of any document or information concerning the proceedings in such cases before any court by virtue of participation therein, whether as a witness, or as an officer of the Court, or otherwise, howsoever discloses such a document or information to any person other than a person who is officially connected with the preparation or conduct of the said case or cases, shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence under the State Official Secrets Act, 1977 (Bikrami), as in force in the Azad Kashmir Territory.

**EXCEPTION:** The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any communication between any accused person and his counsel, which is made bonafide for the purposes of the defence of such ail accused person in the case.

---