

**THE AZAD GOVT. OF THE STATE OF JAMMU & KASHMIR,
LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS SECRETARIAT,
MUZAFFARABAD.**

Dated the 25th August, 1980.

No. 4842/LD/80. The following Ordinance made by the President on the 23rd day of August, 1980, is hereby published for general information:--

(ORDINANCE CXL OF 1980)

AN

ORDINANCE

to amend the Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) Act, 1976

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) Act, 1976 (Act IX of 1976), in the manner hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) of Section 41 of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Interim Constitution Act, 1974, the President is pleased to make and Promulgate the following Ordinance :-

1. **Short title and Commencement.-** (1) This Ordinance may be called the Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1980.
 - (2) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Amendment of section 3, Act IX of 1976.-** In the Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) Act, 1976 (IX of 1976), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, in section 3,--
 - (a) after sub-section (1), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

“(IA) No person shall give or accept, or enter into an agreement to give or to accept dowry, bridal gifts or presents of a value exceeding the aggregate value specified in sub-section (1).” ; and
 - (b) for sub-section (2) the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(2) No dowry, bridal gifts or presents may be given before six months or after one month of nikah and, if rukhsati takes place some time after nikah after one month of such rukhsati.”

3. **Omission of Section 7, Act IX of 1976.-** In the said Act, section 7 shall be omitted.
4. **Substitution of Section 8, Act IX of 1976.-** In the said Act, for Section 8 the following shall be substituted, namely:-
- “8 Declaration regarding expenditure to be submitted to Nikah Khawan.- (1) The father of the bridegroom or any other person who arranges the marriage shall, within fifteen days of the expiry of the period fixed under sub-section (2) of Section 3 for giving dowry, bridal gifts and presents, submit a declaration to the Nikah Khawan solemnly affirming that the total expenditure on the marriage including dowry, bridal gifts, presents and entertainments did not exceed the limits laid down in this Act.
- (2) The Nikah Khawan shall forward the declaration submitted under sub-section (1) to the Tehsil Qazi within fifteen days of receipt of such declaration.
- 8-A. Complaints against violation of the Act.-** If any person attending a marriage ceremony is satisfied that the provision of this Act or the rules made thereunder have been contravened in respect of such ceremony, he may submit a complaint, giving full particulars of the contravention, to the Tehsil Qazi.
5. **Amendment of Section 10, Act IX of 1976.-** In the said Act, in Section 10.-
- (a) in sub-section (1), for the words "which may extend to ten thousand rupees" the words "which shall not be less than the amount proved to have been spent in excess of the maximum limits laid down in this Act shall be substituted ; and
- (b) in sub-section (3), for the word "nine" the word "three" shall be substituted.

(Mohammad Hayat Khan)
President,
Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

Sd/- (Khalil Ahmed Qureshi)
Secretary Law.