

THE AZAD KASHMIR INTERPRETATION OF LAWS ACT, 1954.

(Passed under Council Order No. 426/54 dated 17-12-1954).

Whereas it is necessary to provide for the interpretation of laws in force in the Azad Kashmir Territory, it is hereby enacted as follows :-

1. (i) This Act may be called the Azad Kashmir Interpretation of Laws Act, 1954.
(ii) It shall come into force at once and shall take effect from the 24th day of October, 1947.
2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context the expression :-
 - (i) 'Old Regime' shall mean the Dogra Regime of the Jammu and Kashmir State before the 24th day of October, 1947.
 - (ii) 'Law' shall mean any proclamation, Ordinance, Act, Regulation, Rule or Order having the force of law in the Old regime in the State or any of its Jagirs, in the Azad Kashmir Territory, in Pakistan or any Province or part of Pakistan.
 - (iii) 'Government' shall mean the Azad Kashmir Government;
3. In the Laws of the Old Regime in force in Azad Kashmir Territory ;:-
 - (i) the expressions 'His Highness', 'Maharaja Bahadur', 'Council of Ministers', 'Government', and references to the Jagir Administrations or to Heads of such Jagir Administrations, shall, as far as practicable, be construed to refer to Azad Kashmir Government ;
 - (ii) wherever there is a reference in any law of the Old Regime to any other law and where such other Law has been replaced by the Azad Kashmir Government- the reference to such law shall be construed to refer to the corresponding provisions of the newly adapted or enacted Law.
4. In the Laws adapted by the Azad Kashmir Government before the coming into force of this Act or thereafter for enforcement in the Azad Kashmir Territory or part thereof, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, the following expressions, namely :-
'Her Majesty', 'His Majesty', 'Queen', 'King', 'Empress of India', 'Crown', 'Governor-General', 'Crown Representative', 'Governor General in Council', 'Government established by law', 'Government of India', 'Government of

Pakistan', Central Government', 'Provincial Government' or 'Governor', and all other expressions, however worded, referring to any executive Government, shall, as far as practicable, be construed to refer to the Azad Kashmir Government ;

Provided that in matters relating to coins and currency, wherever any of these or such expressions occur, they shall be construed to have the meanings respectively assigned to them under the particular Laws in force in Pakistan:

Provided further that the authorities competent to take action for violation, within the Azad Kashmir Territory, of the Laws referred to in proviso (i), shall be the authorities of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir State.

5. References to Army or Military Personnel in the Laws of the Old Regime or in the Laws adapted or enacted by the Azad Kashmir Government shall be construed to refer to the Azad Kashmir Regular Forces or Pakistan Forces while on active service in Azad Kashmir Territory.