A BILL

further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act No. V of 1898), for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted by the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as follows:

- 1. Short title and commencement.---(1) This Act may be called the Code of Criminal Procedure (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) (Amendment) Act, 2025.
 - (2) It shall come into force at once.
- 2. Insertion of section 526B of the Code No. V of 1898.---In the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act No. V of 1898), after section 526A (deleted), the following new section shall be inserted, namely:
 - "526B. Power to transfer cases to Special Courts.---(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the High Court, under intimation to Government, may, if considers it expedient so to do in the interest of justice, transfer any case-
 - (a) from Court of Sessions to a Special Court; or
 - (b) from one Special Court to another Special Court.
 - (2) Upon transfer of a case under sub-section (1), any connected case or cases shall also stand transferred.
 - (3) A special Court, to which the case is transferred under subsection (1), shall be deemed to be the Court, in which the case was originally instituted, and shall have all the powers and jurisdiction of such Court.
 - (4) A Special Court, to which the case is transferred under subsection (1), shall proceed with the case from the stage, at which it was pending, immediately before such transfer, and it shall not be bound to recall and rehear any witness, who has given evidence, and may act on the evidence already recorded.

Explanation: In this section, the words "Court of Sessions" and "Special Court", shall have the same meanings as have been assigned to them respectively by the Code or any special law.".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is desirable to reduce burden of criminal cases on ordinary Courts and to transfer cases to Special Courts established under various laws, where the workload is comparatively lesser than ordinary Courts and for timely decisions of criminal cases. Hence, this Bill.

Assistant Drafting Officer-II Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

MINISTER-IN-CHARGE.