



SO(SDED)10-6/2026 (E&A)
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEPARTMENT
Dated: 11th September, 2026

To,

1. Chairperson
Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority
2. Chairman
Punjab Vocational Training Council
3. Director General
Punjab Skill Development Authority
4. Chairman
Punjab Board of Technical Education
5. Chief Executive Officer
Punjab Skill Development Fund
6. Project Director (Improving Workforce Readiness in Punjab Project)
Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Department

Subject: THE PUNJAB SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AUTHORITY ACT 2026

I am directed to refer to the subject noted above and to forward herewith [Gazette Notification](#) of the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Act 2026, bearing No. PAP/Legis-2(145)/2026/853, dated 10.09.2026, for further necessary action, under intimation to this department.

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(HAFIZ ISHTIAQ AHMAD)
SECTION OFFICER (GENERAL)
SECTION OFFICER

CC:

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to the:-

PS to Secretary SD&ED
Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Department



The Punjab Gazette

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PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB

NOTIFICATION

September 10, 2026

No. PAP/Legis-2(145)/2026/853. The Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Bill 2026, having been passed by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab on September 02, 2026, and assented to by Governor of the Punjab on September 10, 2026, is hereby published as an Act of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

THE PUNJAB SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AUTHORITY ACT 2026

ACT LXIV OF 2026

[First published, after having received the assent of the Governor of the Punjab, in the Gazette of the Punjab (Extraordinary) dated September 10, 2026.]

An

Act

to establish the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority.

It is necessary to establish the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority to promote and regulate the technical, vocational, skills development, education and training by establishing technical and vocational institutes, monitoring of such institutes, assessment and certification of students in the field of technical and vocational education, training and entrepreneurship and for the matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto.

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

1. **Short title, extent and commencement.**— (1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Act 2026.
 - (2) It extends to whole of the Punjab.
 - (3) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Definitions.**— In the Act:
 - (a) "Act" means the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Act 2026;

- (b) "Agency" means the Agency established under section 7 of the Act;
- (c) "Authority" means the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority established under section 3 of the Act;
- (d) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Authority;
- (e) "Chief Executive Officer" means the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency;
- (f) "Chief Operating Officer" means the Chief Operating Officer of the Agency;
- (g) "Fund" means the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Fund established under the Act;
- (h) "Government" means Government of the Punjab;
- (i) "institute" means a technical college, vocational training institute, staff training college, center of excellence, service center, any other training facility, or apprenticeship training institute established, maintained or controlled under the Act;
- (j) "Member" means a Member of the Authority;
- (k) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules or regulations;
- (l) "regulations" means the regulations framed under the Act;
- (m) "rules" means the rules made under the Act;
- (n) "Secretary" means the Secretary to the Government, Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Department;
- (o) "technical education" means a form of education that focuses on the study of technologies and related services along with acquisition of practical skills and related knowledge;
- (p) "TVET sector" means Technical and Vocational Education and Training sector departing technical and vocational education and training;
- (q) "Vice Chairperson" means the Vice Chairperson of the Authority; and
- (r) "vocational training" means the education and training that equips students with specific hands-on skills and knowledge required for a particular trade, craft and job.

3. Establishment of the Authority.— (1) The Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Department shall, by notification in the official Gazette, establish the Authority to be known as the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority.

(2) The Authority shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to enter into a contract, agreement, memorandum of understanding and may acquire property and, with prior approval of the Government, dispose of its immovable property and by its name, sue or be sued.

(3) The Authority shall have its head office at Lahore and may establish its sub-offices at such places in the Punjab as it may deem necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

(4) The Authority shall consist of:

(a) Chief Minister or a person nominated by the Chief Minister.	Chairperson
(b) a person nominated by the Chief Minister.	Vice Chairperson/ Member
(c) Chairman, Planning and Development Board or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(d) Secretary to the Government, Finance Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(e) Secretary to the Government, Labour and Human Resource Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(f) Secretary to the Government, Industries, Commerce and Investment Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(g) Secretary to the Government, Tourism, Archaeology and Museums Department or his	Member

nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	
(h) Secretary to the Government, Agriculture Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(i) Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(j) Secretary to the Government, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(k) Secretary to the Government, School Education Department or his nominee not below the rank of an Additional Secretary.	Member
(l) Secretary to the Government, Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Department.	Member/ secretary
(m) three Members of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, including one female Member to be nominated by the Chief Minister.	Members
(n) Chief Executive Officers of all Agencies.	Members
(o) Chief Executive Officer of the Punjab Skills Development Fund.	Member
(p) six experts from TVET sector, industry, academia or head of a reputable private sector national or multi-national company.	Members

(5) Upon nomination by the Secretary, the experts at clause (p) of sub-section (4), having such qualifications and experience as may be prescribed by the rules or until so prescribed as may be determined by the Chief Minister, shall be appointed by the Chief Minister for a term of three years; however, they shall serve during the pleasure of the Chief Minister.

(6) In case a Member, at clause (p) of sub-section (4), absents himself from three consecutive meetings of the Authority, without prior permission of the person presiding over the meeting, he shall stand disqualified as Member of the Authority.

(7) No act or proceedings of the Authority shall be invalid merely by reason of any vacancy or defect in its constitution.

4. Meetings of the Authority.— (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Authority shall regulate the procedure for its meetings as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(2) A meeting of the Authority shall be held at such time and place as the Chairperson or in his absence, the Vice Chairperson may decide and in absence of both, as the secretary of the Authority may decide.

(3) The agenda of a meeting of the Authority shall be prepared with the approval of the Chairperson or in his absence, with the approval of the Vice Chairperson and in absence of both, to be prepared by the secretary of the Authority; however, a Member may also request for bringing a matter of immediate importance in the meeting of the Authority with the assent of the person presiding over the meeting of the Authority.

(4) The Members shall have reasonable notice of the time, place and agenda of the meeting.

(5) The Chairperson or, in his absence, Vice Chairperson shall preside over the meeting of the Authority and in absence of both, the meeting shall be presided over by the Member so elected by the Members present.

(6) Half of the total Members shall constitute the quorum for a meeting of the Authority.

(7) The Authority shall take decisions by the majority of its Members present and voting, and in case of a tie, the person presiding over the meeting shall have a casting vote.

(8) The secretary of the Authority shall maintain or cause to be maintained a complete record of the minutes of the meeting and the decisions of the Authority in such manner as may be prescribed by the regulations.

5. Functions and powers of the Authority.— (1) The Authority may perform such functions and exercise such powers as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-section (1), the Authority may, for the purposes of the Act, perform the following functions:

- (a) approve TVET sector policies, standards, framework and strategy and serve as the apex platform for skills sector;
- (b) provide policy recommendations for the skills development in line with national TVET sector policies;
- (c) advise the Government on policy reforms and skills development;
- (d) issue directions and guidelines to the Agencies for organizing training;
- (e) approve annual trainings in the institutes on the recommendation of the relevant Agency;
- (f) establish, itself or through the Agencies, linkages with industries and international organizations;
- (g) create, suspend, or abolish posts in the Authority and Agencies subject to the concurrence of Finance Department of the Government;
- (h) approve regulations, on the recommendations of the concerned Agency, regarding entire business of such Agency;
- (i) monitor the functions of the Agencies and pass necessary directions, wherever required;
- (j) implement, through the Agencies, policies of the Federal Government and the Government;
- (k) approve annual business plan, budget and policies of the Agencies;
- (l) act as controlling authority of the Agencies in administrative, financial and all other matters;
- (m) implement, itself or through the Agencies, framework for local and international placement;
- (n) oversee the administrative and financial matters of the Agencies;
- (o) hear appeals against the decisions or orders of the Agencies; and
- (p) perform such other functions as the Government may assign.

6. Power to constitute committees.— (1) Subject to the provisions of the Act and to achieve the objectives of the Act, the Authority may constitute:

- (a) administrative, financial, technical, advisory or other committees and assign or delegate them such powers and functions as it may deem necessary; and
- (b) one or more special committees at Agency level and assign or delegate them such powers and functions as it may deem necessary.

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (1), the Agency may also constitute committees consisting of such officers and experts as it may consider suitable and entrust them such functions as may be necessary for the purposes of the Act.

7. Establishment of Agencies.— (1) Upon commencement of the Act, the authorities reflected in column-I of the table below, shall stand established as Agencies as reflected in column-II of the table below and subject to the provisions of the Act, continue to work as Agencies of the Authority and be governed under the provisions of the Act:

column-I	column-II
(a) The Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority.	(a) The Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Agency.
(b) The Punjab Vocational Training Council.	
(c) The Punjab Skills Development Authority.	(b) The Punjab Skills Development Agency.

(d) The Punjab Board of Technical Education.	(c) The Punjab Skills Assessment Agency.
(e) Trade Testing Board.	

(2) The Government may, in addition to the Agencies provided in column-II of the table provided under sub-section (1), establish one or more agencies for such purpose as may be prescribed by the rules.

(3) The Agencies, through the Authority, shall frame their financial rules with the approval of the Government.

(4) The Agencies may hire any technical expert or other person possessing specialized knowledge for assistance in the performance of their functions.

8. Functions and powers of the Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Agency.—(1) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Agency, itself or through its Chief Executive Officer, shall perform such functions and exercise such powers, within its subject of jurisdiction, as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the functions and powers under sub-section (1), the Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Agency shall have the following powers and functions to:

- (a) establish, operate, and manage vocational training or technical education institutes across the Punjab;
- (b) prepare guidelines for such institutes in line with international best practices and labour market trends;
- (c) supervise and coordinate the working of such institutes;
- (d) encourage enrolment and training apprentices or interns in the institutes;
- (e) determine the levels of technical education and vocational training in the institutes;
- (f) engage and collaborate with local industries to conduct technical education and vocational training at industrial sites;
- (g) declare an industrial site as institute on the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer and hire professional and administrative staff from open market for such institute;
- (h) with prior approval of the Authority, develop, approve, identify, and acquire sites for establishment of the institutes;
- (i) approve construction of buildings, procure and install equipment, and maintain infrastructure, machinery, equipment, modern gadgets and learning materials for institutes;
- (j) build linkages with industries for demand-driven technical education, vocational training and placement of trainees;
- (k) affiliate and register the institutes with international partners for trainees and engage international faculty to foster exchange programs, technology transfers, and placement of trainees internationally;
- (l) take steps and provide international standard training to faculty of the institutes;
- (m) collaborate with international organizations, donor agencies and educational institutions for enhancing the capacity and scope of TVET sector programs and institutes;
- (n) introduce and develop programs including business incubation centers, entrepreneurship, start-up, mentorship, financial literacy, and micro-finance schemes to support aspiring entrepreneurs;
- (o) take steps to generate income with prior approval of the Authority;
- (p) maintain accounts in the scheduled banks in line with the instructions of the Finance Department of the Government for smooth operations and utilize for TVET sector activities in such manners as may be prescribed by the regulations;
- (q) hire consultants for developing curricula, designing training methodologies, assessment, accreditation and placement of trainees locally and internationally;

- (r) develop syllabi, curricula, training methodology, and conduct internal and external assessment of trainees in the institutes and industries;
- (s) recruit staff on such terms and conditions and in such manners as may be prescribed by the regulations;
- (t) propose human resource manual and business regulations to the Authority for its approval;
- (u) prepare its annual budget estimates and submit to the Authority for its approval;
- (v) provide recurring expenditure to each institute for meeting non-development and development expenditure;
- (w) launch, execute and monitor campaigns to persuade industrialists in Punjab to join and run institutes through public private partnership and joint venture;
- (x) collaborate with the Federal Government and its ministries, divisions, authorities, organizations, agencies, bureaus and embassies for obtaining licensing, permission and authorization for developing curricula for technical education, vocational training and placement of trainees locally and internationally;
- (y) expend funds for developing curricula, technical education, vocational training, assessment, accreditation, affiliation, certification and placement of trainees both locally and internationally;
- (z) conduct student tracking, career counselling and provide placement services;
- (aa) provide scholarships, fellowships and student support services as may be prescribed by the regulations; and
- (bb) perform any other function as directed or assigned by the Authority or the Secretary or as may be prescribed by the rules.

9. Functions and powers of the Punjab Skills Development Agency.— (1) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Punjab Skills Development Agency, itself or through its Chief Executive Officer, shall perform such functions and exercise such powers, within its subject of jurisdiction, as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the functions and powers under subsection (1), the Punjab Skills Development Agency shall:

- (a) register a person, institute, public or private technical education and vocational training body, assessment agency or organization engaged in TVET sector service delivery;
- (b) charge fee for renewal of registration and for other services at such rate and in such manner as may be prescribed by the regulations;
- (c) subject to reasonable notice and after affording hearing to the person concerned, suspend or cancel the registration made under this section on account of any contravention of the standards or violation of any prescribed procedure;
- (d) implement national policies and standards in relation to technical education and vocational training;
- (e) register and regulate public and private institutes of particular areas as may be specified by the Authority;
- (f) register and regulate public, private and international technical education and vocational training bodies, assessment agencies and certificate, diploma, degree awarding bodies;
- (g) enforce apprenticeship laws and policies relating to the technical education and vocational training;
- (h) regulate training standards for teachers and evaluators;
- (i) conduct performance audit of technical education and vocational training institutes established or registered under the Act;
- (j) devise and enforce mechanisms for inspection, monitoring and evaluation of technical education and vocational training institutes, bodies and assessment agencies to ensure compliance and quality assurance with the international standards;

- (k) encourage technical education and vocational training institutes to develop syllabi and design courses according to and in conformity with international standards and demands and national and international requirements and standards;
- (l) validate conformity of the curricula with national or international standards and its relevance to specific level;
- (m) establish a labour market information cell in order to ascertain the skills required to be imparted, supply and demand of the skilled professionals in local, national and international markets;
- (n) establish linkages and coordinate with national and international bodies and agencies for promotion and development of technical education and vocational training sector;
- (o) get approved by the Authority training regulations for various qualifications across sectors and establish competency standards for trades in the institutions;
- (p) ensure that the registered institutions are delivering competency-based training;
- (q) collaborate on creating and updating international competency framework that clearly defines the skills required across various sectors and jurisdictions;
- (r) conduct comparative studies and carry out research to compare assessment systems and practices across different countries, identifying gaps and opportunities for alignment;
- (s) recruit, manage and administer its staff in accordance with the provisions of the regulations; and
- (t) perform any other function as directed or assigned by the Government, the Authority, the Secretary or as may be prescribed by the rules.

10. Registration with the Punjab Skills Development Agency.— (1) No person, institute, public or private technical education and vocational training body, assessment agency or organization shall commence its business in the TVET sector service delivery until it is registered with the Punjab Skills Development Agency under the Act.

(2) Any person, institute, public or private technical education and vocational training body, assessment agency or organization engaged in TVET sector service delivery shall apply, for registration under the Act, to the Punjab Skills Development Agency.

(3) The application under sub-section (2), as the case may be, shall be submitted in such manner and on payment of such fee as may be prescribed by the regulations until so prescribed as may be determined by the secretary of the Authority.

(4) The Punjab Skills Development Agency, shall decide the application within thirty days after its receipt and in a case fit for registration, it may register the applicant person, institute, public or private technical education and vocational training body, assessment agency or organization for such a period as may be prescribed by the regulations and until so prescribed as may be determined by the Authority.

(5) In case, any person, institute, public or private technical education and vocational training body, assessment agency or organization engaged in TVET sector service delivery contravenes any of the provisions of the Act, its registration shall be liable to be suspended or cancelled in such manner as may be prescribed by the regulations.

11. Functions and powers of the Punjab Skills Assessment Agency.— (1) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Punjab Skills Assessment Agency, itself or through its Chief Executive Officer, shall perform such functions and exercise such powers, within its subject of jurisdiction, as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the functions and powers under sub-section (1), the Punjab Skills Assessment Agency shall have powers to:

- (a) conduct trade tests and examinations for students, trainees, workers and apprentices in technical, vocational, industrial commercial education and ensure that assessments are industry relevant;
- (b) issue competency certificates or other recognized credentials based on performance and conduct competency-based assessments;

- (c) align testing standards with industry demands and international testing agencies;
- (d) provide certification pathways for skilled workers having no formal education by establishing recognition of prior learning framework through assessment of skills acquired informally or on the job;
- (e) design occupational standards, assessment instruments, and test banks aligned with Authority's plans and labour market demands;
- (f) recognize, inspect, and evaluate institutions for examination compliance and extramural activities;
- (g) provide certificates to candidates who demonstrate competence in their respective fields validating their skills;
- (h) ensure that certifications are recognized nationally and where applicable internationally;
- (i) collaborate and partner with international accreditation and awarding agencies for certification and accreditation of skills assessment agency's exams and certificates;
- (j) execute bilateral agreements between assessment bodies to focus on mutual recognition of qualifications and vocational competencies on behalf of the Authority;
- (k) award scholarships, medals, and academic distinctions;
- (l) manage property, funds, budgets, contracts, and development schemes on behalf of the Authority on the direction of the Authority;
- (m) recruit, manage and administer staff in such manner as may be prescribed by the regulations;
- (n) perform its functions in accordance with its business regulations to be approved by the Authority;
- (o) take necessary actions to fulfill its academic and administrative mandate with respect to assessments and certifications;
- (p) fix, demand, and receive such fee as may be prescribed by the regulations;
- (q) lay down conditions for admission to its examinations, to determine the eligibility of candidates and admit them to the examinations;
- (r) allow accreditation of private or public assessment center for examination or assessment purposes;
- (s) with prior permission of the Authority, enter and carry out contracts on behalf of the Authority in exercise of its duties under the Act through public private partnership or joint venture agreements with other international skills testing agencies and bodies;
- (t) formulate committees in order to conduct examinations, issue finances, make appointments for paper setting examination and any other matter to carry out its functions; and
- (u) perform such other functions as the Authority or the Secretary may assign or as may be prescribed by the rules.

12. Chief Executive Officer.— (1) Each Agency shall have its Chief Executive Officer to be appointed, through a competitive process, by the Authority on the recommendations of the Search Committee to be constituted by the Authority comprising such members as the Authority may determine.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer shall have such qualifications and be appointed on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations and, until so prescribed, as the Authority may determine.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (1), Services and General Administration Department of the Government may, on the request of the Authority, post an officer not below the rank of BS-19 as Chief Executive Officer, as and when required.

(4) Upon expiry of the term of the Chief Executive Officer, he shall continue to hold office for a further period of three months or till his successor enters upon his office, whichever is earlier.

(5) The Chief Executive Officer may resign from his office by serving thirty days prior notice or on payment thirty days pay in lieu thereof.

(6) The Chief Executive Officer may, by thirty days notice or on payment of thirty days pay in lieu thereof, be removed from his office.

13. Functions and powers of the Chief Executive Officer.— The Chief Executive Officer shall:

- (a) be the principal accounting officer of the respective Agency;
- (b) be the officer in-charge of the Agency;
- (c) be responsible for the general management and administration of the business of the Agency;
- (d) ensure implementation of the orders and directions of the Authority and its secretary;
- (e) write performance evaluation reports on the work of officers subordinate to him;
- (f) appoint and remove any officer of the Agency as prescribed by the regulations; and
- (g) perform such other functions as the Authority or Secretary may assign to him or as may be prescribed by the regulations.

14. Chief Operating Officer.— (1) Each Agency shall have one or more Chief Operating Officers as may be determined by the Authority.

(2) The Chief Operating Officer shall be appointed by the secretary of the Authority on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(3) The Chief Operating Officer shall perform such functions and exercise such powers as may be assigned to him by the Authority or its secretary.

15. Secretary of the Authority.— (1) The secretary of the Authority shall exercise all such powers as provided under the Act or assigned or delegated to him by the Authority or necessary for efficient working of each Agency for the purposes of the Act.

(2) Notwithstanding the generality of sub-section (1), the secretary of the Authority shall:

- (a) write performance evaluation reports of the Chief Executive Officers and approve their leaves;
- (b) issue directions to implement decisions of the Authority;
- (c) cause an inspection to be made of the activities, funds, examinations and of the offices of the Agencies, by himself or such other officer of the Authority as he may direct;
- (d) cause an enquiry to be made in respect of any matter concerning the Agency; and
- (e) communicate to the Chief Executive Officer, the result of such inspection or enquiry and may advise him to take such action within such period as he may specify.

(3) Where the Chief Executive Officer does not, within the given time, take action to the satisfaction of the secretary of the Authority, the secretary of the Authority may after considering any explanation made by the Chief Executive Officer, issue such directions as he thinks fit, and the Chief Executive Officer shall comply with such directions.

(4) If the secretary of the Authority is satisfied that any proceedings of the Agency or a committee is not in conformity with the Act, he may, without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of the section, by an order in writing, annul such proceeding.

(5) The secretary of the Authority may direct the formation of functional units within any Agency for creation of administrative units to ensure specialization in its domain to be headed by the Chief Operating Officer.

16. Joint venture.— (1) Subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations, and until so prescribed as may be specified by the Authority for performance of its functions under the Act, an Agency may, with prior approval of the Authority:

- (a) on behalf of the Authority, enter into any joint venture agreement with any Government agency or organization to manage, develop, maintain, and establish any training facility or training program for students, faculty and other employees;

- (b) outsource institutes under its administrative control temporarily or for long term to private sector through public private partnership or joint venture agreement with clear deliverables for technical education and vocational training by public or private sector and for placement of trainees locally and internationally; and
- (c) outsource management of any of its activities including development works through any mode including public private partnership.

(2) The joint venture agreements or public private partnership agreements under sub-section (1) may be executed by the Chief Executive Officer with prior permission of the Authority.

17. Liability for loss.— Any person, employed by or serving under the Authority or an Agency, charged with the administration of the affairs of the Authority or an Agency, acting on behalf of the Authority or an Agency, or acting under a contract and is responsible for the loss, waste, misappropriation or misapplication of any money or property belonging to the Authority or an Agency which is a direct consequence of his negligence or misconduct in the discharge of his duties, shall be liable to pay such loss suffered by the Authority or an Agency as determined by the Authority or relevant Agency after giving the person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

18. Fund.— (1) There shall be the Fund of the Authority to be known as the Punjab Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Authority Fund and a separate fund for each Agency which shall vest in the Authority and shall be utilized by the Authority and an Agency to perform their functions and meet their expenses including the payment of salaries and other remuneration to their officers, employees, advisors, consultant, services rendered, and any other matter for the purposes of Act in such manner as may be prescribed by the regulations.

(2) The Fund shall consist of:

- (a) loans and grants by the Government;
- (b) all moneys received from the Federal Government, the Government and their bodies, local government, or any national or international agency by way of grants, loans, advances or gifts, donations with the sanction of, and on such terms and conditions as may be approved by the Government;
- (c) fees, charges and other moneys received by the Authority;
- (d) moneys received by the Agency from the disposal of land, building and other property;
- (e) income from lease of property or from any investment made in pursuance of the Act as may be approved by the Authority; and
- (f) all other sums received by the Agency.

(3) The Fund shall be maintained and its accounts shall be kept in line with the instructions issued by the Finance Department of the Government.

(4) The fees and other charges collected by the Agency shall be transmitted to the Fund.

19. Budget.— (1) The secretary of the Authority, in case of the Authority, and the Chief Executive Officer, in case of an Agency, shall prepare, in such manner and at such time as may be determined by the Authority, their respective budgets in respect of each financial year.

(2) The secretary of the Authority, in case of the Authority, and the Chief Executive Officer, in case of an Agency, shall place the budget before the Authority, for approval.

(3) No expenditure for which provision has not been made in the approved budget shall be incurred without prior approval of the Authority.

20. Accounts.— The Authority and the Agencies shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare annual statement of accounts in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the regulations subject to the directions issued by the Finance Department.

- 21. Audit.**— (1) The Auditor General of Pakistan shall annually audit the accounts of the Authority and Agencies.
- (2) In addition to the audit conducted under sub-section (1), the Authority and an Agency shall appoint separate firms of chartered accountants placed in category 'A' by the State Bank of Pakistan, for annual audit of their accounts.
- (3) The auditors, appointed under sub-section (2), shall submit their reports to the Authority and Agencies, as the case may be, and the Authority and the Agencies shall take such actions and make such decisions as may be necessary in the light of such audit report.
- 22. Annual report.**— (1) The Authority shall, within six months of the close of a financial year, submit to the Government an annual report consisting of:
- the statement of accounts and audit reports of the Authority and the Agencies;
 - a comprehensive statement of the works and activities of the Authority and the Agencies during the preceding financial year and their proposed projects and schemes; and
 - such other matters as may be prescribed by the regulations or as the Authority may consider appropriate.
- (2) The Agencies shall submit their annual reports consisting of the statements and other matters, as provided under sub-section (1), within three months of the close of a financial year, to the Authority and the Authority shall submit its annual report, including the reports received from the Agencies, to the Government.
- (3) The Government shall, within three months of the receipt of the annual report from the Authority, cause it to be laid in Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.
- 23. Delegation of functions.**— (1) The Authority may, with or without conditions, delegate to the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Member, secretary of the Authority, Chief Executive Officer, committee, its employee or employees of the Agency any of its functions except the power to:
- frame regulations;
 - approve annual budget;
 - constitute committees;
 - approve policies and guidelines; and
 - consider audit report.
- (2) The delegation of such functions shall be in writing and shall specify the conditions, limitations or restrictions, if any, subject to which the functions are to be exercised or performed.
- 24. Appointment of officers and employees.**— Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Authority and the Agencies may appoint such officers, officials, employees, experts or consultants, as they consider necessary for the efficient performance of their functions, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations.
- 25. Appeal.**— (1) Any person aggrieved by an order or decision of the Chief Executive Officer under the Act may, within thirty days from the date of communication of such order, prefer an appeal to the secretary of the Authority who shall decide it within thirty days of its receipt.
- (2) Any person aggrieved by any order or decision of the secretary of the Authority under the Act may, within thirty days from the date of communication of such order, prefer an appeal to the Authority which shall decide it within sixty days of its receipt.
- (3) Any person aggrieved by any order or decision of the Agency made on the recommendations of its committees under the Act may, within thirty days from the date of communication of such order, prefer an appeal to the Authority which shall decide it within sixty days of its receipt.
- 26. Public servant.**— The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Member, Chief Executive Officer, members of the committee, all employees of the Authority and its Agencies or experts, consultants or advisors acting under the authority of the Authority or Agency shall

be deemed to be the public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code (XLV of 1860).

27. Indemnity.— No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Authority or its Member, Agency, any officer of the Authority or Agency, in respect of anything caused or done or intended to be caused or done in good faith under the Act.

28. Merger.— (1) The Authority shall have power to merge any training facility within the concerned Agency.

(2) The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, direct merger of any training facility working under its department, subject to safeguard to its employees, to the Agency.

29. Power to make rules.— The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

30. Power to frame regulations.— The Authority may, by notification in the official Gazette, frame regulations for giving effect to the provisions of the Act.

31. Overriding effect.— In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of the Act and the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the provisions of the Act shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

32. Removal of difficulties.— If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any provision of the Act, the Government may make such order, not inconsistent with the Act, as may be necessary for the removal of such difficulty.

33. Repeal, succession, transition, validation and savings.— (1) The Punjab Board of Technical Education Ordinance 1962 (XXXIX of 1962), the Punjab Vocational Training Council Act 1998 (VII of 1998), the Punjab Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority Act 2010 (X of 2010) and the Punjab Skills Development Authority Act 2019 (VI of 2019) are hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal under sub-section (1), upon coming into force of the Act:

- (a) all programs, schemes, projects and other matters under the domain of the authorities mentioned in column I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act, shall stand transferred to the corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of the table of said sub-section;
- (b) all assets including but not limited to immovable, movable and intellectual properties, monies, funds, and investments, of the authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act shall stand transferred to the corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of the table of the said sub-section;
- (c) all liabilities of the authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act shall stand transferred to the corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of the table of the said sub-section;
- (d) all employees and civil servants regular or on contract, serving in authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act shall be deemed to be employees, regular or on contract, of the corresponding agencies mentioned in column-II of the table under said sub-section on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Authority but such terms and conditions shall not be less favorable than the terms and conditions admissible to them immediately before enactment of the Act;
- (e) the existing Chairperson of the Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority and Chairman of the Punjab Vocational Training Council shall continue to complete their tenure of service in accordance with the existing terms and conditions settled in their employment contract and act as Chief Executive Officers of their

- respective Agencies until the arrival of regular incumbent on the post of Chief Executive Officer or completion of remaining period of the contract, whichever is earlier;
- (f) the existing Chairman of the Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority and Chairman of the Punjab Vocational Training Council shall continue to act as Chief Executive Officers of the respective Agencies within their respective areas of jurisdiction as mentioned in column-II of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7;
 - (g) the Director General, Punjab Skills Development Authority and Chairman, Punjab Board of Technical Education shall act as Chief Executive Officers of the Punjab Skills Development Agency and Punjab Skills Assessment Agency, respectively;
 - (h) all employees of the authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act, on deputation, shall, after the coming into force of the Act, be deemed to be on deputation in corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of table under the said sub-section and the services of such persons on deputation, may either be retained or returned to their parent department or authority or agency at the discretion of the Authority;
 - (i) all the posts sanctioned for the authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act shall stand transferred to the corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of the table of said sub-section;
 - (j) save as otherwise specifically provided, nothing in the Act shall affect or be deemed to affect anything done, action taken, proceedings commenced, orders, rules, regulations, appointments, agreements made, directions given or instruments executed or issued under or in pursuance of the laws repealed under sub-section (1) and any such thing, action, proceedings, orders, rules, regulations, appointments, agreements, directions or instruments shall, if in force at the commencement of the Act and not inconsistent with any of the provisions of the Act, continue to be in force and have effect as if they were respectively done, taken, commenced, made, directed, given, executed or issued under the Act until amended or repealed under the Act; and
 - (k) the Authority shall ensure smooth succession and transition of all the matters from the authorities mentioned in column-I of the table under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Act to the corresponding Agencies mentioned in column-II of the table under the said sub-section.

Ch Amer Habib
Secretary General