

BEFORE THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

PRESENT:

MR. NISAR AHMED DURRANI, MEMBER
MR. SHAH MOHAMMAD JATOI, MEMBER

Case No. 3(2)/2020-LGE-ICT

In Ref: **LOCAL BODIES ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN THE ISLAMABAD
CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ON NOTICE

For Federal Government:	Mr. Yousaf Naseem Khokhar, Secretary, M/o Interior Mr. Amer Ali Ahmed, Chief Commissioner, Islamabad Mr. Hamza Shafqat, Deputy Commissioner, Islamabad
For Advocate General, ICT	Mr. Dawood Iqbal, State Counsel
For the ECP:	Mr. Zafar Iqbal Hussain, Special Secretary, ECP Mr. Muhammad Arshad, Director General (Law) Mr. Abdul Hafeez, Director (LGE) Mr. Ghulam Abbas, DD (LGE-B/ICT)
Date of Hearing	: 05.10.2021

ORDER

Mr. Nisar Ahmed Durrani, Member.— At the very outset, the Special Secretary of this Commission apprised the Commission of the importance of holding of local government elections, expiry of tenure of local governments of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) and all the steps taken by the Election Commission in this respect. He contended that the term of the ICT local governments has been expired on 14.02.2021 and it is the duty of Election Commission to hold the elections within 120 days in terms of section 219(4) of the Elections Act, 2017. That Election Commission vide letter dated 09.12.2020 asked the Federal government through Secretary Interior Division to make amendments in the Islamabad Capital Territory Local government Act, 2015 and Rules framed there

under in order to bring them in conformity with the Elections Act, 2017. That reminder in this respect was also issued on 29.01.2021. That the Election Commission vide letter dated 13.01.2021, asked the Secretary, Ministry of Interior to provide necessary documents, notifications, maps and requisite data so that the process of delimitation could be commenced in the ICT and task of holding of such elections on time could be accomplished. That a meeting of the Election Commission was held on 02.02.2021 wherein Joint Secretary, Ministry of Interior apprised the Commission that Chief Commissioner, ICT has been asked for provision of maps etc and same will be provided. However, he took the stance that delimitation cannot be carried out on the provisional results of Census, 2017. That Ministry of Interior vide letter dated 04.02.2021 provided old copies of the ICT Local Government Act, 2015 and Rules. That Election Commission vide letter dated 12.02.2021 asked the Secretary, Ministry of Interior for substantial amendments in section 7 (1) and 17 (3) of the ICT Local Government Act, 2015 and further asked for provision of maps and Notification for the purpose of delimitation. While augmenting his submissions he further contended that in the meanwhile, Federal Government appointed Administrator, Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad on 16.02.2021 for a period of six months w.e.f. 15.03.2021. That in compliance of letter of Election Commission dated 24.02.2021, Federal Government provided documents required for delimitation. However, Provincial Election Commissioner, Punjab vide letter dated 15.03.2021 intimated that documents provided by the Ministry of