

**ECP  
NEWSLETTER**

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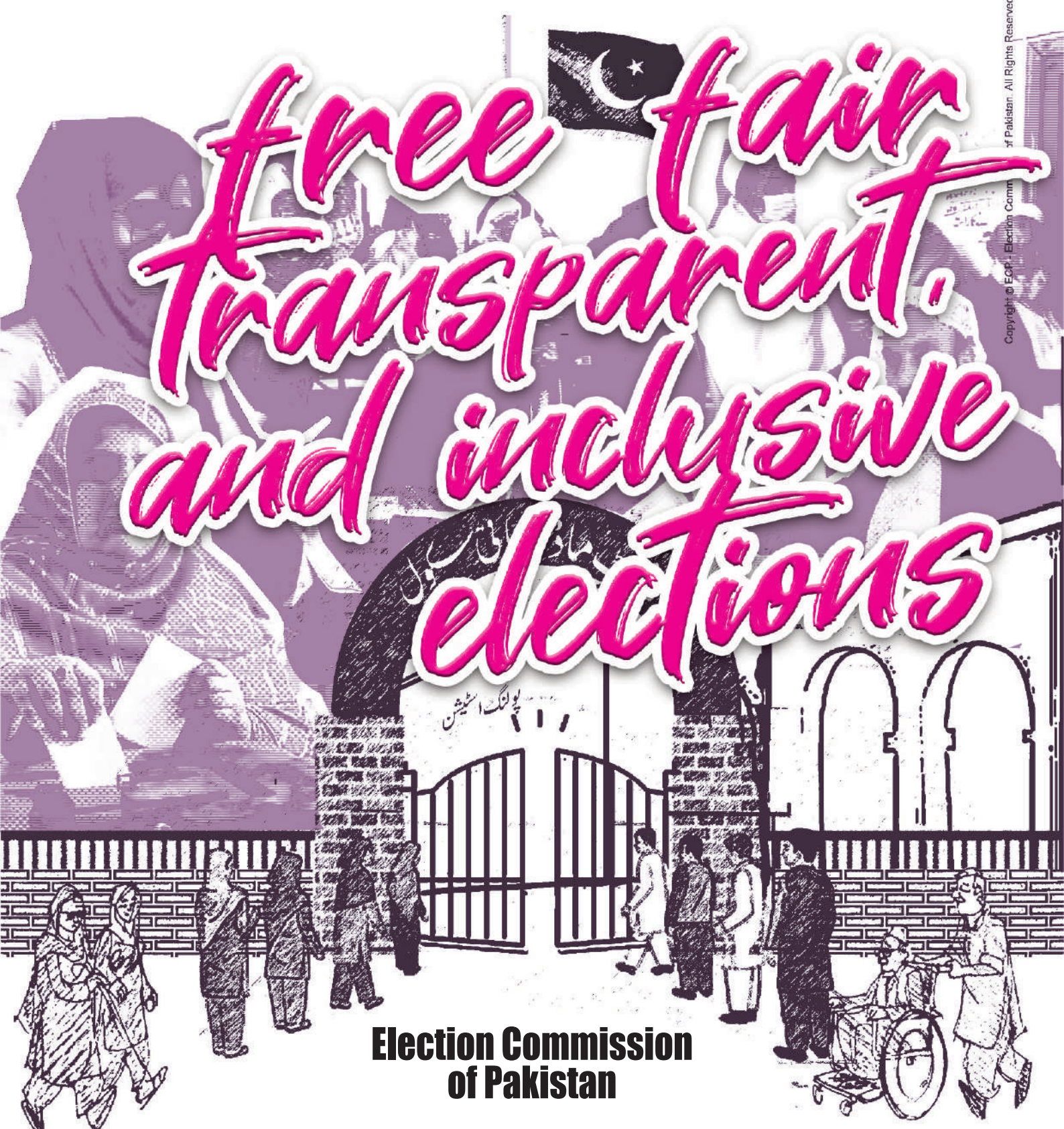
**YOUR DESTINY;  
YOUR VOTE**

**#VOTEFORPAKISTAN**

**free fair  
transparent,  
and inclusive  
elections**

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**Election Commission  
of Pakistan**





# Message from the Secretary ECP



**Omar Hamid Khan**  
Secretary  
Election Commission  
of Pakistan

I am genuinely pleased to see the 10th edition of the quarterly newsletter for July-October 2024. It is a beautifully crafted blend of news, insightful articles, and data-driven updates that capture the essence of what has been happening across our headquarters and field offices. The variety of content is refreshing, offering a complete picture of all the hard work, progress, and achievements from this quarter.

The team, under the leadership of Mr. Haroon Khan Shinwari, ADG (MCO/M&E), has yet again demonstrated their exceptional capabilities. Their multifarious responsibilities have been seamlessly integrated into this unique compilation, displaying not only the scope of their work but also the commitment and dedication required to bring it all together. The newsletter is a testament to their tireless efforts in ensuring that each edition offers something new, insightful, and impactful for its readers.

As I carefully reviewed the various sections, I could see the great effort involved in curating and presenting the content in such a visually appealing and well-organized manner. From the detailed articles that offer strategic perspectives to the pictorial representations that bring the field activities to life, every aspect of this newsletter reflects the hard work and meticulous planning of the entire team.

The editorial team has done an outstanding job of ensuring that this edition serves as not only a source of information but also inspiration for all readers. I truly appreciate the effort that has gone into compiling such a comprehensive report, and I am confident that it will continue to serve as a valuable communication tool, bridging the gap between the headquarters and field offices while keeping everyone informed and engaged.

## Editorial



**Haroon Khan Shinwari**  
Editor-in-Chief

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## Exciting Surge in Youth Voter Turnout for GE 2024

In a promising development for democratic participation, a recent PILDAT survey reveals a notable increase in youth voter turnout for the General Elections 2024, reaching an impressive 48% compared to 37% in 2018. This boost can be attributed to the proactive initiatives undertaken by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to engage young voters.

Since November 2021, the ECP has spearheaded the Students Awareness and Education Program, aimed specifically at the crucial 18 to 25 age group. This program was designed to underscore the significance of voting and encourage active participation in electoral process of both local and general elections. The initiative involved a comprehensive outreach strategy, including sessions at higher secondary schools, colleges, and universities, targeting both male and female students.

The program featured a series of educational workshops conducted at various administrative levels—district, division, provincial, and in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). District and Regional Election Commissioners, along with other key electoral officials, facilitated two-hour sessions that included mock polls and interactive Q&A segments. These workshops attracted enthusiastic participation from students across all four provinces, tribal districts, and ICT Islamabad, demonstrating their keen interest in the electoral process.

In total, 2,276 students' awareness workshops were held nationwide, significantly contributing to the heightened voter engagement observed in this election cycle. However, the program was temporarily paused upon the issuance of the General Election program for 2024. During this period, students were provided with awareness materials for dissemination within their communities.

Looking ahead, the ECP plans to resume the Students Awareness Workshops following the summer vacations to continue fostering voter education among the youth. This initiative has been notably supported by PILDAT and various ECP development partners, underscoring a collaborative effort to strengthen democratic participation among the younger generation.

This surge in youth voter turnout is a testament to the impact of targeted educational programs and the growing civic engagement among young people. As we move forward, these efforts will undoubtedly play a fruitful role in shaping a more informed and active electorate in future elections.

## Editorial Team

### Overall Supervision

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Secretary ECP Mr. Omar Hamid Khan

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International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)  
(Technical Support)  
Admin Wing (ECP) (Printing Support)



Chief Election Commissioner Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja



From left to right, Member Election Commission from Punjab Mr. Babar Hassan Bharwana, Member Election Commission from Sindh Mr. Nisar Ahmed Durrani, Member Election Commission from Balochistan Mr. Shah Muhammad Jatoti and Member Election Commission from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mr. Justice (R) Ikramullah Khan.



Mr. Omar Hamid Khan  
Secretary ECP



## Honourable Chief Election Commissioner, Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja, met with the Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Azerbaijan, Mr. Mazahir Panahov.

### **E**arly Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan from August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

On an invitation from the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Hon'ble Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja participated as international observer for observation of Elections to the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan from 29th August – 03rd September, 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan, along with one officer of ECP.

Hon'ble CEC met with Mr. Mazahir Panahov, Chairman of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan, who welcomed the CEC of Pakistan at Azerbaijan for observing election process. He highlighted that for the first time, the Elections to the Milli Majlis would be held across all sovereign territories of Azerbaijan, ensuring that all participants would have the necessary conditions and opportunities to engage in the electoral process. Hon'ble CEC thanked Hon'ble Chairman of CEC of Azerbaijan for the warm reception and expressed his pleasure in participating as an observer in the Elections of the Milli Majlis.

Hon'ble Chairman of CEC of Azerbaijan stated that 990 candidates participated in the Elections of the Milli Majlis and all of them had been fully facilitated to hold independent pre-election campaign in accordance with the legislation.

A total of 112,749 local observers along with 598 international observers from 69 countries, observed elections in Azerbaijan. In order to ensure transparency, web cameras were installed at 6478 polling stations. In the country with approximately 6.4 million registered voters, the voter turnout was 37.27%.





# Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja Visiting Polling Stations in Azerbaijan (September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024)





## Meeting on Punjab and ICT LG Elections

The Hon'ble Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja presided over a crucial meeting to review and discuss the preparations for the upcoming Local Government (LG) Elections in Punjab and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The meeting, held at the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) headquarters, was attended by senior officials and representatives from both provincial and federal governments.

The Hon'ble CEC emphasized and high lighted the importance of Local Government and ensuring conduct of elections as required under the constitution and the law. He said our primary goal is to facilitate a democratic environment where every eligible citizen can exercise their right to vote without impediment. The Chief Election Commissioner outlined several key areas of focus for the upcoming elections in I.C.T including the finalization of electoral rolls, appointment of polling staff, and the

establishment of secure and accessible polling stations.

The meeting also addressed logistical challenges and security arrangements, with a particular focus on areas prone to potential disturbances. The ECP is collaborating with law enforcement agencies to ensure adequate protection for both voters and election staff, aiming to mitigate any risks that could impact the smooth conduct of the elections. The chair stressed that legislation for conduct of LG elections in Punjab has completed so that LG elections could be conducted in the province as per mandate of the constitution and the law.

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the ECP's dedication to upholding the democratic process and ensuring that the elections are conducted in a manner that reflects the will of the people.



## Inauguration of DEC Offices; ECP's Initiative to Improve the Infrastructure

In a significant move to build ECP's own offices in field, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of Pakistan, Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja, inaugurated the new District Election Commission (DEC) offices marking a pivotal step in improving ECP's infrastructure in the regions and districts.

The CEC emphasized on the importance of facilitating general public and their accessibility in the electoral process. "These offices will serve as a hub for all relevant stakeholders for facilitating and ensuring free and fair elections, reinforcing our commitment to democracy." He highlighted that the establishment of permanent DEC offices will be used for the safe storage of elections material.

The new buildings are equipped with modern facilities and resources aimed at facilitating voter registration, information dissemination, and election management. It is part of a broader initiative to strengthen election infrastructure across Pakistan, ensuring that every citizen's voice is heard in the democratic process.



The CEC inaugurating the newly constructed DEC Office, Okara



Over view of newly constructed DEC Office, Okara



## Inauguration of DEC Office in Jhelum



## Meeting on Office Affairs

The CEC presiding over a meeting on 26th August at ECP's secretariat to review the official assignments and efficiency of different wings. The CEC emphasized that the official assignment should be completed on priority and daily basis. The senior officers of the commission gave a briefing to the CEC regarding their official assignments and achievements.



Meeting of CEC to review the official assignments and efficiency of different wings





Secretary ECP, Mr. Omar Hamid Khan Chaired a Meeting on a Joint Project of ECP on Pakistan Women Leaders at ECP Secretariat on July 8th, 2024



Meeting with the Senior Management of ECP on Office Affairs



Meeting with Chairman CDA on Administrative Matters



## Bye-Election, PK-22, Bajaur, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



PEC KP, Mr. Shamshad Khan holding meeting over preparations of Bye-Election for PK-22

To review the arrangements regarding conduct of Bye-Election PK-22, Provincial Election Commissioner Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mr. Shamshad Khan chaired a meeting. Director Elections Mr. Asif Ali Yasin, Director IT Mr. Abdul Qadir, Deputy Director Falak Naz, Deputy Director

Anwar Zeib, Deputy Director Asif Khan Khattak, Deputy Director Zaheer Ahmad Sohithu, Spokesperson Provincial Election Commissioner Sohail Ahmed and other officers participated in the meeting.

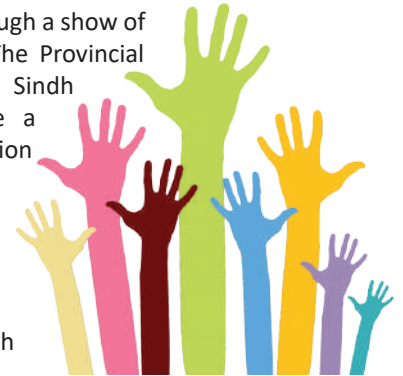


EMCC at ECP Secretariat Working 24/7 for smooth conduct of Bye-Election in constituency PK-22 Bajaur-V



Polling on Poll Day in PK-22 Bajaur

Bye-election for the chariman's position in the Hyderabad Town Municipal Corporation Preetabad held on July 12, 2024. There were a total of four candidates. The election for the Chairman's slot conducted through a show of hands. Polling began at 11 a.m. The Provincial Election Commissioner of Sindh emphasized the need to ensure a clean, transparent, and fair election process. All relevant authorities were alert until the peaceful conclusion of the election. The process completed smoothly, according to Sharifullah, spokesperson for the Sindh Provincial Election Commissioner.



July 12, 2024  
Hyderabad / Town Municipal Corporation  
Preetabad Chairman Election



## Bye-elections in Rahim Yar Khan NA-171 on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The two-day training of Presiding Officers and Senior Assistant Presiding Officers for Bye-Election in Constituency NA-171, Rahim Yar Khan was started from September 3 and concluded as on September 4, 2024. Total 616 presiding officers and senior assistant presiding officers have been appointed for the bye-elections of this constituency NA-171. Besides, data of 526,973 voters in NA-171 has also been updated on 8300 SMS service. Now registered voters of a constituency can get advance information about their detail of voters and polling stations. Voters can get this information by sending their National Identity Card number to 8300.

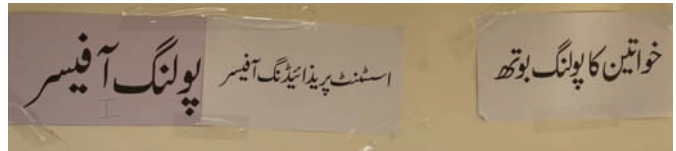
The Election Commission of Pakistan has established an Election Monitoring and Control Center (EMCC) for the convenience of the public in the bye-elections to be held in Rahim Yar Khan NA-171 on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. According to the spokesperson of the Election Commission through EMCC, public will be able to contact and register their complaints regarding these elections in this center. Immediate action will be taken for timely redressal of complaints and for this purpose trained staff has been deployed in the centre. Election Commission has established control centers at 4 levels for registration of public complaints and their prompt resolution, in which apart from Election Commission Secretariat Islamabad, control rooms will be established at provincial, division and district levels. The public can also approach EMC Center for lodging their complaints at [ecp.gov.pk](http://ecp.gov.pk) regarding the said Bye-Elections. Helpline facility has also been provided whose contact number is 051-111 327 000. The control center also has social media and electronic media monitoring facility.



EMCC working on Poll Day



Overview of EMCC working on Poll Day



Poll Day R.Y.Khan

Regional Monitoring  
Control Room (RMCR)  
Established at  
Bahawalpur, Punjab, for  
Bye- Elections NA-171  
Rahim Yar Khan-III  
(September 19, 2024)



The Regional Election Commissioner Bahawalpur, Mr Amir Ashfaq and District Election Commissioner Rahim Yar Khan, alongwith monitoring team, monitored and observed various activities related to conduct of Bye-Elections in NA-171 Rahim Yar Khan-III.



## Monitoring of Bye-Election at PMCR

The Provincial Monitoring and Control Room (PMCR) Punjab was established in the office of Provincial Election Commissioner Punjab, Lahore in order to monitor various activities in relation to the conduct of bye-elections in NA-171 Rahim Yar Khan-III on 12th September 2024, and to address complaints of stakeholders and general public through designated tele-helpline, email and whatsapp. The PMCR was connected with the Regional (RMCR), District (DMCR), and as well as EMCC at Islamabad.



Monitoring of polling station on Poll Day NA-171



REC monitored different activities at polling stations during Bye-Election, NA-171, Rahim Yar Khan -III



Monitoring team monitored the different activities during Bye-Election, NA-171, Rahim Yar Khan -III at PMCR



## One-day training session for Assistant Directors on the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA)

On June 27, 2024, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) organized an essential one-day training session for Assistant Directors, focusing on the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) laws. The training held at the ECP headquarters. The training aimed to enhance the participants understanding of procurement regulations and ensure adherence to best practices in the management of public funds.

The session featured presentations by PPRA experts, who detailed recent updates and key provisions of the procurement laws. Topics included procedural requirements, compliance standards and strategies for maintaining transparency in the procurement process. The training also addressed how these regulations impact election-related procurement activities and the importance of upholding the highest standards of accountability.

Interactive workshops and case studies provided Assistant Directors with practical insights and problem-solving techniques relevant to their roles. The training was designed to empower ECP staff with the knowledge to implement procurement regulations effectively, ensuring that election-related purchases and contracts are conducted in a fair and transparent manner. The successful completion of this training underscores the ECP's commitment to enhancing operational efficiency and integrity, reinforcing its dedication to conducting transparent and accountable elections.



Overview of the training

## Two-Day training of Master Trainers for Delimitation Committees and Delimitation Authorities for Local Government Elections, Punjab (June 25th-26th, 2024)

The Election commission organized Two-Days training workshop at Pakistan Electoral Academy for Democratic Practices, Research and Management (PADRM) Islamabad to impart training to the master trainers regarding carrying out delimitation in accordance with local government laws and rules. These trainings are used activities of the commission to enhance professional skills of ECP's officers.



Training of Master Trainers at PADRM, Islamabad



## Gender Equality and Elections BRIDGE Workshop July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 26<sup>th</sup>

The first All-Women BRIDGE training in Pakistan was held in Bhurban from July 24 – 26, 2024. Seventeen female participants from the head office and field offices of the Elections Commission of Pakistan (ECP) participated in the 3-days Gender Equality and Elections Workshop.

This workshop is part of UNDP's Strengthening Electoral and Legislative Processes (SELP) Project funded by USAID. The training workshop aimed to provide electoral principles to staff, so they may develop a support network for stakeholders in electoral processes. Facilitators include Ossama Kamel, Muhammad Qasim Janjua, Nighat Siddique, Asif Ali Yasin, and Salma Hassan.



Group Photo of Workshop Participants

## BRIDGE Workshop on Elections Dispute Resolution (July 31st – August 2nd)

BRIDGE workshop on "Elections Dispute Resolution" was held in Lahore from July 31 to August 02, 2024. Twenty-two participants from the ECP's Headquarter and field offices of the Elections Commission of Pakistan (ECP) participated in the 3-day workshop. This workshop was part of UNDP's Strengthening Electoral and Legislative Processes (SELP) Project funded by USAID. Three of the participants were women. The workshop was facilitated by a team of five facilitators: two from the ECP, two from UNDP SELP project and one international facilitator.

The facilitators from UNDP and ECP played an important role in the success of the workshop with their deep and extended knowledge of the Pakistani context, election laws and regulations. The participants stated that they have learnt a lot about Election Disputes Resolution (EDR); the international standards governing it, disputes that could arise in different phases of the electoral cycle, different alternative dispute resolution techniques. They stressed the fact that all what they have learned will be reflected in their line of work.



Group Photo of Workshop Participants



## Two weeks In- Service Training for ECP Officers (BS-18) From July 22<sup>nd</sup> to August 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

From July 22<sup>nd</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, the Pakistan Electoral Academy for Democratic Practices, Research and Management (PADRM) in Islamabad hosted a comprehensive two-week in-service training program for Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) officers in BS-18. This intensive training aims to strengthen the skills and knowledge of mid-level ECP staff, enhancing their capabilities in electoral management and democratic practices. The program includes a diverse curriculum designed to address current challenges and innovations in the electoral process. Key areas of focus include advanced electoral management techniques, updates on legal frameworks, voter engagement strategies, and the integration of technology in elections.

Additionally, participants delved into case studies, best practices, and scenario-based exercises to improve their problem-solving skills and strategic thinking.

Expert facilitators and seasoned practitioners lead the sessions, offering valuable insights and practical knowledge. The training also emphasized leadership development and the effective implementation of electoral laws and regulations to ensure the integrity and transparency of upcoming elections. This initiative underscores the ECP's commitment to professional development and the continuous improvement of Pakistan's electoral system, aiming to foster a more robust and democratic electoral environment.



Group Photo: In- Service Training on strengthening the skills and knowledge of ECP Officials



In- Service Training on strengthening the skills and knowledge of ECP Officials



## Workshop on Gender Responsive Budgeting August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

On August 7th, 2024, the Pakistan Electoral Academy for Democratic Practices, Research and Management (PADRM) in Islamabad hosted a pivotal one-day workshop on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). The event brought together all tiers of Election Commission of Pakistan to explore strategies for integrating gender perspectives into budgeting processes.

The workshop was designed to address the critical need for gender-sensitive financial planning. Experts in gender studies and public finance led interactive sessions, covering key topics such as the principles of GRB, methods for assessing budgetary impacts on different genders, and techniques for ensuring that public spending addresses the needs of women and marginalized communities.

Participants engaged in practical exercises and case studies, learning how to apply GRB concepts to real-world budgeting scenarios. The workshop also highlighted successful GRB implementations from various regions, providing valuable insights and inspiration for local application.

This initiative is part of PADRM's ongoing efforts to support inclusive governance and promote gender equality in public administration. By equipping attendees with the skills and knowledge needed to implement gender responsive budgeting, the workshop aims to contribute to more equitable and effective public policies. The successful completion of this workshop highlights the commitment of PADRM and its partners to advancing gender equality and ensuring that budgetary decisions reflect the needs of all citizens.



Secretary Election Commission Mr. Omar Hamid Khan addressing the participants of Gender Responsive Budgeting Workshop, PADRM, Islamabad



Participants of Gender Responsive Budgeting Workshop



# Training of Employees: New Digital Services Portal Designed by the Project Management Unit

The Election Commission of Pakistan has organized a comprehensive training program for its officers and staff, aimed at providing awareness about the new digital services portal designed by the Project Management Unit. This training took place from September 18 to September 26, 2024. The objective of the training was to equip employees with the skills to effectively utilize the digital services portal and register within the system.

The sessions include several key modules, including the Legal Case Management System (LCMS), which provides a comprehensive platform for monitoring legal matters related to the Election Commission.

Through this system, citizens and lawyers can access the latest updates and developments on legal cases. Other modules include the Training Information Management System (TIMS), Complaint Management System (CMS),

Inventory Management System (IMS), Monitoring and Reporting System (MRS), and Integrated Office Record Management System (IORM). These modules facilitate effective monitoring of the electoral process and the management of office records. The Election Commission is committed to promoting continuous improvement and innovation in technology. A total of 277 Election Commission officers and staff received training under this program.



Over view of the Training on New Digital Services Portal



Training on Secretariat Instructions at PADRM, Islamabad



Digital Democracy Workshop for Journalist by the ECP in Coordination with UNDP & Centre for Excellence in Journalism (CEJ) under the IBA umbrella at Islamabad on September 10, 2024



## PEC Sindh Mr. Sharifullah Chaired a Meeting at PEC office Sindh, Karachi on "Gender Mainstreaming & Social Inclusion Framework"

Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh Mr. Sharifullah chaired a meeting at Provincial Election Commissioner (Sindh) office, Karachi on the theme of "Gender Mainstreaming & Social Inclusion framework" to review the proposals on postal ballot papers on July 25, 2024. A large number of CSOs attended the dialogue, contributing valuable proposals to mitigate the gap in electoral participation and easy access for all walks of society. Senior Officers shed light on the importance of legal aspects of postal ballot papers and how it contributes to give voice to the unheard masses of the community serving in different areas of the country and giving them a chance to cast their vote for betterment of society.



## Two Days Workshop on "Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2010" June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Karachi.



The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) organized a comprehensive "Two Days Workshop on Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2010" in Karachi, aimed at fostering a safer and more equitable work environment. The workshop encouraged active participation from ECP officers, who engaged in insightful discussions and practical sessions, demonstrating a strong commitment to understanding and implementing the Act. The workshop attracted significant interest from attendees, reflecting a widespread recognition of the importance of addressing workplace harassment and promoting gender equality within the organization. This initiative underscores the ECP's dedication to creating a respectful and inclusive workplace for all employees.





## Workplace Harassment Workshop, Peshawar July 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

A two days awareness workshop was conducted in a local hotel in Peshawar on 2-3 July, 2024 supported by UNDP which was attended by officers and staff of ECP. PEC KP, Mr Shamshad Khan in his address stressed that it is important to provide a suitable environment for working women. He added that taking care of the self-respect of each individual is the responsibility of all of us being responsible citizens. PEC also added that more such like workshops should be conducted to create awareness about the law protecting women from harassment in offices.



## Disability Rights and Elections, June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Three-day BRIDGE workshop on 'Disability Rights and Elections' for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Disabled persons Organizations (DPOs) and the Election Commission of Pakistan held from June 26-28, 2024, in Islamabad. 23 people including 12 women and 11 men participated in the workshop which includes ECP nominated five participants (3 women and 2 men) as gender and inclusion focal persons, representing each province and the ECP secretariat. The workshop aimed to enhance democratic culture through promoting inclusive and accessible electoral practices and sharing international best practices including main module objectives:

- Identify barriers in all phases of the electoral process that can limit the access of persons with disabilities to participate in political and public life and identify solutions for dismantling these barriers.
- Provide a networking opportunity for advocacy groups, as well as specific tools to analyze the electoral structures and procedures and develop strategies to promote access for persons with disabilities.

- Emphasize the importance of consultation processes with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations throughout the electoral cycle – from post-election analysis through design of materials and procedures – in order to identify and remove barriers that limit political participation.

The workshop was delivered by a team of four UNDP and ECP BRIDGE facilitators (2 women, 2 men). This course examined the barriers faced by persons with disabilities in accessing electoral processes and the challenges to participation in political and public life. In most countries, being able to cast a ballot in a public polling place is taken for granted. For people with disabilities, the accessibility of polling places and voting technologies as well as other aspects of the voting process can impact the ability of an individual to exercise their civic and political rights.

Mr. Nadeem Haider, Director General ECP attended the closing ceremony and presented certificates to the participants. In the closing remarks, he emphasized on close coordination of electoral stakeholders to ensure inclusive and accessible electoral processes.



Group Photo of Workshop Participants



## Voters' Awareness Meeting at DEC Office, Badin

On 5th August, 2024, an awareness meeting held on importance of vote in DEC office Badin. Meeting was chaired by Mr. Muhammad Hanif. Meeting was attended by District Voter Education Committee (DVEC) members, Office staff & representatives of civil society organizations. The committee discussed importance of vote and strategies to implement in the District Badin which is a backward area and disseminate them the power of vote to change their destiny and why every vote matters. While engaging CSOs and INGOs in the coastal belt area including but not limited to Women, differently abled persons, Students and transgender community.



## Joint Provincial Election Commissioner (Elections) Mr. Ali Asghar Siyal met with Mr. Mohammad Ali Khoso, Secretary works & Services, Government of Sindh at Sindh Secretariat, Karachi

On 23rd August 2024, Joint Election Commissioner (Elections) Mr. Ali Asghar Siyal met with Mr. Mohammad Ali Khoso, Secretary Works & Services, Government of Sindh regarding renovation work of block 42 & 43 of PEC Sindh Office in Sindh Secretariat, Karachi. Mr. Muhammad Ali Khoso ensured his department's full support in technical and human resource for the constitutional body and its esteemed cause. Mr. Muhammad Ali Khoso previously had also served as Secretary (General Administration), Government of Sindh and was appointed as Focal Person from Sindh Province by the Sindh Government for the conduct of General Election 2024.



## A Youth Voter's Awareness Orientation at Model High School, Pishin by the DEC, Pishin

The DEC Pishin conducted a youth voter's awareness orientation on 12th September, 2024 at Model High School, Pishin to educate the students on the importance of voting and the voter registration process. It was shared with the students that voting is not just a right but also a civic duty that we all must fulfill. The DEC also guided the students the necessary steps and documentation required for voter registration. The DEC encouraged the eligible students to take part in the electoral process. A question & answer session was conducted.





## District Voters Education Committee (DVEC) Meeting, Killa Abdullah, Balochistan

The DEC Killa Abdullah held a meeting dated 9th September, 2024 with DVEC members in his office. The main agenda of the meeting was to focus on the Electoral Rolls difficulties faced by the women and marginalized groups i-e minorities, transgender, person with disabilities. The DEC highlighted huge gap between male and female voters in the district and invited their suggestions/proposals for the reduction of gender gap between male and female voters. As the registered voters of Killa Abdullah are 1,63,753 voters out of which 1,04,161 are male voters which is 64% of the total. Whereas, 59,592 are female voters which are 36% of the total voters. And the difference between male and female voters comes to 28% which is a huge gap.



## A Consultative Meeting with Stakeholders on Voter Awareness & Registration by the DEC, Chaman, Balochistan

An important meeting was convened by Mr. Wadood Ahmed, District Election Commissioner, Chaman, at his office, bringing together members of the District Voter Education Committee (DVEC), local representatives, and political party officials. The session focused on the processes of voter enrollment and transfer, highlighting the importance of registering voters at both permanent and temporary addresses, particularly for female voters.

Mr. Wadood emphasized the need for comprehensive voter registration to ensure broad electoral participation. Participants were reminded about the 8300 service, which allows voters to check their registration status easily. This initiative aims to enhance transparency and accessibility in the electoral process. The meeting concluded with a productive question-and-answer session, allowing attendees to clarify doubts and discuss strategies for improving voter engagement in the region. The collaborative effort aims to strengthen democratic practices and promote an informed electorate in Chaman, paving the way for higher voter turnout in upcoming elections.



## Consultative Meeting with Representatives of Transgender, Quetta, Balochistan

On September 13, 2024, a consultative meeting focused on enhancing electoral participation among the transgender community took place in Quetta, Balochistan. The consultation was organized by the Election Commission of Pakistan in collaboration with local advocacy groups. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Muhammad Farid Afridi, Provincial Election Commissioner, Balochistan and it aimed to address the barriers faced by transgender individuals in the electoral process, including challenges related to voter registration and societal discrimination. Participants engaged in open discussions about their experiences and offered insights on how to create a more inclusive electoral environment. Key topics included the need for targeted outreach campaigns, the importance of sensitizing electoral staff, and ensuring that legal frameworks adequately protect the rights of transgender voters. Advocacy groups emphasized the significance of visibility and representation in political spaces.



The event concluded with a series of actionable recommendations aimed at fostering an inclusive electoral process, ensuring that transgender individuals can fully exercise their voting rights.



# Consultative workshop on Inclusive NIC/Voter Registration Strategy, Phase-V (INVR-5) and Climate Change Impact on INVR-5 and Elections

The Gender and Social Inclusion (GSI) Wing, in collaboration with the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), organized a series of consultative workshops to finalize the Inclusive NIC/Voter Registration Strategy (INVR-5). These workshops also examined how climate change impacts electoral processes, particularly how climate-induced disruptions, such as natural disasters and displacement, disproportionately hinder marginalized communities' access to voter registration and electoral participation. The discussions emphasized the importance of integrating climate resilience into the electoral framework, with insights shared by stakeholders including representatives from NADRA, ECP, local government, health and education departments and civil society organizations.

These workshops provided a platform for participants to share their recommendations and feedback to finalize the INVR5 strategy.



July 6, 2024 Hyderabad , Sindh



July 10,2024 Quetta , Blochistan



July 6, 2024 Hyderabad , Sindh



August 3, 2024 Peshawer , KP



August 31,2024 Lahore , Punjab



## Consultative Meeting on Accessible Voting for Persons with Disabilities under “Vote for Voice”, Quetta, Balochistan

A significant consultative meeting held under the "Vote for Voice" initiative, focusing on enhancing accessible voting for persons with disabilities. The event gathered government officials, disability advocates, and community leaders to address barriers faced by individuals with disabilities in the electoral process. The meeting featured presentations on current challenges and success stories from other regions. Participants engaged in lively discussions, sharing personal experiences and innovative solutions aimed at making voting more inclusive.



“Ensuring accessible voting is not just a legal obligation; it is a moral imperative,” said Mr. Sharifullah, Provincial Election Commissioner, Balochistan emphasizing the need for collaboration among stakeholders.

Breakout sessions allowed attendees to brainstorm actionable strategies, leading to the development of a concrete action plan. The meeting concluded with a commitment to advocate for policy changes and improvements in infrastructure to facilitate easier access to polling stations. This gathering marks a crucial step towards fostering an inclusive democracy in Balochistan, ensuring that every voice is heard in the electoral process.

## New Assignments of Provincial Election Commissioner KP & Director General (DG) Pakistan Electoral Academy for Democratic Practices, Research and Management (PADRM)

At the transfer of PEC KP Mr. Shamshad Khan as DG (PADRM) and newly posted PEC Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mr. Saeed Gul, a Farewell and Welcome Party was organized on 27 August, 2024 in their honor which was attended by all officers of the Provincial Headquarter. Newly appointed PEC KP Mr Saeed Gul thanked the officers for organizing the ceremony. He also appreciated the services of Mr. Shamshad Khan. In his address, the former Provincial Election Commissioner Mr. Shamshad Khan thanked all the officers and said that during his tenure, all the officers performed the office affairs in the form of an efficient team. Mr Shamshad Khan expressed good wishes to the new Provincial Election Commissioner Mr. Saeed Gul. Both the officers were presented with bouquets of flowers on this occasion.



پشاور: صوبائی الیکشن کمشنر خیبر پختونخوا شمشاد خان نے صوبائی الیکشن کمشنر خیبر پختونخوا سعید گل کو پھولوں کا گلدستہ پیش کرتے ہیں۔



District Election Commissioner Gujrat Conducted a Meeting with the Representatives from Transgender Community in Gujrat in order to identify the unregistered Transgender persons in the district.



Launch Ceremony for Inclusive NIC / Voter Registration in Newly Merged Districts, KP



## ( وہی سوال --- ??? )

ہم تو کب کہ کوچ کر گئے  
وہ کیا تلاش کرنے آتے ہیں

بس کاروبار کرنے آتے ہیں  
سب اپنے وار کرنے آتے ہیں

عمر بھر جن کو بے حساب چاہا  
وہی حساب کرنے آتے ہیں

تم کمانے کو گھر سے نکلے ہو  
ہم تو نثار کرنے آتے ہیں

کیوں جائیں اس گلی میں ہم  
خود ہی اسرار کرنے آتے ہیں



یہ جو میچا سے لگتے ہیں  
یہی شکار کرنے آتے ہیں

آخر بن جاتے ہیں مالک ایک دن  
یہ جو بیوپار کرنے آتے ہیں

سب کو اپنی پڑی ہے فکر یہاں  
سر ہم قربان کرنے آتے ہیں

جن کے جواب مجھے آتے نہیں  
وہی سوال کرنے آتے ہیں

بس میرے نام پہ پابندی ہے  
سینکڑوں سلام کرنے آتے ہیں

(ہارون شنواری)



# آزادانہ منصفانہ غیر جانبدارانہ انتخابات



انتخابات  
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