

BEFORE THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF
PAKISTAN ISLAMABAD

M/31/03/2018
NA-

MEMO OF OBJECTIONS-CUM-SUGGESTIONS
REGARDING DELIMITATION OF
CONSTITUTENCIES NA-77 AND NA-78 DISTRICT
NAROWAL

Respectfully Sheweth:

PRELIMINARY SUBMISSIONS

1. That the present District Narowal, came into being w.e.f 01.07.1991, initially with two Tehsils as its components i.e Shakargarh and Narowal. During the year 2004, however, a new Tehsil i.e Zafarwal was created, which comprised of different villages/Halq Patwars of both Tehsils Shakargarh and Narowal.
2. That till the independence of Pakistan, Tehsil Shakargarh was a

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part of District Gurdaspur and geographically the entire Tehsil, in fact is a compact unit, most of the population residing therein has also historical bonds. After the independence Shakargarh was one of the five Tehsils of District Sialkot and perhaps one of the large Tehsils/ geographically Compact Unit within the Province of Punjab. Besides it has its unique terrain, as many as one major river Ravi and two river alike riverine / tributaries are since centuries flowing within this Tehsil. It is respectfully submitted that both Tehsils Narowal and Shakargarh existed since 1918. Tehsil Shakargarh was part of District Gurdaspur in pre-partition era whereas Narowal was part of District Sialkot.

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3. That till 2005 i.e prior to the creation of Tehsil Zafarwal, Tehsil Shakargarh comprised of as many as 9-Halqa Qanogos, detail whereof is as follows:-

POPULATION

S.#	Name of Halqa Qanogo	Population
1.	Lesser	150,039
2.	Shakargarh 1	98,667
3.	Shakargarh 2	66,932
4.	Municipal Committee Sharkagarh	82,294
5.	Masroor	88,410
6.	Kot Naina	79,726
7.	Bara Manga	81,461
8.	Kan po oor	67,557
9.	Dudho Chak	115,754
Total		830,840

4. That for the purpose of convenience relevant provisions of law as also the rules are reproduced here under:-

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The Election Acts 2017

Section 20

Principles of Delimitation:- (1)
All constituencies for general seats shall, as far as practicable, be delimited having regard to the distribution of population in geographically compact areas, physical features, existing boundaries of administrative units, facilities of communication and public convenience and other cognate factors to ensure homogeneity in the creation of constituencies.

The Elections Rules 2017

Rule 10(3) In preparing draft proposals for delimitation of constituencies, the Delimitation Committee shall follow the principles of delimitation as

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laid down in section 20, procedure given in this Chapter and the guidelines provided by the Commission from time to time.

10(4) The constituency for an Assembly shall not ordinarily extend to more than one district except in exceptional circumstances for reasons to be recorded by the Delimitation Committee.

Provided that a Patwar Circle or, as the case may be, a Tapedar Circle shall be the basic unit for delimitation and it shall not be broken under any circumstances.

Provided further that in case of urban areas census circle shall not be broken under any circumstances.

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10(5) As far as possible, the delimitation of constituencies of an Assembly shall start from the Northern end of the district, or, as the case may be, the agency and then proceed clock-wise in zigzag manner keeping in view that population among the constituencies of an Assembly shall remain as close as may be practicable to the quota;

Provided that the quota under the sub-rule shall be determined by dividing total population of the district or the agency with number of seats allocated to that district or agency;

Provided further that the variation in population between two or more constituencies shall not ordinarily exceed ten percent and the Delimitation Committee

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shall record reasons if, in exceptional circumstances, the variation has to exceed the limit.

5. That in the current, delimitation process, however, it appears that major shuffling / re-shuffling has been effected, without perhaps proper homework and against ground realities. Following inter-alia are the objections, being submitted with great respects.

a. Neither the delimitation process was carried out from North wards to South wards nor the principle of clockwise movement has been followed.

b. Admittedly the constituencies all over the country, commenced from the Northern area i.e N.A-1

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Peshawar-1 (KPK) and it moves towards the Southern part in a clockwise manner by touching the thousand mile long Indian Border. From KPK it enters into Punjab and then it moves to Sindh and thereafter it moves to Balochistan. The same fundamental principle is to be followed in delimitation process of all the Districts in particular the District Narowal. This principle has fragrantly been violated in the current process of delimitation.

c. The convenience of the public at large has not been taken into consideration, which would certainly create unnecessary hardships in exercise of their right of franchise, which is a right guaranteed by the constitution itself. It is seriously apprehended that a large section of general public

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would be deprived from participating in the forthcoming general elections due to this inconvenience.

d. That NA-77, currently comprises such odd areas, that out of five Provincial Assembly Seats in the whole District, portions of as many as four Provincial Assembly Constituencies have been included in NA-77 Narowal, which by itself is indicative of the fact that this exercise has been done without looking into the ground realities.

e. That during the elections of 1970, both Tehsils Shakargarh and Narowal had one seat of National Assembly each and even currently very comfortably the entire Tehsil Shakargarh could be declared as compact unit and if

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the need be some parts from Tehsil Zafarwal may be added to both NA-77 and to NA-78. It is respectfully submitted that if the Tehsil Shakargarh is declared/ kept as one compact unit, withdrawal of only a small portion of Tehsil Zafarwal, would resolve the issue. It otherwise appeals to reasoning as well, for the simple reason that Tehsil Zafarwal comprises of such parts, which were earlier withdrawn/ taken from both Tehsils of Narowal and Shakargarh and now by simply adding those areas back to the respective Tehsils would meet the ends of justice.

f. Tehsil Shakargarh has been a compact unit since more than a century, which could not under the law be disturbed nor otherwise it is in the larger

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interest of the candidates and voters as well nor in the interest of political expediency.

g. That the current delimitation is violative of the provisions of Section 20 of the Election Act 2017 as well as the Election Rules 2017.

6. That the proposed delimitation of both NA-77 and NA-78 are not in accordance with the ground realities. Humble submissions would find abundant support / corroboration from the maps attached herewith.

SUGGESTIONS

1. Status of both Tehsils Shakargarh as NA-77 and Narowal as NA-78 be kept intact and
2. No portion from existing Tehsil Sahkargarh and Narowal may be

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taken out from NA-77 and NA-78 respectively and

3. If the need be smaller adjustments could be made by including some portions / villages from Halqa Patwar from Tehsil Zafarwal.

PRAYER

In view of the above submissions, it is most respectfully prayed that the present proposals / orders regarding delimitation of constituencies NA-77 and NA-78 District Narowal may graciously be reviewed keeping in view the objections raised in preceding paras and

1. Status of both Tehsils Shakargarh as NA-77 and Narowal as NA-78 be kept intact and
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3. If the need be smaller
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Yours Obediently



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