

30 March 2018

Secretary  
Election Commission of Pakistan  
G-5, Islamabad

Subject: **Representation to Election Commission in respect of delimitation of constituencies of Sargodha District**

Dear Secretary,

Attached please find representation to Election Commission of Pakistan in respect of delimitation of constituencies of Sargodha District along with CNIC copy, proposed delimitation for National and Provincial Assembly seats and District maps.

Sincerely,



Malik Muhammad Ramzan Sabir  
CNIC: 61101-4869026-9  
Block Code: 134010701  
Serial #: 446  
Chak # 141 NB,  
Sillanwali, Sargodha  
Tel: (0300)8566030 & (0300)5196673

**Representation to Election Commission in respect of delimitation of constituencies of Sargodha District**

Respectfully submitted,

That the Election Commission of Pakistan vide Notification dated 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 No.F.8(1)/2018-Elec-I determined and notified the share of Districts/Agencies, FATA and Islamabad Capital Territory regarding National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies seats. As per that Sargodha District with population of 3,703,588 got 5 National and 10 Provincial Assembly seats.

That the Election Commission of Pakistan published in the official Gazette on March 5, 2018 a preliminary list of constituencies specifying the areas proposed to be included in each constituency (Form 5) draft list of constituencies and invited representations.

As per the Elections Act 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.

It is a cardinal principle and written in our constitution as well that the seats in the Assembly shall be allocated to each Province, the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and the Federal Capital on the basis of population in accordance with the last preceding census officially published. Once Number of seats are allocated to Provinces, shares of Districts is calculated again on the basis of population as per The Election Rule 8. Determination of quota sub-rule 2 & 4.

Now District Sargodha comprises of 7 Tehsils; names with population in brackets are Bhalwal (357,331), Bhera (315,148), Kot Momin (453,562), Sahiwal (341,247), Sargodha (1,537,866), Shahpur (353,969) and Sillanwali (344,465). Following both the spirit and essence of the Constitution, the Act and the Rules, in all fairness national and provincial assembly seats should be further distributed as:

Sr #	Tehsil	Population	Share National	Share Provincial
1	Bhalwal	357,331	0.48	0.96
2	Bhera	315,148	0.42	0.85
3	Kot Momin	453,562	0.61	1.22
4	Sahiwal	341,247	0.46	0.92
5	Sargodha	1,537,866	2.08	4.15
6	Shahpur	353,969	0.48	0.96
7	Sillanwali	344,465	0.46	0.93

As per above Tehsils Bhalwal, Sahiwal, Shahpur, Sillanwali are fully entitled for 1 provincial assembly seat each, Tehsil Sargodha for 4 seats and Tehsils Kot Momin and Bhera combined together for 2 seats.

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Unfortunately this cardinal principles of delegating seats on the basis of population was not followed while demarcating draft constituencies for District Sargodha as 5 out of 10 provincial constituencies i.e PP-72 Sargodha-I, PP-73 Sargodha-II, PP-75 Sargodha-IV, PP-79 Sargodha-VIII and PP-80 Sargodha-IX have all been carved without keeping in view existing boundaries of administrative units, thus blatantly violating people's rights with regard to existing boundaries of administrative units, physical features, facilities of communication and public convenience and other cognate factors to ensure homogeneity in the creation of constituencies.

Similarly, draft constituencies have been gerrymandered to give Sargodha Tehsil an undue favor, and some sort of share and representation in fully 4 National Assembly seats i.e. NA-88, NA-89, NA-90, NA-91 instead of its share of 2 NA seats. All this just to suit vested interests, whereas it can be easily limited to 2 National Assembly seats, one for the city / urban areas and one for the rural / remaining areas of the Tehsil.

Furthermore as per The Election Rules 2017 Rule 10. Draft proposals for delimitation of constituencies.— sub rule (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 clockwise 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. Sadly, this sub Rule has also been flagrantly ignored and prima facie proposed delimitation appears unlawful and is not a bonafide exercise.

Keeping in view the mentioned Act and Rules, changes are being proposed in the constituencies as

Seat	Draft by ECP	Proposed
NA-88	a. Bhera Tehsil, b. Bhalwal Tehsil, & c. Mari QH of Sargodha Tehsil excluding Ajnala PC	a. Bhera Tehsil, b. Shahpur Tehsil and c. Bhalwal II QH of Bhalwal Tehsil
NA-89	a. Kot Momin Tehsil b. The following QH of Sargodha Tehsil 1. Mitha Luk 2. Bhagtanwala 3. Ajnala PC of Mari QH 4. The following PCs of 90 SB QH i. Chak 29 SB ii. Chak 30 SB iii. Chak 33 SB iv. Chak 34 SB	a. Kot Momin Tehsil b. Bhalwal Tehsil, excluding Bhalwal II QH
NA-90	a. Sargodha Municipal Corporation b. Sargodha Cantonment, and c. Sargodha-I QH of Sargodha Tehsil	No change, same as ECP
NA-91	a. The following QH of Sargodha Tehsil 1. Chak 90 SB QH excluding the following PCs i. Chak 29 SB	Sargodha Tehsil excluding i. Sargodha Municipal Corporation ii. Sargodha Cantonment, and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Chak 30 SB</li> <li>iii. Chak 33 SB</li> <li>iv. Chak 34 SB</li> <li>2. Shaheenabad</li> <li>3. Chak No 46/SB</li> <li>4. Chak No 92/NB</li> <li>5. Sargodha II, and</li> <li>b. Tehsil Sillanwali excluding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Chak No 119 NB PC of Sillanwali I QH, and</li> <li>ii. Chak No 116 NB PC of Sillanwali II QH</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	iii. Sargodha-I QH
NA-92	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sahiwal Tehsil,</li> <li>b. Shahpur Tehsil, and</li> <li>c. The following Patwar Circles of Sillanwali Tehsil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Chak No 119 NB of Sillanwali I QH, and</li> <li>ii. Chak No 116 NB of Sillanwali II QH</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sahiwal Tehsil, and</li> <li>b. Sillanwali Tehsil</li> </ul>

By simple glance draft delimitation looks a textbook exercise in gerrymandering with utter disregard of administrative boundaries. Wherever it is felt QH is broken, and similarly Patwar Circles included and excluded at will, while in comparison proposed delimitation keeps administrative boundaries sacrosanct as much as possible.

Complete list of changes being proposed in the constituencies is attached as Annex A. Once the proposed changes are accounted for fully 8 out of 10 provincial assembly seats will be within administrative boundaries and the remaining two will start from the Northern end of the district and then proceed clock-wise in zigzag manner to form a constituency by attaching minimal possible people to another administrative unit so as to keep the population disparity within allowable 10% margin. All the cardinal principals of Delimitation, i.e. compactness, contiguity, homogeneity, equality of population, and other cognate factors have also been taken care of in proposed delimitation.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully prayed that the District Sargodha constituencies be ordered to be either delimited as proposed in Annex A or Election Commission should come up with an even better proposal where Bhalwal Tehsil's administrative boundaries are also not compromised due to population shortfall in neighboring Bhera Tehsil in the supreme interest of justice, equity and fairplay.

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