

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

Islamabad, the 24th April, 2018

DIRECTIVE

No.F.12(1)/2018-E/Rolls.— WHEREAS under clause (a) of Article 219 of the Constitution, the Election Commission is charged with the duty of preparing electoral rolls for election to the National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies and revising such rolls periodically to keep them up-to-date.

AND WHEREAS, sub-section (1) of section 23 of the Elections Act 2017 provides that the Commission shall prepare the electoral rolls for election to the National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies and shall revise such rolls periodically in the prescribed manner.

AND WHEREAS, in accordance with its constitutional duty of preparing and revising the electoral rolls for General Elections 2018 and keeping in view the “cut-off date” mentioned in section 39 of the Elections Act 2017 i.e. 30th April, 2018, the Election Commission issued timeline for revision of electoral rolls in accordance whereof the preliminary electoral rolls were published on 26th March, 2018 across the country for a period of 30 days (upto 24th April, 2018) and the timeline for decisions by the Revising Authorities on the claims, objections and applications for correction received at the display centers was upto 30th April, 2018.

AND WHEREAS, wide publicity was given to the display period on print and electronic media at national as well as regional level and a significant response from general public was witnessed during the display period, however, various stakeholders including general public approached the Election Commission for extension of the display period enabling the citizens to file Form-15 (claim for inclusion of name) Form-16 (objection to inclusion of name) and Form-17 (application for correction of particulars).

AND WHEREAS, section 39 provides that no revision of or correction in an electoral roll of an electoral area or inclusion or transfer of a vote from the electoral roll of an electoral area to the electoral roll of another electoral area shall be made in respect of any electoral roll after the aforesaid “cut-off date”.

AND WHEREAS, in case of extension of display period, the time required for decisions of the Revising Authorities on the claims, objections and applications for corrections will not be available due to cut-off date i.e. 30th April, 2018 on which the electoral rolls shall be frozen, however, section 49 *ibid* empowers the Election Commission for deviation from the laid down procedure in exceptional circumstances for revision of electoral rolls in respect of any electoral area.

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it under Article 219 of the Constitution read with section 23 and section 49 of the Elections Act, 2017 and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Election Commission of Pakistan is pleased to direct as under:

- a. To facilitate the general public, the last date for filing of claims, objections and applications for correction at all display centers established across the country is hereby extended upto 30th April, 2018;

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- b. As per section 39 of the Elections Act 2017, the electoral rolls shall be deemed to be frozen on the said cut-off date (30th April, 2018) and after that date no claim, objection or application for correction shall be received by any display center incharge, Assistant Registration Officer, Registration Officer and Revising Authority;
- c. However, the Revising Authorities shall decide the claims, objections and application for corrections upto 7th May, 2018;
- d. The above directions shall be complied with by all concerned in letter and spirit.

SD/-
(Justice Sardar Muhammad Raza)
Chairman

SD/-
(Mr. Abdul Ghaffar Soomro)
Member

SD/-
(Mr. Justice (R) Ibrahim Altaf Qureshi)
Member

SD/-
(Justice (R) Ms. Irshad Qaiser)
Member

SD/-
(Mr. Justice (R) Shakeel Ahmed Baloch)
Member