

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 26th April, 2021

No.F.2(2)/2018-Cord.- In pursuance of Article 220 of the Constitution read with Section 233 of the Elections Act, 2017, the Election Commission of Pakistan is pleased to hereby issue and publish Code of Conduct for Security Personnel deployed for election duty and to be deployed for security on polling day outside the polling stations:

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SECURITY OFFICIALS FOR ELECTIONS

A. The Security Personnel¹ belonging to Law Enforcement Agencies including police deputed on election duty for bye-election in constituency **No.NA-249 Karachi West-II** to be held on 29th April, 2021 shall:-

- i. Perform their duties in accordance with the law and within the confines of mandate assigned to Pakistan Ranger (Sindh) or, as the case may be, Civil Armed Forces to assist Election Commission of Pakistan in conduct of free, fair and transparent elections by:-
 - a. Deploying outside all polling stations (Police).
 - b. Deploying outside all polling stations (Sindh Rangers).
- ii. Perform their functions under Article 220 of the Constitution of Pakistan and Section 5 read with Section 193 of the Election Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017).
- iii. Exercise powers delegated to them vide Notification No.F.7(NA-249)/2020-Elec-II dated the 19th April, 2021 issued by Election Commission of Pakistan.
- iv. Cooperate with the concerned District Returning Officer, Returning Officer, Presiding Officers and Polling Staff as required under section 83(4) of the Elections Act, 2017.
- v. Assist Presiding Officer in smooth and effective discharge of his lawful duties as it is the responsibility of the Presiding Officer to keep order outside the polling station and may remove and cause to be removed any person who misconduct himself / herself outside polling station or fails to obey any lawful orders of the Presiding Officer.
- vi. Remain impartial and neutral throughout the election process in general and during the voting process in particular and shall not act in favour of or against any political party or candidate in any manner whatsoever and render their fullest cooperation to the Presiding Officer for maintenance of order and for ensuring un-interrupted voting on the polling station.
- vii. Observe politeness, display immaculate behavior during dealing with voters and Polling staff, while remaining firm and just in dealing in accordance with the law while addressing any situation and assist in guiding them (outside polling station) in case of any confusion. Ensure that peaceful, friendly, safe and conducive environment is provided to the voters outside the polling stations and voters are neither intimidated nor hampered from voting in any manner whatsoever.

¹Law Enforcement Agencies employed for provision of security and maintenance of law and order situation.

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- viii. Check each voter before entering premises of the polling station to ensure that no person can bring with himself/herself any weapon / explosive or undesirable item including mobile phones which could sabotage the polling process.
 - ix. Facilitate voters and ensure that they are properly queued. Elderly, transgender, pregnant women, women with infants and voters with disabilities are entitled to have prioritized dealing.
 - x. Exclusively concentrate on ensuring peaceful and transparent polling process while performing duty outside the polling station and shall follow directions of the Presiding Officer to perform their duties.
 - xi. Report to the Presiding Officer any irregularity/ malpractice, they observe outside of the polling station and act according to the instructions issued by him in that regard. In case, the Presiding Officer does not act to prevent the commission of any reported irregularity/malpractice, the security staff will immediately bring the matter to the notice of the designated officer-in-charge of Civil Armed Forces, who shall take action in light of the powers delegated to him and also immediately inform the Returning Officer.
 - xii. Acquaint themselves with the fact that one polling agent of each contesting candidate is by law allowed to perform his/ her duties at each polling booth, however, only one polling agent of each candidate will be allowed by the Presiding Officer to observe counting process and tabulation of results.
 - xiii. Be aware of the fact that polling agent of each candidate who observed the counting process is, by law, allowed to take copy of Form-45 (Result of the Count) and Form-46 (Ballot Paper Account) from Presiding Officer. Similarly observer, if any who is present at the time of counting may also receive the aforesaid copies of the forms from the Presiding Officer.
 - xiv. Abide by all the relevant laws and continuously work to gain general public's trust by ensuring safe environment and maintaining law and order during election process.
 - xv. Acquaint themselves that the District Returning Officers / Returning Officers may at any time visit the polling stations.
 - xvi. Allow the accredited observers and media persons to enter a polling station. Media persons shall be allowed along with camera for making footage of the voting process or counting process.

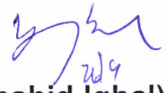
B. The security personnel² belonging to Law Enforcement Agencies including police deputed on election duty for elections shall:-

- i. Not ask the voters to produce their "Perchees" or prove their identity as it is the duty of polling officer.
- ii. Not disallow any eligible voter to enter the polling station as entering a polling station to cast his/her vote is an inviolable right of the voter who has been assigned to that polling station.
- iii. Not act in such manner which may draw an impression of their being partial or biased.
- iv. Not in any case assume the duties of polling staff.
- v. Not take into their custody any election material including ballot papers, marking aid stamps, official code mark stamps, electoral rolls, ballot boxes etc.

² Law Enforcement Agencies employed for provision of security and maintenance of law and order situation.

- vi. Furthermore, not allow any person other than polling staff to take into his/her custody the aforesaid election material.
- vii. Not enter into arguments/ altercations with any candidates, election agent, polling agent, observer or media person in any manner.
- viii. Not interfere in any manner whatsoever in the function of Presiding Officer, Assistant Presiding Officer or Polling Officer.
- ix. Not respond at their own to an apparent irregularity outside polling station rather they shall bring the matter to the knowledge of Presiding Officer and take necessary direction from him in the matter. In case irregularity or malpractice continues, they shall inform their Officer In-Charge through the fastest means available, who shall take action in light of the powers delegated to him and also immediately inform the Returning Officer.
- x. Not arrest any person at the polling station unless explicitly instructed by the Presiding Officer to do so, and
- xi. Not interfere in the counting process in any manner rather shall continue to only provide peaceful environment outside the polling station for completion of counting process.

By order of Election Commission of Pakistan.


(Shahid Iqbal)

Additional Director General (Elections)

To :

The Manager,
Printing Corporation of Pakistan Press,
Islamabad.

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Copy forwarded to:

The Provincial Election Commissioner, Sindh, Karachi (with the request to circulate the same to the Inspector General of Police, Sindh, Wing Commander, Sindh Rangers, District Returning Officer (NA-249 Karachi West-II), Returning Officer (NA-249 Karachi West-II), Deputy Commissioner, Karachi West and District Police Officer, Karachi West.



(Waqas Ahmed Malik)
Deputy Director (Cord)