

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 04th December, 2024

No.F.2(11)/2024-Coord.M/F(1).- 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 publish and issue Code of Conduct for Armed Forces/Civil Armed Forces deployed for election duty and provision of fool proof Security during Bye-Election in the PP-139, Sheikhupura-IV to be held on 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2024:

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ARMED FORCES /CIVIL ARMED FORCES OF PAKISTAN DURING BYE ELECTIONS-2024

The Security Personnel<sup>1</sup> belonging to Armed Forces / Civil Armed Forces of Pakistan deputed on election duty for Bye- Election in the **PP-139**, **Sheikhupura-IV** shall:-

- Perform their duties in accordance with role of Armed Forces defined in Article 245 of the Constitution of Pakistan, the law and within the confines of mandate assigned to Armed Forces to assist Election Commission of Pakistan in conduct of Bye Election in **PP-139**. **Sheikhupura-IV** by deploying/ providing:
  - a. Secure environment for easy and secure access of voters to Polling Station. Wherein, Police will be 1<sup>st</sup> tier responders while Pakistan Rangers, Punjab as 2<sup>nd</sup> tier responders for provision of general area security only in Quick Reaction Force mode only.
  - b. Deploying outside selected Most Sensitive Polling Stations.
  - c. Security of printing presses during printing of Ballot Papers.
  - **d.** Security during transportation of Ballot Papers from Printing Press to the office of District Returning Officer.
  - e. Security, during transportation of election material from Office of Returning Officer to Polling Stations and back, after completion of Polling and counting.
- ii. Perform their functions under Article 220 and 245 (inclusive of all clauses / sub clauses) of the Constitution of Pakistan, Section 4 and 5 of Anti-Terrorist Act (ATA),1997 (as amended) and Section 5 read with Section 193 of the Election Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017).
- iii. Each officer and junior commissioned officer of the **Pakistan Ranger**, **Punjab** shall exercise powers delegated to them *vide* Notification No.F.21(1)/2023-Elec-I dated **04**<sup>th</sup> **December**, **2024** issued by the Election Commission of Pakistan.
- iv. All Armed Forces / Civil Armed Forces personnel to facilitate in provision of secure environment so as to enable District Returning Officer (DRO), Returning Officer

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Include personnel of armed forces of Pakistan, Pakistan Rangers, Pakistan Coast Guards, Frontier Corps, employed for provision of security and maintenance of law and order situation in support of election duties.

- (RO), Presiding Officers (POs) and Polling Staff in accomplishment of their assigned tasks.
- v. 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.
- vi. While dealing with voters and election staff, observe politeness, display immaculate behavior while remaining firm and just in dealing, in accordance with the law while addressing any situation.
- vii. Identify suspicious voters for frisking / Checking by police personnel before entering premises of the polling station to ensure that no person can bring with him/her any weapon / explosive or undesirable item inside the polling station.
- viii. While performing duty outside the selected most sensitive polling stations, exclusively concentrate on ensuring secure environment.
- ix. While performing their duties, are supposed to first report to the Presiding Officer along with informing in own Chain of Command of any irregularity / issue / malpractice having the potential to create Law and Order / security situation, they observe outside of selected most sensitive polling station (where deputed) and act according to the instructions issued in that regard. In case, the Presiding Officer does not act to prevent the commission of any reported irregularity / issue / malpractice, the security staff will immediately inform concerned Returning Officer.
- x. 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.
- xi. Be aware that DRO/RO can visit polling station at any time.
- xii. Accredited observers and media persons are allowed to enter a polling station.
- xiii. Not disallow any eligible voter to enter the polling station, except the ones found in possession of weapon / explosive or undesirable items or ones who create disturbance and incitement to act of violence or an action which is prejudice to National safety / interests of Pakistan.
- xiv. Not in any case assume the duties of polling staff.
- xv. Not take into his/ her custody any election material including ballot papers, marking aid stamps, official code mark stamps, electoral rolls, ballot boxes, Form-45 and Form-46 etc.
- xvi. Not enter into arguments/ altercation with any candidate, election agent, polling agent, observer or media person in any manner.
- xvii. Not interfere in any manner whatsoever in the functions of Presiding Officer, Assistant Presiding Officer or Polling Officer.
- xviii. Not respond at his own to an apparent irregularity outside a Polling station and 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, shall inform his Officer In-Charge immediately, so that necessary legal action can be taken.

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xix. Not interfere in the counting process in any manner rather shall perform his duty outside Polling station diligently so that counting process can be completed in a peaceful manner.

(Muhammad Nasir Khan)
Deputy Director (Coord.)

The Manager, Printing Corporation of Pakistan Press, Islamabad.

[For publication in the Gazette of Pakistan, Extraordinary (Part-III) of today's date.]

## Copy forwarded to:

- 1) Secretary, Ministry of Interior, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad.
- 2) Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of Pakistan, Rawalpindi.
- 3) Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad.

(Through PEC)

- 4) Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Lahore.
- 5) Inspector General of Police, Government of Punjab, Lahore.

## II. Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to the:

- 1) Provincial Election Commissioner, Punjab, Lahore.
- 2) District Returning Officer concerned
- 3) Returning Officer concerned
- 4) Assistant Returning Officers concerned
- 5) Presiding Officers concerned

#### III. Copy also forwarded to the:

- 1) Special Secretary (Law)
- 2) Director General (Elections / Training)
- 3) Director General (Political Finance)
- 4) Director General (IT- Policy & Planning)
- 5) Additional Director General (MCO / Monitoring)
- 6) Additional Director General (Electoral Rolls)
- 7) Additional Director General (GSI/Training)
- 8) Director to Hon'ble CEC
- 9) Deputy Director (GS)
- 10) Deputy Director (Web)
- 11) Deputy Director (Monitoring)
- 12) PS to Hon'ble Members I, II, III & IV
- 13) Staff Officer to Secretary
- 14) JPA to Special Secretary (ECP)

ECP Secretariat, Islamabad.

(Muhammad Asad Ali)
Assistant Director (Coord)



## **ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN NOTIFICATION**

Islamabad, the 04th December, 2024

No.F.2(11)/2024-Coord.M/F(2) In pursuance of Article 220 of the Constitution read with Section 5 and Section 233 of the Elections Act, 2017, the Election Commission of Pakistan is pleased to publish and issue Code of Conduct for Security Personnel deployed for election duty and provision of fool proof Security during Bye-Election in the PP-139, Sheikhupura-IV to be held on 05th December, 2024:

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SECURITY OFFICIALS FOR BYE-ELECTION

- The Security Personnel<sup>1</sup> belonging to Law Enforcement Agencies excluding Armed Forces and Civil Armed Forces (for whom separate Code of Conduct is being issued) deputed on election duty for Bye-Election in the PP-139, Sheikhupura-IV shall:-
  - Perform their duties in accordance with the law and within the confines of mandate assigned to Police or as the case may be the other Security Personnel to assist Election Commission of Pakistan in conduct of free, fair, transparent and peaceful Bye Elections-2024 by deploying/ providing:
    - a. Deploying Security personnel outside all polling stations.
    - b. Secure environment for maintenance of law and order.
    - c. Security of printing presses during printing of Ballot Papers.
    - d. Security during transportation of Ballot Paper from Printing Press to the office of Returning Officer.
    - e. Security to the Presiding Officers during transportation of Polling Bags from the offices of Returning Officer to the Polling Stations.
    - f. Security during transportation of election material to the RO Office after completion of Polling and counting at the Polling stations till receipt of record in the offices of Returning Officer, during tabulation, announcement of provisional results and consolidation of results by the Returning Officer.
  - Perform their functions under Article 220 of the Constitution of Pakistan, Section 5 ii. read with Section 193 of the Election Act, 2017 (XXXIII of 2017).
  - Each gazetted officer of the law enforcement agency shall exercise powers iii. delegated to them through a Notification to be issued by the Election Commission of Pakistan in terms of Section 193 of Elections Act, 2017.
  - Cooperate with the concerned District Returning Officers, Returning Officers and iv. Presiding Officers as required under section 83(4) of the Elections Act, 2017.
  - Assist Presiding Officer in smooth and effective discharge of his/her lawful duties as ٧. it is the primary responsibility of the Presiding Officer to keep order at the polling station and may remove and cause to be removed any person who misconduct himself / herself at the polling station or fails to obey any lawful orders of the Presiding Officer.
  - Remain impartial and neutral throughout the election process in general and during vi.

the voting process in particular and shall not act in favour of or against any political

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Include personnel of Police, Frontier Constabulary, Punjab Constabulary, Balochistan Constabulary and levies only employed for provision of security and maintenance of law and order situation in support of election duties.

- 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 in dealing with voters and Polling staff, while remaining firm and just in dealing in accordance with the law while addressing any given situation. Assist in guiding them (outside polling station) in case of any confusion or untoward situation. Ensure that peaceful, congenial, safe and conducive environment is provided to the voters outside the polling stations and voters are neither intimidated nor prevented from voting in any manner whatsoever.
- viii. Frisk / 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 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. Acquaint themselves with the fact that one polling agent of each contesting candidate is allowed by law to be present 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.
- xii. Be aware of the fact that polling agent of each candidate who observes 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.
- xiii. Provide Security to the premises of the office of the Returning Officer till the completion of consolidation of results and ensure safe deposit of polling bags and other material in the strong room of the Commission.
- xiv. Abide by all the election laws/relevant laws and strive to gain general public 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.
- 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 except the Screen off Compartment to maintain the secrecy of ballot.
- B. The security personnel<sup>2</sup> belonging to Law Enforcement Agencies including police deputed on election duty for Bye-Election shall:
  - i. Not to ask the voters to produce their "Perchees" or prove their identity as it is the duty of polling officer.
  - ii. Not to 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 vote at that polling station.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Include personnel of Police, Frontier Constabulary, Punjab Constabulary, Balochistan Constabulary and levies only employed for provision of security and maintenance of law and order situation in support of election duties.

- iii. Not to act in such a manner which may draw an impression of being partial or biased.
- iv. Not to assume the duties of polling staff in any case whatso ever.
- v. Not to take into custody any election material including tallot papers, marking aid stamps, official code mark stamps, electoral rolls, ballot box as etc.
- vi. Furthermore, not to allow any person other than polling staff to take into his/her custody the aforesaid election material.
- vii. Not to enter into arguments/ altercations with any contesting candidates, election agents, polling agents, observers or media persons in any manner.
- viii. Not to interfere in any manner whatsoever in the function of Presiding Officer, Assistant Presiding Officer or Polling Officer.
- ix. Not to 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.
- x. Not object on the presence of the candidate, his/her election agent or his/ her polling agent or observer if any, during the counting process.
- xi. Not to arrest any person at the polling station unless e plicitly instructed by the Presiding Officer to do so, and
- xii. Not to interfere in the counting process in any manner rather shall continue to provide peaceful environment outside the polling station for completion of counting process unless a mal-practice in counting process has been identified. In that case, he shall inform his officer In-Charge through the fastest means available, who will inform the Returning Officer.

By order of Election Commission of Pakistan.

(Muhammad Nasir Khan)
Deputy Director (Coord.)

The Manager,
Printing Corporation of Pakistan Press,
Islamabad.

[For publication in the Gazette of Pakistan, Extraordinary (Part-III) of today's date.]

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- 3) Inspector General of Police, Government of Punjab, Lahore.

## II. Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to the:

- 1) Provincial Election Commissioner, Punjab, Lahore.
- 2) District Returning Officer for PP-139 Sheikhupura-IV
- 3) Returning Officer for PP-139 Sheikhupura-IV
- 4) Assistant Returning Officer for PP-139 Sheikhupura-IV
- 5) All Presiding Officers. PP-139 Sheikhupura-IV

### III. Copy also forwarded to the:

- 1) Special Secretary (Law)
- 2) Director General (Elections / Training)
- 3) Director General (Political Finance)
- 4) Director General (IT- Policy & Planning)
- 5) Additional Director General (MCO / Monitoring)
- 6) Additional Director General (Electoral Rolls)
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ECP Secretariat, Islamabad.

(Through PEC, Punjab)

(Muhammad Asad Ali)
Assistant Director (Coord)