

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

MR. SIKANDAR SULTAN RAJA, CHAIRMAN
MR. NISAR AHMED DURRANI, MEMBER
MR. SHAH MUHAMMAD JATOI, MEMBER
JUSTICE (R) IKRAMULLAH KHAN, MEMBER

CASE No. 1(8)/2025-MW

Subject: NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 218(3) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PAKISTAN 1973 READ WITH SECTIONS 4,8(C),15 AND 234 OF THE ELECTIONS ACT, 2017 FOR VIOLATION OF CODE OF CONDUCT ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION FOR CONDUCT OF BYE ELECTION IN NA-185 DERA GHAZI KHAN-II.

On Commission's Notice

- i. Mr. Huzaifa Rehman, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (National Heritage and Culture), Government of Pakistan (Respondent No. 1).
- ii. Mr. Mehmood Qadir Khan, Contesting Candidate for NA-185, Dera Ghazi Khan (Respondent No. 2).

.....Respondent(s)

For Mr. Huzaifa Rehman : In person.
For Mr. Mehmood Qadir Khan : Malik Omar Saleem, ASC.
For the ECP : Secretary ECP, Special Secretary, Special Secretary Law, Additional Director General, Law, Deputy Director (Law).

Date of hearing : 24-11-2025

ORDER

Sikandar Sultan Raja, Chairman- The brief facts of the case are that the Election Commission of Pakistan issued schedule for the conduct of bye-election in NA-185, Dera Ghazi Khan with poll date on 23.11.2025. In this respect a code of conduct was issued for the contesting candidates, political parties, media and security personnel. A letter dated 21.11.2025 was received from District Monitoring Officer (DMO), Dera Ghazi Khan, stating that complaints against Mr. Huzaifa Rehman, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (National Heritage and Culture), Government of Pakistan (Respondent No. 1) were received regarding his participation in the election campaign of Mr. Mehmood Qadir Khan, contesting candidate of PML-N in violation of Clause 18 of Code of Conduct issued by the Commission. He mentioned that an advisory notice dated 20th November, 2025 was issued to him, however, he participated



in the election campaign and the notice dated 22.11.2025 was issued to him. The DMO has imposed fine of Rs. 50,000/- and referred the matter to the Commission for necessary action in accordance with law. Upon receipt of the report from DMO the Commission after deliberation decided to fix the matter for hearing with notices to the Respondents No. 1 & 2 for today i.e. 24.11.2025.

02. Respondent No. 1 appeared in person while Malik Omar Saleem, ASC appeared on behalf of Respondent No. 2.

03. Special Secretary, Special Secretary (Law) & ADG (Law) briefed the Commission regarding the relevant provisions of Constitution, Code of Conduct and the Elections Act, 2017. They informed the Commission that Respondent No. 1 Mr. Huzaifa Rehman Special Assistant to Prime Minister has participated in the election campaign of contesting candidate of PML-N in violation with the Code of Conduct issued by the Commission and despite issuance of advisory letter from the DMO. They also added that the the conduct of free, fair & transparent election and implementation of law and Code of Conduct is the primary duty of Election Commission of Pakistan. They also emphasized that the contesting candidate has been summoned for appearance in person, however, he is not present before the Commission today. The Special Secretary (Law) invited attention of the Commission towards Sections 3(1) & 4(1) of the Elections Act, 2017 and added that these Sections provides that for the performance of functions, duties and in exercise of the powers of Commission, the Commission shall regulates its own procedure. He further added that the Commission has the power to issue directions for securing the personal attendance of any person in terms of Section 6(1) of the Elections Act, 2017.

04. The Respondent No. 1, Mr. Huzaifa Rehman, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on National Heritage & Culture, appeared in person and submitted his verbal unconditional apology and also added that he did not participate in the election campaign of the contesting candidate of PML-N for bye-election in the above mentioned constituency. He further added that he was invited as a chief guest in a musical function where he addressed the guests in general. He also mentioned that due to local differences with the contesting candidate, he did not participate in any election campaign in the constituency for bye-elections. However, he added that he will be careful in future and requested for acceptance of apology on his behalf.

05. Malik Omar Saleem, ASC, appeared on behalf of Respondent No. 2 and submitted that he was telephonically informed about the notice yesterday by his client, so, he



may be allowed for submission of power of attorney and reply on the next date of hearing. He also requested for exemption on behalf of Respondent No. 2 and endorsed the submissions of Respondent No. 1 Mr. Huzaiifa Rehman.

06. After the initial submission by the representatives on behalf of Commission and the parties present before us, it is observed that the notices were issued to the Respondents for their personal appearances before the Commission, however, Respondent No. 2 is not present before us. The counsel on behalf of Respondent No. 2 has requested for time for submission of power of attorney along with reply and also sought exemption on behalf of Respondent No. 2 for his personal appearance. The request of representative of Respondent No. 2 is allowed in the interest of justice and his is directed to submit the power of attorney on the next date of hearing along with reply. Furthermore, the request for exemption of Mr. Mehmood Qadir Khan, contesting candidate (Respondent No. 2) is accepted for today and the Commission in exercise of powers under Article 218(3) of the Constitution read with Section 4(1) of the Elections Act, 2017 directs Respondent No.2 Mr. Mehmood Qadir Khan contesting candidate to appear in person on the next date of hearing.

07. The case is adjourned for **02.12.2025 at 10:00 A.M** for submission of written reply by the Respondent No. 1 in person or through counsel, power of attorney, written reply by the Respondent No. 2, his personal appearance and for further proceedings.


Sikandar Sultan Raja
Chairman


Nisar Ahmed Durrani
Member


Shah Muhammad Jatoi
Member


Justice (R) Ikram Ullah Khan
Member

