

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

## PRESS RELEASE

**Islamabad, the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2023:-**The Election Commission of Pakistan has drawn attention towards Rule-42A of the Sindh Local Councils (Election) Rules, 2015, according to which, an independent candidate may join a political party within seven days after the issuance of notification of returned candidates of that category by the ECP. Accordingly the following procedure is to be adopted:

- I. An independent returned candidate may join any political party, if he or she so desires, by **24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**.
- II. All independent candidates intending to join any political party must ensure that an acceptance letter from the political party leader addressed to the RO concerned has been delivered within stipulated period i.e. 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.
- III. Each independent candidate shall also submit an affidavit that he or she is joining a particular political party voluntarily and without any coercion. The affidavit shall be duly sworn before the Oath Commissioner and shall be deposited with the Returning Officer.

2. Furthermore, under Section-18A of the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013, each political party shall submit separate priority lists of their candidates for each category with the Returning Officer **on or before 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**.

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