

F.No.2 (1)/2025-LGE-(P)

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

Subject: **CONDUCT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF PUNJAB.**

ORDER

21-10-2025

WHEREAS, Article 218(3) of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan mandates the Election Commission of Pakistan to organize and conduct the election and to make such arrangements as are necessary to ensure that the election is conducted honestly, justly, fairly and in accordance with law, and that corrupt practices are guarded against;

AND WHEREAS, the Election Commission of Pakistan is under obligation in terms of Articles 140-A(2), 219(d) of the Constitution, read with Section 219 of the Elections Act, 2017 to hold the Local Governments Election in ICT & Four Provinces;

AND WHEREAS, the term of the local government in the province of Punjab expired on 31st December, 2021. The Commission before the expiry of the term of the Local Government had repeatedly approached the Provincial Government for provision of proper legislation, required data to ensure necessary arrangements and timely conduct of the local government election in the province to fulfill the Constitutional requirement.

AND WHEREAS, the successive governments of Punjab frequently changed Local Government Laws as and when the Election Commission carried out delimitation, completed enlistment of electoral groups and took necessary steps regarding conduct of Local Government Election in the province.

AND WHEREAS, the matter of Local Government Elections in the Province of Punjab was considerably delayed, therefore the Commission fixed the matter for hearing on 02-06-2025 and upon the request of representative of Provincial Government Punjab, three months time was given for completion of legislation and other required activities in the interest of justice.

AND WHEREAS, after lapse of given time, no positive response was received from the Punjab Government, therefore the Commission decided to again fix the matter for hearing with notice to Secretary Local Government Punjab for **08-10-2025**. After hearing the Secretary Local Government Punjab and officers of the Commission, passed an order on the same day. The operative part of the order is reproduced below:-

"In view of the above arguments, the Commission in exercise of powers under Articles 218(4) read with 140-A, 220, 219 of the Constitution read with Section 219 of the Elections Act, 2017 has decided to hold the Local Government Elections in the Province of Punjab on the basis of existing Local Government Law i.e Punjab Local Government Act, 2022 and the Rules framed thereunder. The office is directed to initiate the process of delimitation from tomorrow and shall further



complete it within two months and thereafter the election programme shall be announced and the election shall be held in the last week of December, 2025."

AND WHEREAS, in pursuance of the order *ibid*, schedule for delimitation of Local Government constituencies of Punjab was issued in which timelines were given for certain activities with completion date 08.12.2025.

AND WHEREAS, during the process of delimitation, bill of Punjab Local Government Act, 2025 has been passed by the Provincial Assembly Punjab and the Governor of Punjab has assented the bill on 20-10-2025.

AND WHEREAS, a letter dated 13.10.2025 was also received from the Government of Punjab whereby 4 week time was sought for completion of process of enactment of new law i.e Punjab Local Government Act, 2025 and framing of delimitation and demarcation rules.

AND WHEREAS, the matter was placed before the Commission in its meeting dated 21-10-2025 for discussion and appropriate orders, after going through the letter of Punjab Government and the enactment of Punjab Local Government Act, 2025, it is observed that Section 219 of the Elections Act, 2017 provides that the Commission shall conduct elections to the Local Governments under the **applicable Local Government Laws**.

AND WHEREAS, after the enactment of Local Government Act, 2025, the Punjab Local Government Act, 2022 has been repealed under section 196 of the Punjab Local Government Act, 2025. Further in the said enactment, the structure of urban and rural councils have been changed and modes of election of different categories of seats have also been converted from direct to indirect elections.

AND WHEREAS, consequent upon the enactment of Punjab Local Government Act, 2025, the Punjab Local Government Rules, 2022 became redundant and framing of fresh rules in accordance with new enactment is a prerequisite before proceeding for the delimitation and conduct of Local Government Elections in the province of Punjab

AND WHEREAS, new demarcation (Town Municipal Corporation and other tiers) will be required before delimitation and accordingly ECP will be bound to carry out fresh delimitation in accordance with the new demarcation's notification and delimitation rules framed hereunder. It is also observed that notification of classification of Town Corporation, Municipal Corporation, Municipal Committee and Tehsil Council will also be required alongwith notification of number of Union Councils of each Town Corporation Municipal Corporation, Municipal Committee and Tehsil Council for the purpose of fresh delimitation.

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above discussion, the Commission in exercise of powers under



Article 218(3) read with 140-A of the Constitution read with Sections 4, 8 and 219 of the Elections Act, 2017 and all other powers enabling in that behalf, has decided to withdraw the schedule for delimitation dated 09.10.2025 and office is directed to put up fresh delimitation programme in accordance with Punjab Local Government Law, 2025.


MR. SIKANDAR SULTAN RAJA
Chairman


NISAR AHMED DURRANI
Member


SHAH MUHAMMAD JATOI
Member


BABAR HASSAN BHARWANA
Member


JUSTICE® INAYATULLAH KHAN
Member

