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PART III

Other Notifications, Orders, etc.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 11th September, 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 **NA-171, R.Y. Khan-III** to be held on **12th September, 2024:**

(4071)

Price: Rs. 6.00

[8612(2024)/Ex. Gaz.]

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

The Security Personnel¹ belonging to Armed Forces / Civil Armed Forces of Pakistan deputed on election duty for Bye- Election in the **NA-171, R.Y. Khan-III** shall:-

- i. 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 **NA-171, R.Y. Khan-III** by deploying/ providing:-
 - a. Secure environment for easy and secure access of voters to Polling Station. Wherein, Police will be 1st tier responders while Civil Armed Forces / Armed Forces as 2nd and 3rd tier responders, respectively for provision of general area security only in Quick Reaction Force based (in-situ) mode.
 - 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 Armed Forces of Pakistan and Civil Armed Forces shall exercise powers delegated to them *vide* Notification No.F.21(1)/2023-Elec-I dated 10th September, 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

¹Include 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.
- 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.

By Order of the Election Commission of Pakistan.

SYED NADEEM HAIDER,
Additional Director General (Elections).